

**OAKLAND**  
*B u r f o r d G o r e*

**TOWNSHIP**  
*T o w n s e n d G o r e*

*Two Hundred Years*

**VOLUME 3**

*For Oakland Township, autonomy did not come easily. Its soil was trampled and stained before independence from "the baneful domination by the Colonial Office" became a reality.*

*The quest for responsible government was rooted in the turbulent debates leading up to the 1837 rebellion. In 1836, Reform leader William Lyon Mackenzie stated defiantly that "all efforts of the Reformers in the past two years have only gone to show the Tory Government is above the law".*

*To gain self government, revolutionary threats filled the air. The patriots declared "when a Government is engaged in systematically oppressing a people and destroying their securities it commits the same wrong to them which warrants an appeal to force".*

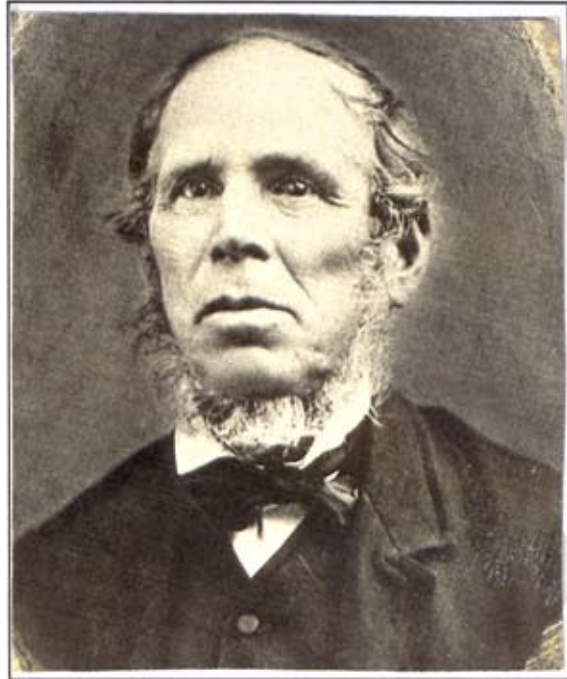
*Burford patriot Charles Duncombe took up the cause. Together with his trusted lieutenant Eliakim Malcolm, they proclaimed the promise of freedom from "the dynasty of a foreign Governor and an ultra Orange governed State. "A nation never can rebel; those are only the Rebels who resist the will of the people" said Charles Duncombe. Eliakim Malcolm declared to his followers the establishment of an "independent government free from the Queen and the Mother Country".*

*It was in this troubled environ that the seeds of self rule were sprouted. The franchised Municipality of Oakland was born some years later.*

***Eliakim Malcolm***

*In private life a land surveyor, conveyancer, Commissioner of Queen's Bench, magistrate and sawmill operator.*

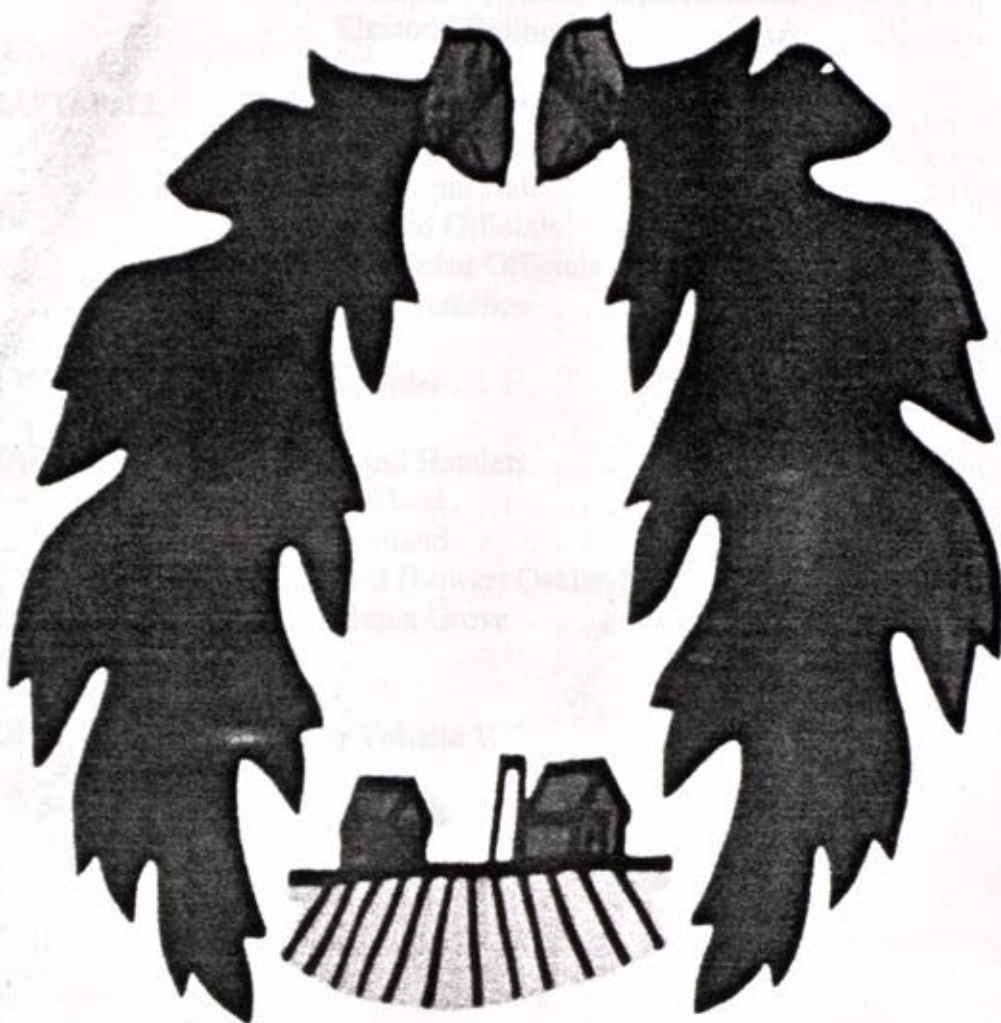
*In public life an inveterate Reformer fiercely critical of the established Colonial system of government. Liak dominated local municipal politics for nearly half a century.*



***Percy M. Button***

*Township Clerk  
for over fifty years  
- a public servant  
"par excellence".*

# TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND



**INCORPORATED 1850**



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# CHAPTER 10

## Upper Canada Unfolds

Prior to 1791, the territory that is now Ontario fell under the government of the Legislative Council of Lower Canada, founded by the Quebec Act. The Constitutional Act passed in London on December 26, 1791 divided Canada into two provinces separated by the Ottawa River, Lower Canada (Quebec) and Upper Canada. This change allowed the vast expanse of land that is now Ontario to stand by itself as an infant colony with the privilege of making its own laws. The following year Colonel John Graves Simcoe became the first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada and he selected Newark (Niagara) as interim headquarters until a more permanent capital could be chosen. Parliament opened on the 17th of September 1792 in a building that was little more than a log house.

The House of Assembly consisted of sixteen members. The Legislative Council was made up of seven representatives, while the Executive Council was composed of five members who were appointed to advise and aid the Governor. These plain, honest men who formed this primitive parliament immediately enacted laws to better assist in governing the country. They wasted no time in useless debate, and two months before the Parliament of Lower Canada had met, they had finished their work of law-making and returned home.

They made the civil law of England the law of the province; introduced trial by jury; provided for the recovery of small debts; and fixed the toll for millers at one-twelfth for grinding and bolting. They changed the name of the districts which Lord Dorchester had established to divide the province and called them the Eastern or Johnstown District, the Midland or Kingston, the Home or Niagara, and the Western or Detroit; and these were again divided into twelve counties. Norfolk County was one of these.

What was later to become Oakland Township fell within the jurisdiction of Norfolk but there were practically no inhabitants for the Norfolk member to represent while he sat in the House of Assembly, as Townsend Gore (Oakland) was practically uninhabited.

At that time, Colonel Simcoe was actively seeking a less vulnerable place than Newark for the seat of Government, Newark being too near the frontier of America. He favoured going farther west, and for this purpose chose the site of the present city of London, which he named, calling the river on which it is situated the Thames. But the Governor-General, Lord Dorchester, felt Kingston should be the capital. Ultimately, in 1795, York (Toronto) was chosen.

In 1796, Governor Simcoe was recalled. Peter Russell, President of the Executive Council, acted in his place. The Government offices were moved to York where the Parliament was opened that year. When the two provinces were separated in 1791, it was agreed to divide between them the revenue collected at the ports of Quebec and Montreal, Upper Canada to receive one-eighth, which was thought to equal her share of the import trade, and therefore of the duties. This eighth amounted to five thousand dollars in 1796. The trade of a country provides a good index to the way in which the country is developing. By using trade as an indicator, it was determined that in thirteen years the eighth had increased to twenty-eight thousand dollars. Upper Canada's share was changed to one-fifth, showing how prosperous both provinces were becoming. Besides trade by way of Lower Canada, a direct commerce had rapidly grown up between the Western Province and the State of New York, so that it became necessary to open ten ports of entry, which extended from Cornwall on the St. Lawrence to Sandwich on the Detroit river. Meanwhile the province was rapidly growing in population as well as in wealth. For so young a country it showed a vigorous spirit of enterprise.

For clarity, it should be mentioned that the following title sequences occurred. From 1763 to December 26, 1791, what is now Ontario was held as a British possession; from 1791 to 1841 what is now Ontario was called Upper Canada; from 1841 to 1867 what is now Ontario became Canada West by the Act of Union; at Confederation in 1867 Canada West became the Province of Ontario, land of the trillium.

The area west of Toronto was not initially viewed by all early developers as deserving of settlement. In a work published by Oliver and Boyd early in the 19th century, describing what is now the western part of Ontario, their observations were somewhat guarded;

*"The Gore District, when it passes Burlington Bay, must, we suspect, be considered as mere bush. Beyond (Lake) Ontario, the shores of Lake Erie, even since the completion of the Welland Canal, cannot be recommended without some hesitation.*

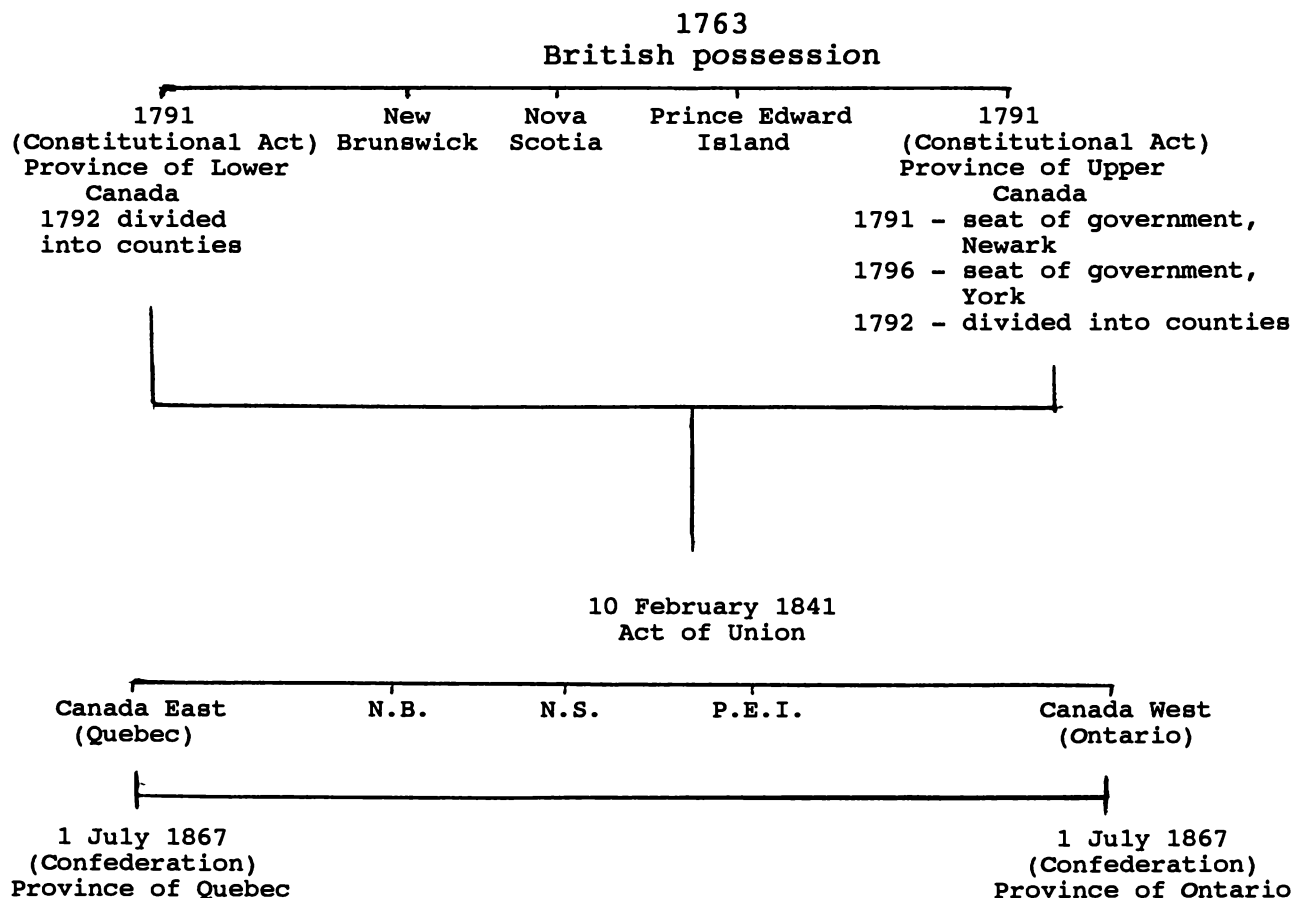
*"The distance from Montreal becomes great," continued Oliver and Boyd, "and as the goods could scarcely be conveyed without trans-shipment, the tolls of three canals must be paid. At all events, it is only the*

lands closely adjoining this great lake that appear to afford a profitable site for the more opulent settlers, for the interior of the London District, including even the banks of the Thames, must still, we suspect, be classed with the bush territory. The shores of Lake Huron must also be included under the same description."

Despite these negative comments, settlers started arriving after the survey was completed, then in great numbers after the War of 1812. With a greater population, Brant County was destined to become one of the prosperous agricultural and industrial bases of the province.

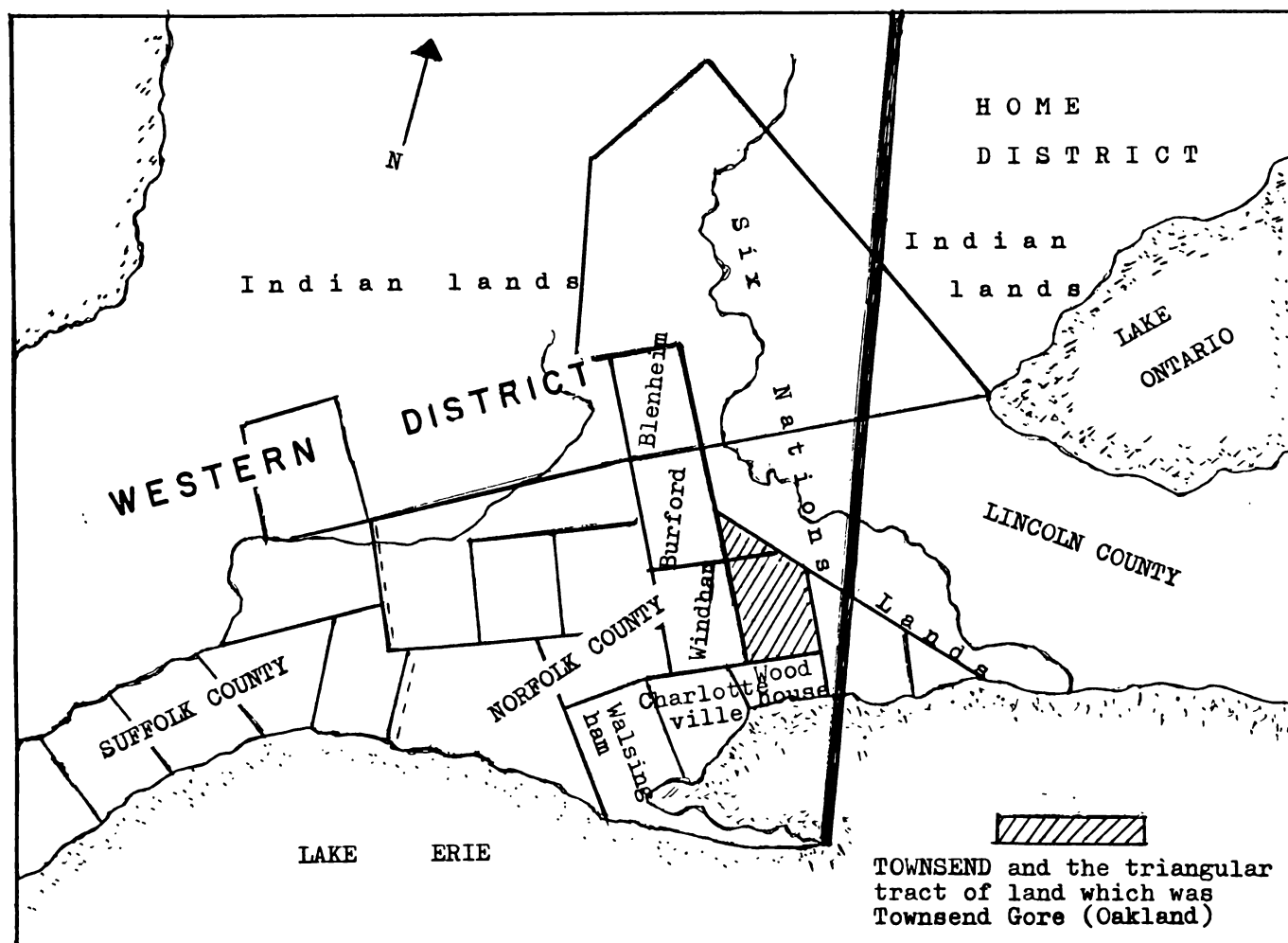
The United Empire Loyalists were the largest group to settle. The division in 1791 had purposely been made to allow the Loyalists to be governed by laws more favourable to them than those deemed desirable for the French along the St. Lawrence. Before the flood of immigration, there were about 12,000 people in Upper Canada but its population was soon to increase dramatically with the surge of Loyalists north from the U.S.A.

## C A N A D A



## District Jurisdictions

At the time of the survey in the early winter of 1796, the tract of land which is now Oakland Township was an appendage to Townsend Township. Referred to as Townsend Gore, it formed a small part of Norfolk County within the Western District. The Western District was divided and re-named in 1800. With local government, before the setting up of Quarter Sessions, all courts for Norfolk, including Oakland, were held at Sandwich on the Detroit River requiring the few people in the area to travel a far distance to access government services, which were few.



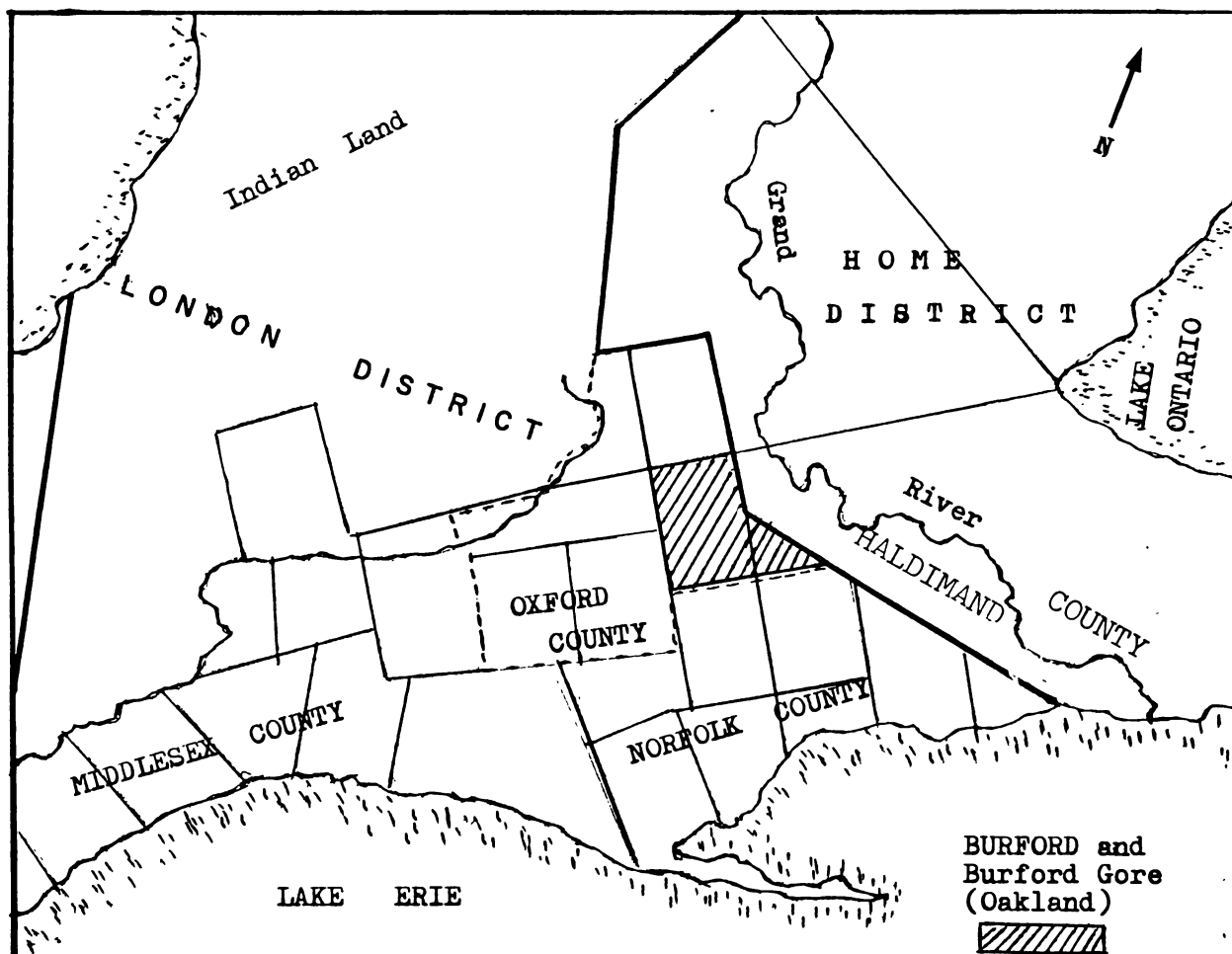
Circa 1796  
Western District

Historical records dated July 6th, 1792 vaguely describe the Western District as running from the Grand to the old purchase line and from the mouth of Catfish creek to the Thames.



By Royal assent, on January 1rst 1800, the three counties of Middlesex, Norfolk and Oxford formed the new London District which had its own Court of Quarter Sessions. The legislation causing this change had been drawn up two years earlier. The result was that Townsend Gore (Oakland) was transferred to Burford and became known as Burford Gore after 1800. This title held until 1821 when legislation bestowed the appellation of Oakland Township which remained a part of Oxford County in the London District.

By the Act 38 George III Chapter 5th 1798, it was enacted "that the triangular tract of land, called Townsend Gore, be added to and become a part of the Township of Burford". The actual change in jurisdiction occurred on January 1rst 1800.



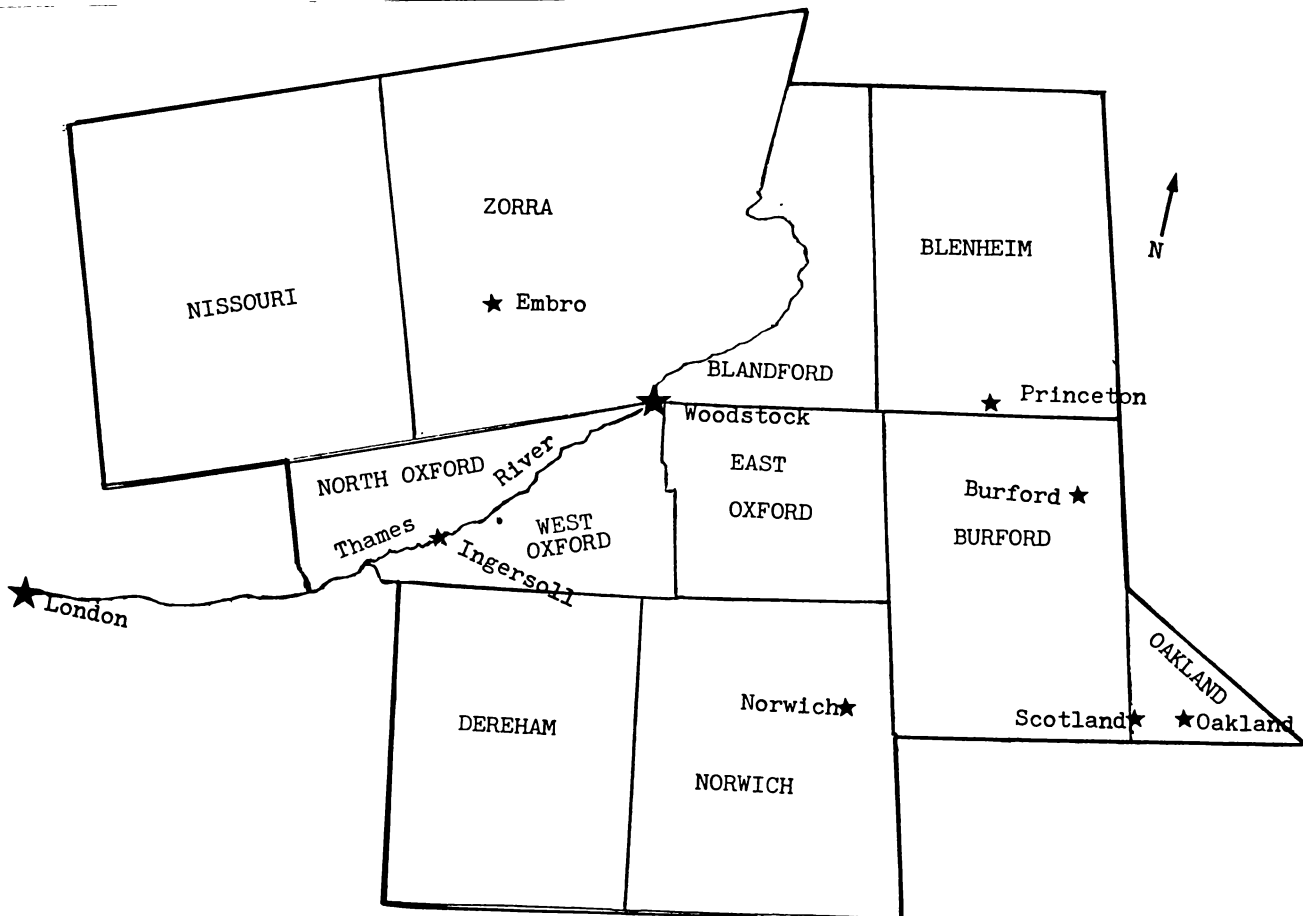
Circa 1800  
London District

The Act 38 George III Chapter 5th 1798 states that "the Counties of Norfolk, Oxford, and Middlesex, with as much of this Province as lies to the westward of the Home District and the district of Niagara, to the southward of Lake Huron, and between

them and a line drawn due north from a fixed boundary (where the easternmost limit of Oxford intersects the River Thames,) till it arrives at Lake Huron, do constitute and form the London District." In 1833, the population of London District was 32,225.

By the Act 38 George III Chapter 5th 1798 "the townships of Burford, Norwich, Dereham, Oxford upon the Thames Blandford and Blenheim do constitute and form the County of Oxford". Burford Township and its Gore (Oakland) was a proprietor township as was its neighbouring townships of Windham, Townsend, Blenheim and Oxford. The townships along Lake Erie; Walsingham, Charlotteville, Woodhouse, Walpole and Rainham were Loyalist townships.

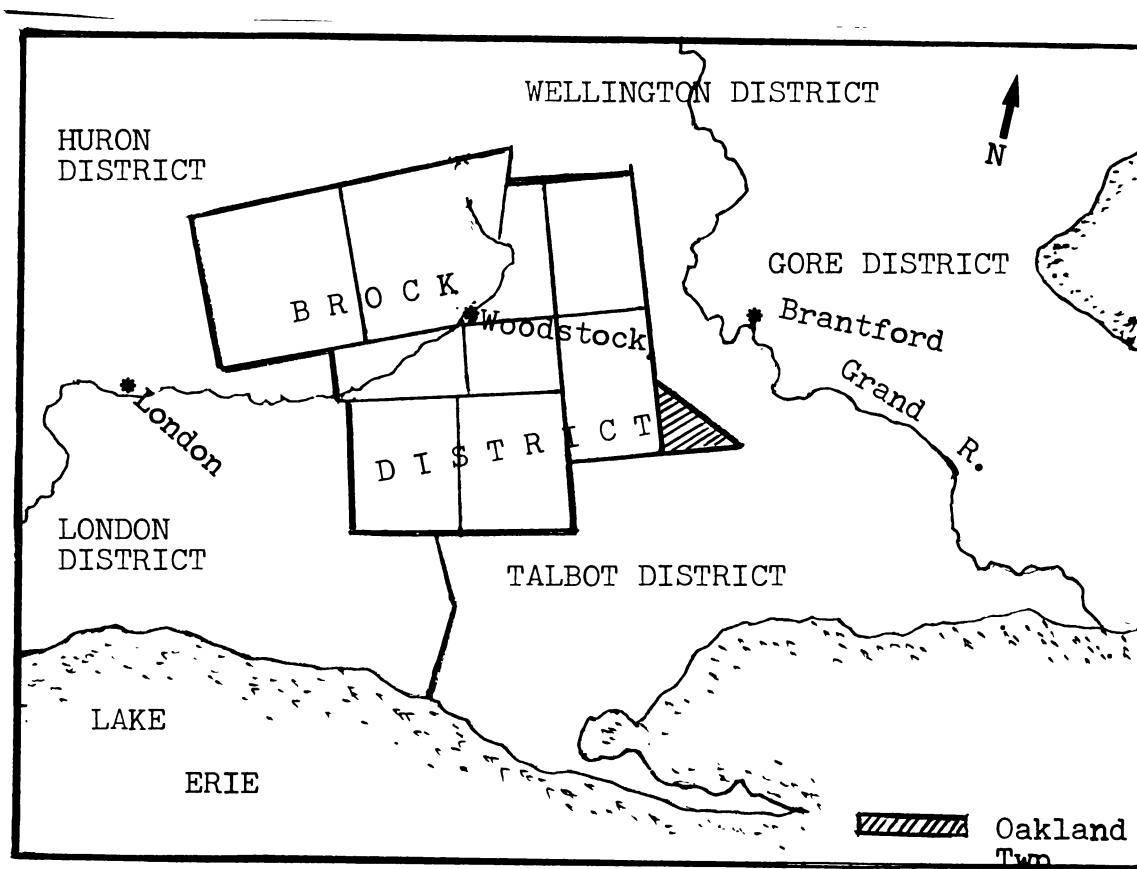
By the Act 8th Victoria, chap. 7, (1845) it is enacted, "That the Townships of Blandford, Blenheim, Burford, Dereham, Nissouri, North Oxford, East Oxford, West Oxford, Oakland, Norwich, East Zorra, and West Zorra, shall form the County of Oxford."



Circa 1824 - Oxford Township

In 1835, Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874) of Scotland had attempted to have the village of Scotland created a District town from a division of the eastern half of London District but without success, however, two years later a decision was made to divide the London District and create two separate Districts from the counties

of Norfolk and Oxford. In 1839, Oxford was officially named the District of Brock to honour General Isaac Brock, the well known hero at the Battle of Queenston Heights. A court house was then built at Woodstock. Ultimately, the District jurisdictional system was dropped in favour of counties.



Circa 1840  
Brock District

By the Act 2d George IV, Chapter 3, 1821 it was enacted "that the Gore of land attached to the Township of Burford be formed into a separate and distinct Township by the name of the Township of Oakland, and the Townships of Nissouri and Zorra be added to the County of Oxford".

By the Act 7th William IV, chap. 30, (1837) it is enacted "That so soon as it shall be ascertained that a good and sufficient Gaol and Court-House shall have been erected in the Town of Woodstock, for the security of the prisoners and the accommodation of the Courts, it shall be lawful for the Governor General to declare, by proclamation, the Townships of Zorra, Nissouri, Blandford, Blenheim, Oxfords, (3) Burford, Oakland, Norwich, and Dereham, and the Town of Woodstock, a separate and distinct district, by the name of the District of Brock."

## Colonial Politics

The first elections in the area of any account occurred at Avery's Mills (Waterford) in 1792. Townsend Gore was not politically active at that time, in fact, there were no voters in Oakland in 1792. Parshal Terry represented the riding following the elections of 1792. Few, if any settlers had arrived in time for the elections of 1796. Lincoln and Norfolk were grouped together and were represented by one member in the House of Assembly in 1792 and 1796. Benjamin Hardison was the elected official for Norfolk and Lincoln following the election of 1796.

During the third parliament in 1800, Oakland (now Burford Gore) was attached to Oxford in the new London District. David W. Smith (1764-1837) the Surveyor General of the Province ran in Oxford and won becoming the first to represent the riding. He had sat in the first parliament in 1792, at age twenty-eight, for the riding of Suffolk and Essex. He became speaker of the House later in his political career.

In a letter written at York, August 25th 1800, Smith thanked the electors of Middlefex, Norfolk and Oxford stating "it gave me great satisfaction to find that you had confidered me worthy of repreenting you in the next parliament".

Smith was an aristocrat who preferred to associate with the Upper Classes. He returned to England in 1805 and was knighted in 1821.

Finlay Malcolm Sr. (1750-1829) of Burford Gore came to the fore in the 1804 elections. During the sitting the debates were lively, heated and bitter with parties and political rivals openly challenging the vested authority of the Colonial regime. In particular, Benajah Mallory, supported by the Methodist followers, and his opponent Samuel Ryerse who was a Church of England stalwart caused religion to enter the political arena. Ryerse was soundly defeated at the polls. Controversy erupted after the election and Mallory, together with Finlay Malcolm Sr., were brought before the District Court in March of 1805 charged with irregularities in the assessment returns for Burford Township. They pleaded innocence on the grounds the errors were not deliberate but rather a mistake, and escaped being chastised. During the whole term, the dwellers of Burford Gore were kept in a state of political uncertainty and uproar with Finlay Malcolm and his family the focus of some of the controversy. The Malcolms of Oakland were progressively forming a political block in Oxford and their presence would be felt for years to come.

Privileges to vote for their local MP required that the dweller be possessed of property valued annually at 40 shillings (roughly \$8.00). In the early elections, the qualification was not difficult for most to meet as it was deemed unnecessary to hold a land patent for proof of ownership, rather just a location certificate which did not bestow legal title. Patent fees were about six pence an acre and many received their lots free with the privilege to vote because the value of a 200 acre lot well exceeded the 40 shillings stipulation. The actual vote itself occurred by a verbal declaration in front of the Returning Officer at the polling station. It was not to be a secret ballot. Thus the residents of Burford Gore, as elsewhere, found themselves accountable for their political beliefs, in some cases much to their detriment. Polling booths in early times were set up sparsely which extended the actual voting into several days before the results were known.

- 1804 - the fourth parliament saw Benajah Mallory elected in Oxford. He was a business man and developer who had arrived in western Upper Canada from Western New York.
- 1808 - Benajah Mallory was returned to the Assembly representing Oxford and Middlesex. Mallory had often been accused of being a Yankee sympathizer. When war broke out in 1812, Mallory went over to the enemy and lost favour in the county. He took up permanent residence in Lockport, N.Y.
- 1812 - Mahlon Burwell (1783-1846) was the successful candidate having been supported by a potent political ally in Middlesex, Thomas Talbot (1771-1853) founder of the Talbot Settlement. Mallory ran against him but the odds were formidable. He lost and left the country when war broke out. He received a commission in the U.S. Army and ironically was soon fighting and plundering his former electors on the Canadian side of the Detroit River.
- 1816 - Mahlon Burwell was re-elected with the continuing support of his friend, Talbot, now one of the most powerful figures in Upper Canada.
- 1820 - Thomas Hornor, (1767-1834), an American by birth, and one of the best known developers in the county became MP. Hornor had appointments as Registrar of Oxford, Deputy Clerk for the London District, Commissioner of the Court for the Kings Bench, Justice of the Peace and Commander of the militia. Shortly after arriving in Upper Canada, he erected mills near Princeton on the Governor's Road. They were built in 1806 but burned several years later.
- 1824 - Thomas Hornor was returned to office, and because the county now had a population of 4,000, another representative was able to run in the name of Charles Ingersoll. The third candidate was James Racey, a resident of Mount Pleasant who took many of the Oakland



votes but because of its limited population they failed to get him elected. He had the appointment of Magistrate. Charles Ingersoll held a commission in the Oxford militia and was second in command to Thomas Horner. In 1821, Ingersoll opened the first post office at Oxford Village, the first in the county.

- 1828 - Thomas Hornor was again elected, and for the first time, the residents of Oakland were served in the tenth parliament by one of their own, Finlay Malcolm Jr. (1779-1862). Finlay was a farmer and grist mill proprietor at Oakland Hollow. He saw service as a Lieutenant in the 1st Oxford Militia during the Battle of Malcolm's Mills. His father had been politically active during the Quarter Sessions earlier in the century.

Five candidates, classed as either "Independents" or "Ministerialists" offered themselves for this election. They included the successful two who were Independents together with Robert Alway (1790-1840) a farmer and land agent. Charles Ingersoll and George W. Whitehead ran as Ministerialists and were defeated. Charles Ingersoll, a popular man, found himself on the wrong side of an issue in which American immigrants were in difficulty with their citizenship because of their questionable loyalty during the past war and feelings still ran high. Ingersoll opposed the "Alien Bill" as it was called and his electors were deeply upset and showed their displeasure at the polling booth. The other Ministerialist, George Whitehead, the first postmaster at Burford, was the son of a Methodist pastor.

- 1830 - Charles Ingersoll and Dr. Charles Duncombe (1792-1867) a newcomer to politics from Burford, were elected. Dr. Duncombe had a wide practice throughout the county. He arrived in Upper Canada from New York in 1819 and had practised for a time at the Talbot settlement before moving to Burford, about 1825. Dr. Duncombe had the blessing and support of Thomas Talbot which gave him a distinct political advantage entering the race. Ingersoll was a victim of the cholera scourge of that era and died in 1832. In the forthcoming by-election called to fill his vacancy, Thomas Hornor ran as a reformer along with three newcomers. Hornor won the seat but he too fell victim to cholera and died August 4th 1834 at Burford. Finlay Malcolm of Oakland did not seek re-election this term.

- 1834 - Charles Duncombe was re-elected. Robert Alway (1790-1840), a reformer, was the other successful candidate. The other candidates were Finlay Malcolm (1779-1862) of Oakland, a reformer; Peter Carroll (1806-1876) a native of Oxford who had been appointed Deputy Provincial Surveyor in 1828. He later located in Hamilton and

served on the Board of the Great Western Railway. Robert Alway had the strong support of William Lyon MacKenzie (1775-1865) through his weekly newspaper, the Colonial Advocate which had wide distribution throughout the province. Mr. Malcolm had no such influential support and lost. There is an inference that Malcolm had proven to be somewhat less than an effective politician in his first term and was seen by some as a questionable candidate to serve the electors in parliament. Robert Alway absconded after the Scotland Uprising of December 1837, even though he did not take up arms personally but feared for his safety. He was captured and imprisoned then released three months later. He migrated to the U.S. in 1838 and died in Texas on August 6, 1840 at 50 years of age.

- 1836 - Charles Duncombe and Robert Alway were returned as Reformers. They ran against Tory candidate James Ingersoll, brother of Charles (deceased). George T. Whitehead of Burford was his running mate. The Rebellion of 1837, specifically the Scotland uprising of December 13th led by Chas Duncombe which proved to be a disastrous venture, resulted in both Duncombe and Alway becoming fugitives from justice. An election was necessary to replace them in the Assembly. The warrant was called on January 26, 1838.
- 1838 - Peter Carroll of Oxford Village, a local farmer and Roger Rollo Hunter were the successful candidates to sit in parliament. Hunter had arrived in Oxford about 1830, one of the half-pay officers from the Old Country to settle in the area. Both Carroll and Hunter ran for the Tories.
- 1841 - Francis Hincks (1807-1885), a Reformer, was the winner. He came from Ireland in 1832 and entered the business community at Toronto where he was successful. Hincks moved to England in 1854 and later became Governor of the Barbados. He was Knighted in 1869. On his return to Canada, he served as Minister to France for Sir John A. Macdonald. The re-organization of Canada in 1841 saw Upper Canada become Canada West and only one seat was allotted to Oxford in the 1841 elections.
- 1842 - Francis Hincks won again in a by election which became necessary because he had been appointed to the Executive Council and the law required he re-affirm his position with the voters.
- 1844 - Robert Riddell, a Tory and an ally of former M.P. Roger Hunter, won the election defeating Hincks. This was the first occasion that a poll was set up in each Township, including Oakland, allowing the inhabitants better access to their voting station at Scotland.

- 1848 - Francis Hincks, a Reformer, was re-elected to office, defeating Peter Carroll and Robert Campbell. A temporary furore developed when the Returning Officer improperly declared Carroll the winner. Carroll was expelled from the Assembly after an investigation proved him not to be the winner and Hincks took his seat. He was appointed Inspector General and for the first time the issue of free trade with America arose but it was to be nearly a century and a half before Canada became a free trader with its neighbours to the south.
- 1851 - Hincks won re-election over J. G. Vansittart. Oakland Township swung their votes to the winner - 57 votes for Hincks to 6 for Vansittart. The Malcolm family were a strong influence on the voting patterns of the Oakland electorate at this and other elections.

By this time in the century, the population formations of Oxford were shifting as was its economy. Brantford to the east was fast becoming a market centre and industrial base. The opening of the Grand River Navigation System had a great impact on the economy and the potential for markets in Buffalo and beyond. Accordingly, in 1852, Oxford lost Burford and Oakland Townships to the newly created County of Brant, one of the United Counties of Wentworth, Halton and Brant.

Local affairs took on new meaning for the electorate of Oakland as they entered the last half of the century. An era of local responsible government, not before experienced under a colonial regime, was for them an attractive alternative. Those local champions of reform who had taken up arms at the Scotland Uprising fifteen years earlier could now truly savour the fruits of their risky challenge of authority.

The bitterness which had long prevailed between the two factions, of the Loyalists and Reformers, came to the fore in 1849 during a tour through the area by the Governor General, Lord Elgin. His Excellency passed through Oakland, by carriage, while being driven from Simcoe to Brantford. Guarded by a large escort of Reformers to prevent an attack by ultra-loyal mobs who had threatened to interrupt the official party, they moved quickly through the Township.

As escorts, local Reformers joined the Governor's party as they entered the Township, accompanying the party to Mohawk (Mount Pleasant) and on to Brantford where they dined in style. Local people observed that, as Lord Elgin passed by, he had a care-worn and shabby appearance but dusty travel conditions along the Mohawk trail in an open carriage could not be avoided.

## Early Local Government

The first Commissions of the Peace were established in 1788 in the territory that was to become the Province of Upper Canada, by the Constitutional Act passed three years later. The system of Justices found its roots in the English method which served to disallow the American town meetings system of government that many of the first settlers from New England had been accustomed to. Upper Canada Justices, who carried a life appointment were hesitant to allow the people the ability to govern themselves. They firmly believed the pioneers of that era were not competent, nor did they possess the insight, to exercise sufficient discretion in their choice of those who would govern them. This caused an autocratic system of government to prevail.

The Justices were empowered with considerable latitude as to the scope of their decisions. An order of their Court had the weight of a bylaw. Their responsibilities, among others, included keeping the peace, the hearing of a variety of felonies, the overseeing of roads, employing statute labour for road construction and enforcement of animal control measures. Court officials could also order relief for indigent widows, provide for orphans by holding masters responsible for their welfare and, as required, could confine lunatics to jail, there being no other facility available to house these unfortunate people. The Justices controlled all monies collected from rates, taxes and fines which were paid in to the District Treasurer, then disbursed by the Court. Early Justices appointed in the Western District were Samuel Ryerse of Woodhouse and John Backhouse of Walsingham.

Day to day administrative affairs within a Township were handled by the Town Warden. Finlay Malcolm Sr. held the position in the early 1800's. Also, the town clerk, assessor, collector of taxes, constable, fence-viewer, road overseer and poundkeeper collectively held positions of authority at the local government level between sessions.

The statute labour system required of the court by freeholders in the Township was not to pay labour costs for opening roads, rather to spend the little money available to them on bridges and road material. Through this system the construction of the roads was a forced labour arrangement and hinged on the amount of the freeholders' tax assessment, with a compensating set number of days of labour given to the township as a community service. In the Oakland area, Finlay Malcolm Sr. the Town Warden, allocated the amount of time the local dwellers were required to spend on road work.

The promulgation, by proclamation, bearing the date January 1st 1800 of the Act passed establishing the London District and a general commissioning of the peace was issued for said District. Clerk, Thomas Welch (he had surveyed Townsend Gore three years earlier), called the first General Commission of the Peace which included John Beemer, believed to have been an early Scotland resident.

During the period 1800-1802, the London District Quarter Sessions were held at the private dwelling of James Monroe in Charlotteville Township, later at a tavern in Turkey Point. Sessions were held in the second Tuesday of March, June, September and December. A District court house was built at Turkey Point in 1804. The building was used temporarily as a barracks during the War of 1812 and burned later. After 1815, the Quarter

Sessions moved to Charlotteville and a Court House built there, in 1823, which burned two years later. This, together with population shifts in London District, resulted in the Court moving to London in 1825. A new Court House was erected at London in 1829 thus Oakland dwellers of that time must now access their local government services, not at Lake Erie, but to the north-west at London and later at Woodstock.

London District Court, held at Vittoria in 1802, saw Finlay Malcolm Sr. (1750-1829) holding the position of foreman of the Grand Jury. He had settled with his large family in Townsend Gore (Oakland) four years earlier, arriving from Maine. (His biography can be found elsewhere in this book). During the December 1802 sessions, Finlay, in his capacity as foreman of the jury challenged the promptness of the district magistrates in processing the dweller's petitions for new roads. In particular, he queried Thomas Hornor about a road in Burford Gore, near Malcolm's residence. An argument ensued and the tables were turned. Horner, in turn, challenged Finlay Malcolm's attention to his duties as Town Warden for Burford throughout the previous year. During their verbal exchange, Finlay was threatened "with gaol or the stocks". The argument was so intense that the grand jury had to be dismissed and Samuel Ryerse, chairman of the court, deliberately neglected to thank Mr. Malcolm for his services acting as foreman. The whole episode appears to have been politically motivated and tends to prove that the system of government in earlier times held the same intrigue and opportunity for stalemate and languor as does our current House of Commons.

It should be mentioned that the rancorous remarks exchanged at the December 1802 District Court sessions did not rest. Finlay Malcolm initiated an action in the Court of Kings Bench against three of the Magistrates presiding, Samuel Ryerse, Thomas Hornor and John Backhouse, charging assault and slander. A later action in the March 1803 sessions saw Hornor and Backhouse accused of drunkenness during the previous December sitting. All charges were ultimately disallowed by the acting Attorney General but the disenchantment prevailed for a considerable time. It appears the root cause was an intense dislike and jealousy that prevailed between rival political figures David W. Smith, Thomas Hornor, Samuel Ryerse and Benajah Mallory. Mr. Malcolm was exploited in the cross-fire and had nothing to gain for his efforts.

The first record of an attempt by Oakland dwellers to acquire more accessible local government was made at the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace held on July 1st 1816. At this sitting a petition was read into the proceedings "that the Inhabitants of Burford Gore pray to hold a town meeting of their own". The request was not granted.

A public meeting open to Burford township dwellers and those residing in its Gore (Oakland) was held at Burford on December 5th, 1817, presided over by Lt/Col Wm D. Bowen. It was called to gather facts regarding the resources throughout the Township and its Gore and to offer recommendations on the orderly growth and prosperity of the area.

The unanimous opinion arrived at was that growth had been retarded. Because of the quantities of land granted to non-residents and the great number of reserve lots which were scattered throughout the Township, this



had materially affected settlement in general. The summary of the meeting stated that "the purchaser of a lot, if he is not so fortunate as to procure one handy to the roads already made, was obliged to make them through perhaps several Reserves, and the lands belonging to people that reside in other parts of the world, thereby enhancing their value at a great individual expense. Good English farmers or mechanics and labourers, if they could obtain lands in the Township, and all the Crown and a proportion of the clergy reserves, sold or given to actual settlers, it would be an object of great importance to the further improvement and growth of this Township." The quantity of land for sale within the Township at that time could not be established at the meeting and the owners of the soil were generally unknown.

Prior to 1833, there were only two Magistrates in Burford and its Gore. In 1833, the government increased the compliment for Oxford Township from nine to nineteen Magistrates. Those appointed included such recognized "Reformers" as Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874). Eliakim son of Finlay Malcolm Sr., was a younger brother of Finlay Jr. (1779-1862). In making the appointment, it was well recognized that Eliakim's style caused him to be described as "radical in his politics but clever in his opportunities". Liak Malcolm was judged to be much more astute than his "useless brother" Finlay, the former Member of Parliament for Oxford. Their assessment of Liak Malcolm was markedly correct. He went on to become a visionary, a team player possessed with a quick mind. Liak was akin to being part of an extended family presiding and governing as a political genius. History's verdict on this merchant of dreams will prove his leadership qualities to be par excellent, second to none.

In 1842, legislation took effect which allowed for limited Township representation through the ballot box. Councillors were elected, one for each township, in the Brock District to sit at Woodstock. In 1844, Oakland elected its representative, none other than Eliakim Malcolm who had returned three years earlier from a forced exile to the U.S. following the fiasco of December 1837. Others holding appointments of Justices were John Eddy (1804-1892), Alonzo Foster (1819-1905) and Francis Hinks Malcolm, a lawyer, son of Augustus Malcolm.

A figure of authority and respect in the Gore after the War of 1812 was James Racey who settled near Mount Pleasant in 1816. He was appointed Magistrate, Lieutenant Colonel of the Gore Militia and Deputy Judge of the Gore District. After the death of Colonel Wm D. Bowen of Burford, who died in 1821, Mr. Racey was recognized as the leading figure in the Oakland area, next to Thomas Hornor. Racey received a large number of votes from Oakland residents in the 1824 elections but lost out to Thomas Hornor.

The Justice court system of government progressively fell in disfavour by the populace. The Rebellion of 1837 spelled its eventual doom. By 1849, the Robert Baldwin Act made townships an incorporation, allowing them to raise monies and perform functions formerly assigned to the district Justice. Change was on the way, championed by the key players of the Scotland Uprising which, as it unfolded, had torn families and religious groups apart twelve years earlier.

The first settlers found land to be cheap but prices gradually moved upward. In 1815 early settlers paid 50 cents an acre. Three years later they paid \$2.50 an acre. By 1840 prices had risen to \$6.00 an acre. In comparison a cow cost \$15.00.

In the year 1840, the inhabitants of the Township who were landholders or had property to be appraised can be clearly identified by referring to the assessment list for that year. At that time, the Township was one of several falling within the jurisdiction of the District of Brock and taxes were payable at Woodstock. Years earlier, the annual levy had to be paid at London, sixty miles distant. Voting for general elections necessitated two days of travel over bad roads. They camped out, carrying their provisions with them.

Property, other than land, included in the survey for valuation purposes included:

Square Log Houses of one Story	Grist Mills wrought by water with only one run of Stones
Additional Fire-places	Additional pair of Stones
Square Log Houses of two Stories	Saw Mills
Additional Fire-places	Store Houses
Frame Houses of one Story	Merchant Shops
Additional Fire-places	Stud-Horses
Frame Houses of two Stories	Horses three years old and upwards
Additional Fire-places	Oxen four years old and upwards
Brick or Stone Houses of one Story	Milch Cows
Additional Fire-places	Horned Cattle from 2 to 4 years old
Brick or stone Houses of 2 Stories	Close Carriages on four wheels
Additional Fire-places	Curricles - Gigs on two wheels
	Waggons kept for pleasure

#### ASSESSMENT LIST - District of Brock - 1840

RATEPAYER (Oakland Twp)	LOT	CONCES- SION	LAND (acres) uncultivated	LAND (acres) cultivated
Abraham W. Secord	4	3	60	40
Do	4	4	40	100
Lyman Chapin (1812-1876)	7	2	15	35
Do	8	2	15	35
Hiram Wesbrook (1797-1881)	7	3		100
D	8	3		1
D	4	4	50	
Enoch Kelly (born 1810)	7	3	40	60
Isaac Phillips	9	3	66	134
Nelson Phillips	8	3	55	45
William Thompson (born 1801 - Reeve in 1858)	8	3	29	70
Do	8	4	50	

RATEPAYER (Oakland Twp)	LOT	CONCES- SION	LAND (acres) uncultivated	LAND (acres) cultivated
Henry Gates	8	4	40	60
Freedom Gates	7	4	36	14
Jesse Wesbrook	7	4	6	18
Isaac Smith	7	4		100
Do	9	4	26	
Alexander Wesbrook	6	4	25	75
Isaac Fairchild (1770-1859)	6	4		70
Calvin Norton	4	2	50	150
Do	4	3	100	
Do	3	2	60	40
Matthew Messecar	3	1	160	40
Do	3	2	70	30
Do	4	1	50	50
Elvira Malcolm (1803- 1841-nee Fairchild)	2	2	75	40
Ansel Smith	1	2	40	60
Caleb Meritt (1798- 1874)	1	3	20	30
Do	2	3	50	
William Messacar (born 1804)	1	4	70	30
Do	2	4	70	
George Runchey	1	4	94	6
Do	2	4	100	
Josiah Smith	1	5	55	45
Joseph Smith (1810-1861)	1	5	10	90
Duncan Malcolm (1798-1866)	1	1	60	40
Daniel Elliott	1	6	20	80
Therin Averill (born 1790)	1	6	35	65
Sanford B. King	1	2		1
Constant Eddy (1817-1892)	1	3	16	34
Philip Henry	1	1	1/2	1/2
John Fralick	1	1		1 1/2
Charles Eddy (1781-1852)	1	1		1/2
George Malcolm (1806-1895)	1	1	25	70

Do	1	2		20
Peter Layton	1	1		1
Samuel W. Jay	1	1		1
Lewis Smith	5	2	70	130
William Wesbrook	6	2	35	15
Joseph Vivian (1811-1880)	6	1		3
John Vivian (1810-1870)	7	1	8	14
Charles Barns	6	1		3/4
Mordecai Wesbrook (1800-1883)	7	1	20	80
Do	8	1	75	20
Phil G. Spencer	6	1		5/8
Malcolm Brown (1804-1885)	6	3	30	70
Do	3	4	50	
James L. Baldwin	5	3	100	
Do	5	3		55
Lewis Malcolm	3	4	65	35
Hugh Ackley	5	3	35	
Hugh Deveny	6	3	60	40
George Cunningham	13	1	46	50
Do	13	2	20	30
Isaac B. Malcolm (1812-1867)	5	4	30	70
Do	6	2		50
Do	5	3		10
Do	2	4	30	
Amasa Bebee (1791-1850)	7	2	10	90
Do	8	2	75	25
James Bailey Jr.	7	1	14	63
James Bailey Sr.	8	1	10	30
Robert Vanderlip (1796-1872)	7	2		50
Do	8	2	50	
Do	6	1		1 1/2
Do	7	1		1
Asa Secord	9	2	60	140
Daniel Secord	10	3	80	20
Liawriston Cook	5	5	100	

Do	6	5	12	
William Abott	10	1	35	15
Do	13	1		4 1/2
Omri Eddy (1781-1853)	11	1	84	66
John Eddy (1804-1892)	11	1	25	25
Do	13	1	30	70
Barnard Kinnard	15	1	70	30
Matthias Woodley (1790-1858)	14	1	50	50
Do	15	1	80	10
Do	15	2	2	3
Solomon Matthews	14	2	17	38
Abraham Wesbrook	12	2	50	50
Charles Chapin (1808-1871)	3	3	100	100
Jonathan Burtch	11	2	40	60
Daniel Smith	11	3	48	300
Ebeneser Matthews	11	2	50	50
Charles Sayles (1828-1879)	12	2	10	40
Thomas Robinson	10	2	50	50
Elihue Townsend	10	2	50	50
Nicholas Bodine	9	1	165	35
Peter Fairchild	17	1	43	7
Isabel Fairchild	5	4	40	60
Do	6	4		30
Absalom Baker	6	2		50
Nelson Smith	6	2	32	18
Do	6	1		1
Benjamin Fuller	6	1	3	3
Mary Lowrey	6	1		1/8
Silas Burtch (1808-1880)	12	1	144	56
Eddy Burtch	16	1	80	20
Nicholas McIntyre (1794-1845)	12	2	25	25
Do	13	2	40	60
David Lefler (1788-1865)	10	1	70	80
John Toyne	6	1		1/4



Shuman Bingham (1799-1863)	6	1		1/2
John Thompson	6	1	5	10
John Malcolm	6	1	45	50
Do	6	1	100	
Samantha Malcolm	2	2	65	30
Do	2	1	95	5
Shubael D. Malcolm	6	1	36	40
Do	6	1	20	80
Do	4	1	28	72

## Ratepayers assessed on property, other than land :

NAME	PROPERTY
Samuel Thompson	1 milch cow valued at 3 pounds
Benjamin Wesbrook	2 oxen and one cow valued at 11 pounds
Frederick Wesbrook	2 horses and one gig valued at 36 pounds
(name not legible)	2 horses and 4 cows valued at 28 pounds
Robert Runchey	2 horses valued at 16 pounds
Daniel Bedson	2 oxen and 2 cows valued at 14 pounds
George Roberts	2 horses valued at 16 pounds
George B. Baldwin	3 horses and 3 milch cows valued at 33 pounds
Abraham Strohl	1 horse valued at 8 pounds
John Miller	1 oxen and 1 cow valued at 7 pounds
George Bunday	4 cows valued at 6 pounds
Samuel Fairchild	4 cows valued at 10 pounds
James Johnson	3 cows valued at 5 pounds
Prudence Bessy	2 cows valued at 6 pounds
David Lefler	3 cows valued at 5 pounds
Samuel Baker	2 cows valued at 4 pounds
John Sparks	1 cow valued at 3 pounds
John Silverthorne	1 horse valued at 8 pounds

In total, there were 105 ratepayers for the year under review - Shubael Downs Malcolm (1814-1878), who was to become Reeve in 1864 and again in 1867, carried out the appraisal and swore on oath concerning its accuracy at Woodstock on the 20th of April 1840. At that time, Woodstock was the seat of government for the District of Brock. The appraised value of all property in the Township amounted to over 10,600 pounds.

There were few log houses remaining by 1840. The majority of dwellings were one storey frame houses, in total 48. Two storey frame houses were less common, only 8.

Oxen were still in use, with a total of 54 of these draft animals in use, as compared to 166 horses over three years of age. Some farmers were using both horses and oxen to power their implements. Isaac Phillips had five horses and four oxen as did Mathew Messecar. Mordecai Westbrook Sr. had three horses and two oxen; Amasa Beebe had two horses and two oxen; John Eddy had three horses and four oxen; Abraham Westbrook had six horses and two oxen; Charles Chapin had two horses and two oxen. A total of 247 milch cows are listed on the return.

**Assessment List** for the Township of \_\_\_\_\_ in the District of **BROCK**, for the year 1840.

NAMES  INHABITANTS.	Description or portion of each parcel of Land.	Land.										Mills.							Amount of valuation of Property.												
		Number of Acs.	Concentration.	Uncultivated.	Cultivated.	Square Log Houses of one Story.	Additional Fire-places.	Square Log Houses of two Stories.	Additional Fire-places.	Frame Houses of one Story.	Additional Fire-places.	Frame Houses of two Stories.	Additional Fire-places.	Brick or Stone Houses of one Story.	Additional Fire-places.	Brick or Stone Houses of 2 Stories.	Additional Fire-places.	Wills.	Additional Fire-places.	Additional part of Stories.	Saw Mills.	Stone Houses.	Merchant Shops.	Small Houses.	Houses three years old and upwards.	Oxen four years old and upwards.	Milch Cows.	Horned Cattle from two 4 years old.	Glue Carriages on four wheels.	Carriages - Light on two wheels.	Waggons kept for ploughing.

*Subsd of Brock  
1840 -*

*Shubael D. Malcolm* appears for the Township of *Brockland* in the said *District* for the year 1840 and swears that the within aforesaid list contains a true and correct statement of all the rateable inhabitants residing in the said Township and also a true and correct statement of all the rateable property possessed by the said inhabitants and which they are by law required to return to this department as such appraisers and also that he this department hath set forth a true and correct list of all his own rateable property on such *District* and which by law he is required to return to such *District*.

*I have before me at Woodstock in the said District  
this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 1840 before me*

*W. Laporte*  
C. Beau B.D.

*Shubael D. Malcolm*

# CHAPTER 11

## Brant County



In 1838 a petition addressed to the Commons House of Assembly of the Province of Upper Canada, drawn up by inhabitants of the Territory comprising the Township of Dumfries, in the County of Halton, the Township of Brantford, and the Indian Territory south of Brantford, in the County of Wentworth, in the district of Gore, requested that a new County be formed. The petitioners believed that recent divisions made in the territory of the District of Gore, together with growth and prosperity and the increasing population of this section made it necessary that a new county be formed.

The petition read as follows: "The Town and Township of Brantford, including that portion of the Indian Territory situated South of Brantford, in the County of Wentworth, contains a population of between five and six thousand souls, besides the Indian population; and the Township of Dumfries, including the town of Paris, and the Villages of Galt and St. George, your Petitioners believe contain a population of nearly eight thousand souls - making the total amount of the population between 13 and 14 thousand; with a rich and fertile territory of about 400 square miles, and of sufficient importance, both as regards the population and the territory, to form a new County."

The petitioners recommended that Dumfries Township be added to Brantford Township and the Indian territory south of Brantford, to form a separate county. Such an arrangement would be more convenient for residents of Dumfries, they suggested. It was pointed out that, with the increase in population and business in this district, and in particular in the buying and selling of land,

an additional Registrar's Office should be established. This could not be done unless a new County was created. The Registrars were so busy that sometimes the purchasers of land had to wait a number of days and sometimes two or three weeks, before they could get their titles recorded. This was an inconvenience, especially to immigrants coming into the country who were anxious to get settled.

"And as the buying and selling of lands in the country forms a very prominent portion of the business of the country, it is necessary, in the opinion of your Petitioners, that an additional Registrar's Office should be established in the District of Gore, which cannot be done unless a new county is erected," the petitioners pointed out.

The petition, concluded; "Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honorable House will pass a law erecting the before-mentioned Townships and territory into a new county, to be called the County of Brant, in the District of Gore, with a Registrar's Office, to be kept at the town of Brantford - that Town being very near the centre of that portion of the District."

The petition did not achieve the desired results for a number of years. In 1839, Burford and Oakland Townships were part of District of Brock with the court house and gaol at Woodstock. Brantford was similarly identified with Hamilton, thus the county towns were far removed from the people they served and the people kept pressing their provincial representatives for change. Ultimately, they succeeded, because in 1851, parliament temporarily united certain counties for municipal and judicial purposes. The Counties of Brant, Wentworth and Halton were so joined and each had the power to elect a provisional municipal council. Brant became a county entity in 1852 from the parts of three other counties - Burford and Oakland had been in Oxford; Brantford, Onondaga and Tuscarora Townships had been in Wentworth; South Dumfries in Halton.

The Act stated that "so soon as a Court House and Gaol in any of the said counties shall have been erected at the county town of such county," then the Governor in Council should have the power to issue a proclamation dissolving the union between such county and other associate counties.

Once the Act was passed, Municipal representatives of the County of Brant responded quickly.

The minute book, which recorded the minutes of council meetings states that the first meeting of the Provisional Municipal Council of the County of Brant took place in the Town Hall at Brantford on the 15th day of April, A.D., 1852.

The Town Reeves and Deputy Reeves representing the municipalities within the new County of Brant who attended the first meeting were;

Joseph Duffett Clement, Reeve of the Town of Brantford  
 Philip C. Van Brocklin, Deputy-Reeve Town of Brantford  
 Herbert Biggar, Reeve of the Township of Brantford  
 Benson Jones, Deputy-Reeve Township of Brantford

Eliakim Malcolm, Reeve of the Township of Oakland  
 George Youell, Reeve of the Township of Onondaga  
 Daniel Anderson, Reeve of the Township of South Dumfries  
 William Mullen, Deputy-Reeve Township of South Dumfries  
 Charles Perley, Reeve of the Township of Burford  
 Isaac Brock Henry, Deputy Reeve Township of Burford  
 John Smith, Reeve of the Village of Paris

Joseph Duffett Clement, Esq., was chosen Warden of the Provisional Council and John Cameron, Esq., was elected Clerk. He continued to act until his death in 1875. He was succeeded in office by Hugh McKenzie Wilson, barrister.

Benson Jones moved an amendment at the first meeting which Charles S. Perley seconded, that Eliakim Malcolm be the Provisional Warden. The amendment was put and lost, the original motion carried thus Jos D. Clement remained as Provisional Warden for the year.

The first important business for the Council's attention was to plan for erection of a Court House. The Warden was authorized to communicate with David Thorburn, commissioner of Indian Lands, and ascertain what lands had been set apart by the Indian Department for County purposes in the town of Brantford, and, if any, to request that a patent or grant might be issued. A building committee was appointed to comprise Messrs. Malcolm, Jones, Smith, Perley and Van Brocklin; the finance committee, Messrs. Perley, Anderson, Mullen, Henry and Van Brocklin who advertised for plans and specifications for the erection of the court house and gaol offering a premium of ten pounds for the architect, should he not have the erection of the buildings. Messrs. John Turner and James Simon were awarded the contract at a fixed sum of \$17,618.50, with a stipulation the buildings be completed by the first of December next.

The basic requirement for establishing a separate County having been attended to by proceeding to erect the court house, the Provisional Council petitioned the Municipal Council of the United Counties of Wentworth, Halton and Brant for separation. The final meeting of the Provisional Council took place on January 13, 1853.

The first session of Council of the separate County of Brant occurred at the Town Hall in Brantford on January 24, 1853. Present were;

Eliakim Malcolm, Reeve of Oakland who became the first Warden;  
 James Woodyat, Reeve of the Town of Brantford;  
 James McMichael, Deputy Reeve of the Town of Brantford;

George Youell, Reeve of the Township of Onondaga;  
 Benson Jones, Reeve of the Township of Brantford;  
 Lyman Chapin, Deputy Reeve of the Township of Brantford -  
 Lyman Chapin was the son of Chas Chapin, Reeve of  
 Oakland in 1857.

Charles S. Perley, Reeve of the Township of Burford;  
 Isaac B. Henry, Deputy Reeve of Burford;  
 Charles Whitlaw, Reeve of Paris;  
 Daniel Anderson, Reeve of South Dumfries;  
 William Mullen, Deputy Reeve of South Dumfries

The county officers appointed were: Eliakim Malcolm, Warden;  
 Hamilton Biggar, treasurer; John Cameron, clerk; A.B. Bennett and  
 R.R. Strobridge, auditors and John Cameron, solicitor.

Warden Malcolm's inaugural address was carefully crafted by an  
 experienced politician. He had been appointed to the District of  
 Brock Council several years earlier and was quite familiar and  
 adept in the political arena. Mr. Malcolm had gained a wealth of  
 experience on the hustings, debating the philosophy of the Reform  
 Party prior to the Rebellion and knew what the electorate wanted  
 and expected from their elected officials;

*"Gentlemen, - I thank you for the honor you have  
 conferred upon me by appointing me Warden of this county,  
 which situation I will endeavor to fill to the best of my  
 humble abilities; and I trust, by our united exertions,  
 that the business of the county will be conducted to the  
 furtherance of the interests of the county generally.*

*"I have to congratulate you and the inhabitants of  
 the County that we are now about to realize the much  
 desired object which has for several years past occupied  
 the mind of the several townships now comprising the  
 County of Brant. We are now, by proclamation, set apart  
 from the Union, which lately was known as "The United  
 Counties of Wentworth, Halton and Brant" and are become  
 a separate County.*

*"GENTLEMEN, - Taking into consideration the extent  
 of territory comprising this county, its equal for  
 natural advantages is not to be found in United Canada.  
 Its soil for the growth of wheat (which is the principal  
 article of export) cannot be surpassed; and all other  
 grains, culinary roots and grass, are produced in  
 luxurious crops. The County of Brant, also, in  
 proportion to its territory, I think I am warranted in  
 saying, possesses more hydraulic power than any other  
 county in Canada. This is not confined to one locality,  
 but is so ordered by an all-wise Providence as to be  
 beneficial to the whole County. As to the improvements,  
 I would ask, what was the Town of Brantford, now your  
 County Town, at my earliest remembrance?, what is it  
 now?, and what are its future prospects? I have passed*

through this place when there was only one long hut in it, and that kept as a substitute for a tavern. Look at it now, with its beautiful Public Buildings, Iron Foundries, Steam Engines, Machine Shops, numerous Brick Stores, both wholesale and retail, Flour Mills, Machine Shops of all descriptions, well-kept Public Houses, splendid Private Residences, Printing Establishments, and, I am sorry to say, Distilleries, Breweries, and low Grog Shops, the enemies and destructives of a great portion of the human race.

"The Town of Brantford is most admirably situated in the centre of an extensive farming country; at the head of the navigation of the Grand River (one of the most splendid rivers in Canada), and when that navigation is completed, which we trust will not be long, it will afford a cheap and easy mode of conveying the produce of the surrounding country to market, and bring in return such articles of merchandise as are wanted by the inhabitants.

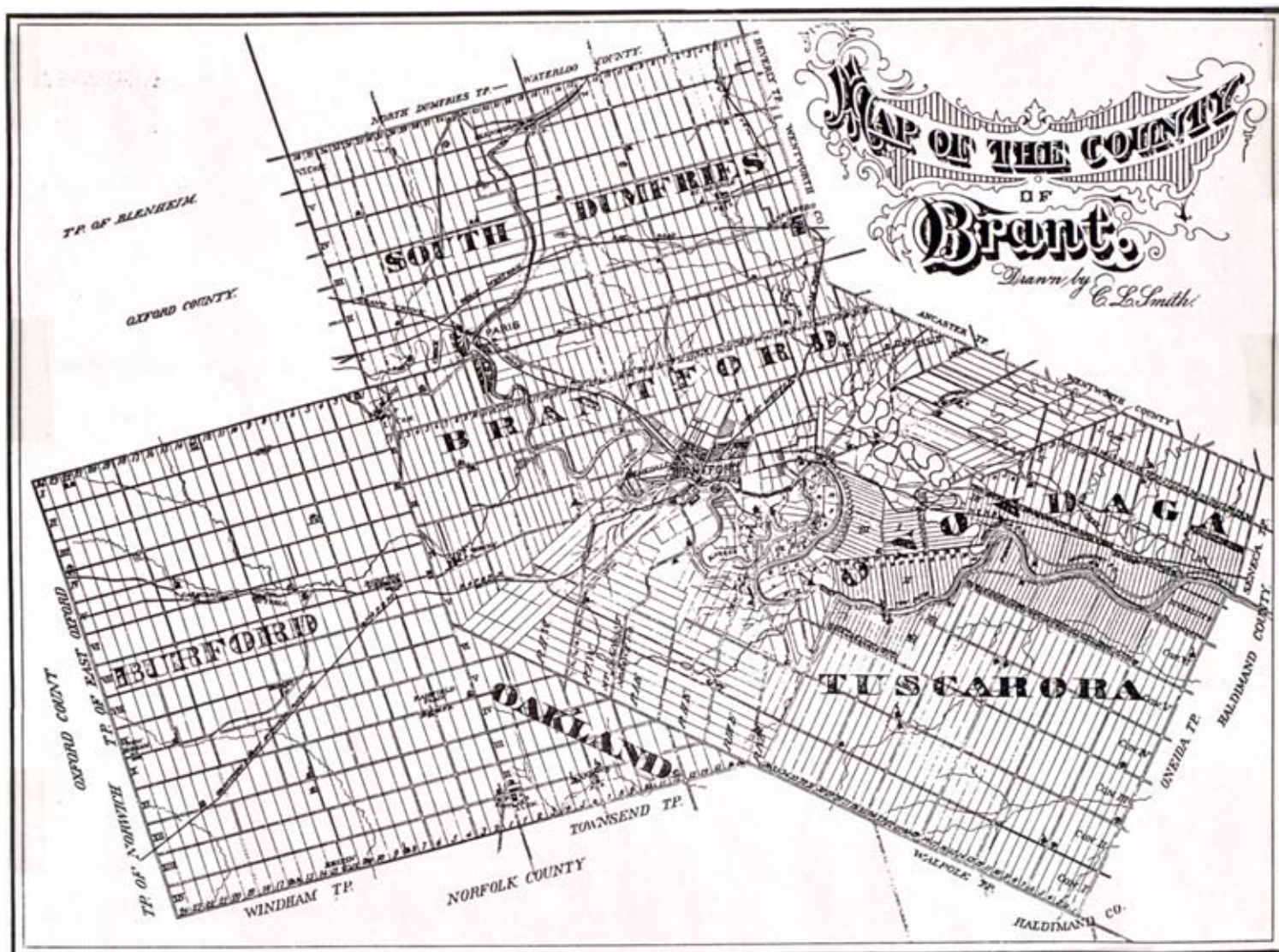
"The main thoroughfare from the eastern to the western sections of the Province, passes through Brantford, and leading roads intersect it from all parts of the surrounding country. A railroad is now in a state of forwardness approaching to completion, from Buffalo through Brantford, (where no doubt a depot will be located) to intersect the Great Western at Paris, and thence to Goderich. We are looking forward to the time, which we trust is not far distant, when, (if not thwarted by the narrow-mindedness of our Legislature) we expect to have a railway from the western extremity of the Province, via St. Thomas, Norwich and Burford, to intersect the Great Western between this town and Hamilton.

"GENTLEMEN, - It has fallen to our lot to commence the local affairs of our new county, and I trust that the united deliberations will be governed, solely for the benefit of the county. The principal thing is, to guard against unnecessary expenditure of the county funds. A steady and progressive course of improvements can be made without over-burdening the people of the county with taxes. My motto, while I had the honor to be a member of the District and County Councils, has been to guard against unnecessary expenditure of public money. I would say, further, that I need not confine myself to the Town of Brantford in relation to improvements. Take a view of the whole county and see the improvements in agriculture, and the numerous villages and towns springing up in all directions, and you will at once see that the County of Brant is all that I have represented it to be."



The councillors were quick to take care of their own interests as the sixth bylaw which they passed provided for remuneration in the amount of 6s 3d. for each day's attendance during the sittings and one day's extra pay for every regular session, to pay "for expense in coming and going."

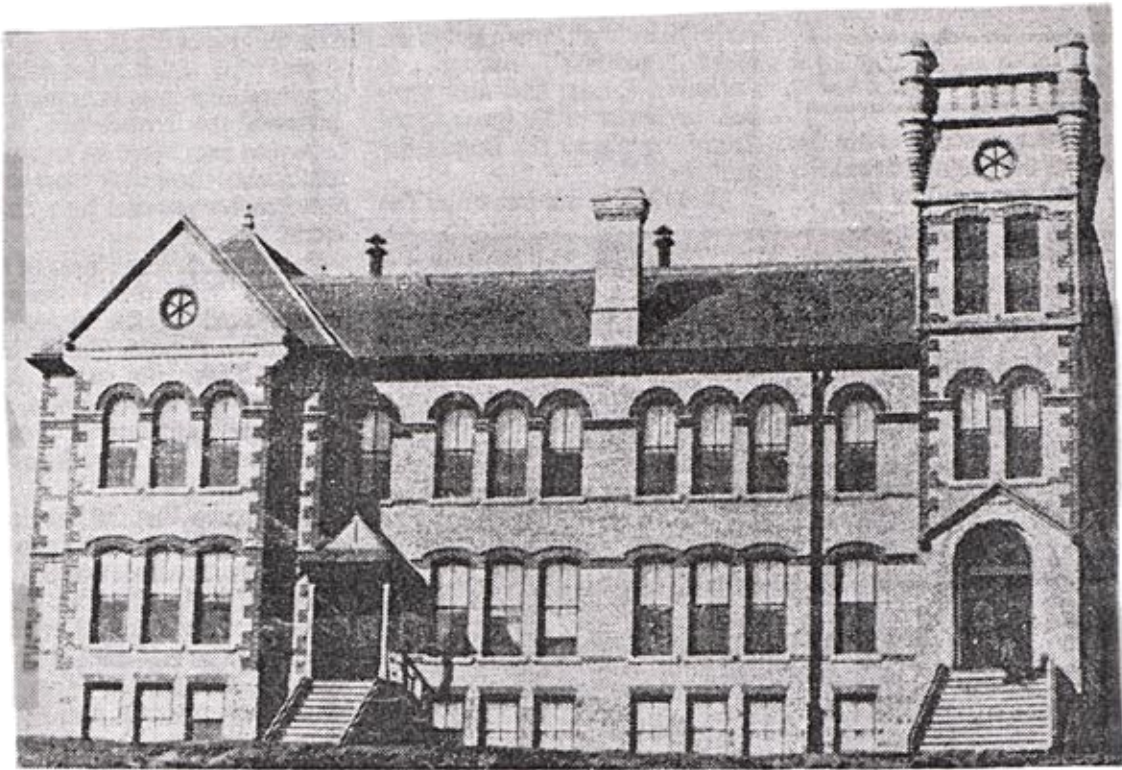
Brant contained six townships; Burford, Brantford, South Dumfries, Oakland, Onondaga, and Tuscarora; and two incorporated towns, Brantford and Paris. It contains an aggregate acreage of 266,004 acres, divided into townships as follows: Brantford Township, 78,400 acres; Burford, 67,200 acres; South Dumfries, 47,000 acres; Oakland, 10,000 acres; Onondaga, 22,282 acres; and Tuscarora, 40,322 acres.



Atlas of Oxford & Brant Counties by  
Walker & Miles - Page & Smith 1875  
(drawn by E.L. Smith)

In 1985, the County offices were re-located to new facilities at Mount Vernon and occupy a scenic setting overlooking prime farm land, with Oakland Township to the south and the City of Brantford in the distance to the east.





Circa 1900  
The Brant County House of Refuge

Established in 1888 on forty-five acres of land donated by Ignatius Cockshutt and built to accomodate seventy-five inmates, male and female, this public institution served a special need for indigent residents of the County before the advent of social services as we know them today. Commonly called "the poorhouse", it was the dreaded fear of those entering old age, who had no savings, that their last years would be spent in this place of last resort. Fortunately, few Oakland Township dwellers were forced to live there.

William Devlin, elected Reeve in 1880, gave up farming to become the Superintendent. He took over administrative duties from J. Thompson and was followed by W. Muir. The House of Refuge was located in south-west Brantford near the present John Noble Home.

## Oakland Township Representation

Oakland Township Reeves who have served as Wardens of the County include;

1853 Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874) of Scotland  
1854 Eliakim Malcolm

"Liak" Malcolm, a political tribune, a social reformer and a champion of democracy, served two terms. He was born at Scotland, Upper Canada on March 18, 1801, son of Finlay Malcolm (1750-1829). "Liak" was one of a family of fifteen. He married in the State of Vermont, in 1822, to Samantha Sexton (1806-1883). His political activism found him allied with the rebels in 1837 forcing him to flee the area for a time following the Scotland fiasco of December, 1837.

By "Liak" and Samantha were eight children, six daughters and two sons. Their youngest, Sophrona (1842-1912) married Dr. John Rolph Malcolm, a local Scotland physician.



Circa 1855  
"Liak" Malcolm

Extract from the Brantford Expositor - 1854

*"Warden Malcolm of Brant County, called a meeting in the Court House for the purpose of devising ways and means for raising a fund to assist in alleviating the very severe distress among our destitute fellow countrymen in Nova Scotia."*

"Liak" died on September 26, 1874 at 73 years of age. His leadership role during the Rebellion of 1837 can be found in Chapter 23.

1868 - Shubael Downs Malcolm (1814-1878) a farmer on lot 5 concession I Oakland Township, the Malcolm homestead. He was born on June 5, 1814 at Oakland, fourth son of Finlay Malcolm Jr. (1779-1862) and Fanny Tyler (1791-1823). Eliakim Malcolm, the first Warden, was his Uncle. Shubael married Elvira Foster (1820-1894) and they had

four sons, John Rolph, Chas Parke, Egbert and Horace, who all became active in the business and industrial life of the Township. In later life Shubael and Elvira moved off the farm at Oakland and lived in Scotland village. Shubael died on May 20, 1878.

- 1876 - Squire Wm Thompson (1801-1897). In 1822, Squire Thompson opened the first blacksmith shop at Oakland. About 1827, he changed to farming. His activities during the rebellion of 1837 sent him to prison for a time. His son Walter (1850-1936), who married Betsy Lewis (1855-1934), farmed at Maple Grove. They had a son, Charles David (1879-1944), a farmer at Burtch.
- 1882 - Wm Devlin, farmer lot 10 concession III. He left the farm to become administrator of The House of Refuge, located in West Brantford overlooking Mount Pleasant Street.
- 1891 - Joseph McIntyre (1837-1914) farmer on lot 12 concession  
1897 II. Joseph's wife, Maria, died in 1879 at thirty-eight  
1903 years of age. His son Charles (1875-1955) also served as  
a Warden. From 1897 to 1907, the Hardy Act was in force  
which divided the County into four divisions with  
provision for two representatives from each on the County  
Council. Otherwise, the Council was made up of the  
Reeves or Deputies from the townships. Warden McIntyre  
served as Reeve of Oakland Township in 1891, in 1897 he  
served as a member of Division three Township of Oakland  
and in 1903 he was the member of Division three, Township  
of Brantford.
- 1910 - Jacob A. Messecar (1858-1938) farmer on lot 3 concession  
I. Jacob married Minnie J. Bouchner (1861-1935). He was  
the son of Mathew Messecar (1826-1897) and Alphreda  
Smith. His son Earl (1880-1965) farmed east of Scotland  
beside the T.H. and B. tracks.
- 1915 - George E. Cooke (1871-1961) farmer lot 9 concession II.  
He served as Reeve of the township for three separate  
terms. During his tenure as Warden, the re-building of  
bridges and roads received a high priority.
- 1923 - Charles McIntyre (1875-1955) farmer, lot 9 concession II.
- 1931 - Geo T. Knox (1887-1944) a J.P. and manager of Vivian's  
Grist Mill.
- 1937 - Clark Merritt (1880-1949) farmer, lot 8 concession III.
- 1944 - Philip H. Durham (1889-1958) farmer, north of Scotland.
- 1950 - J. Howard Edy (1905-1963) farmer, lot 11 concession II.
- 1955 - C. Roy McEwan (1889-1971) farmer, lot 10 concession II.





Circa 1959

l - r

Alex	W.George	Joseph	Ken	Hugh	Harvey
Priest	Hamilton	Bradbury	Hagerman	MacLachlan	Coleman

W.J.E.	A. Bruce	Clarence L.	Wm. D. Foulds
Foot	Patterson	Rosebrugh	Clerk/Treasurer
			(seated)

(standing on the podium and shaking hands with W. George Hamilton is Warden Armour Potter)

1961 - Kenneth Hagerman (1893-1986) farmer, lot 4 (east half) concession I.

Ken became a member of County Council following the election of 1959, when he was the successful candidate for Reeve of the Township. Armour Potter, Esq., of RR#1 Burford (Princeton) was the Warden. Other officials were:

Clerk and Treasurer ..... W. D. Foulds  
Brantford PL 2-II53

Engineer and Road  
Superintendent ..... Ross E. Cox  
Brantford PL 2-5232

County Assessor ..... T. R. Maxwell  
Brantford PL 2-5219

Caretaker ..... Chas. E. Ham  
Brantford PL 6-6449

County Solicitor ..... A. H. Boddy, Q.C.  
Brantford PL 2-6517

County Auditors:  
Millard, Rouse & Rosebrugh  
Brantford PL 2-4311

Weed Inspector ..... W. J. Stephenson  
Cathcart

#### MUNICIPAL CLERK-TREASURERS

Town of Paris ..... W. J. Haggett, Paris  
Paris 8

Twp. of Brantford ..... Ewart Biggar  
73 Charlotte St. Brantford, PL 2-7879

Twp. of Burford ..... S. Hunsperger,  
Burford HI 9-2434

Twp. of S. Dumfries ..... W. W. Guthrie  
St. George 177

Twp. of Onondaga ..... Vincent Randle  
R.R. I, Middleport PL 3-4601

Twp. of Oakland ..... H. E. Irwin  
R.R. I, Scotland 15

#### COMMITTEES FOR 1959

First Named to be Chairman

Finance — Messrs. Foot, Rosebrugh, Coleman, Patterson, Hagerman.

Roads — Messrs. Patterson, Coleman, Hagerman, Rosebrugh, Foot.

Buildings and Grounds — Messrs. Rosebrugh, Hagerman, Bradbury, Patterson, Priest.

Jail Supplies — Messrs. Coleman, Hamilton, Priest, MacLachlan, Bradbury.

Education — Messrs. Hagerman, Bradbury, MacLachlan, Hamilton.

Agriculture — Messrs. Priest, MacLachlan, Hamilton, Rosebrugh, Coleman, Patterson, Hagerman.

Printing — Messrs. MacLachlan, Priest, Bradbury, Hamilton.

Warden Potter to be a member of all committees.

#### REPRESENTATIVES ON BOARDS and COMMISSIONS

Children's Aid Society of Brant — Messrs. Coleman, Hamilton, Warden Potter.

Pleasant View Lodge — Messrs. Coleman, Rosebrugh, Warden Potter.

Brant County Health Unit — Messrs. Foot, Patterson, Warden Potter.

Board of Governors of Brantford General Hospital — Warden Potter.

Board of Governors of Brant Sanatorium— Mr. J. Clarence McEwan.

Willett Hospital Board — Mr. Jas. Aitkin.

Advisory Board of Sisters of St. Joseph's Hospital — Mr. Stanley Force.

Burford District High School — Mr. Philip Burtis.

Paris District High School — Mr. H. A. Telfer.

Tree Cutting Commission — Messrs. John P. Fraser, Harold Schuyler, Horace Fair.

Suburban Roads Commission — Messrs. Garnet Brown, Oscar Simpson.

Brant County Civil Defence — Messrs. Patterson and Foot.

#### Members of County Council

Municipalities	Name	Address	Res. Telephone
Town of Paris	W. J. E. Foot (R)	Paris .....	Paris ..... 1537
	Joseph Bradbury (DR)	Paris .....	Paris ..... 845
Brantford Township	A. Bruce Patterson (R)	R.R.2, Brantford	Btfd PL 2-2837
	Hugh MacLachlan (DR)	R.R.1, Mt. Pleasant	Mt. Plt. HU 4-2263
Burford Township	Armour Potter (R)	R.R.1, Burford	Prince. 112 J 21
	Alex Priest (DR)	R.R.1, Burford	Burf. HI 9-2233
S. Dumfries Tp.	Clarence L. Rosebrugh (R)	St. George	St. Geo. 195W
	W. George Hamilton (DR)	R.R.3, Ayr	Paris 204 W 5
Onondaga Township	Harvey Coleman (R)	R.R.7, Brantford	Btfd. PL 3-0187
Oakland Township	Kenneth Hagerman (R)	Scotland	Scotland ..... 65 J

At the inaugural meeting of County Council in 1960, held on January 19th, the following Committees were structured:

- Chairman of Finance - Joseph Bradbury, Reeve of Paris  
Wm Wren - Onondaga  
Ken Hagerman - Oakland  
Alex Priest - Burford  
Hugh MacLachlan - Brantford Twp
- Roads - Chairman - Reeve MacLachlan  
Reeves Priest  
Hagerman  
Wren  
Bradbury
- Buildings and grounds - Chairman - Reeve Priest  
J.W. Howell - Deputy Reeve  
South Dumfries  
Alfred Davis - Deputy Reeve  
Burford  
Norman Moore - Deputy Reeve, Paris  
Reeve MacLachlan
- Jail supplies - Chairman - Reeve Hagerman  
Members:  
Davis  
Wren  
Moore  
Warne Emmott - Deputy Reeve, Brantford  
Township
- Education - Chairman - Deputy Reeve Davis  
Deputy Reeves:  
Emmott  
Moore  
Howell
- Agriculture - Chairman - Reeve Wren  
Hagerman  
MacLachlan  
Emmott  
Priest  
Davis  
Howell
- Printing - Chairman - Deputy Reeve Howell  
Emmott  
Moore  
Davis

Warren Hamilton is automatically a member of all committees.

County council named the following as board representatives:  
(with Warden Hamilton ex-officio member on each)

Children's Aid  
Society - Priest and Emmott

Pleasant View  
Lodge - Hagerman and Bradbury

Brant County  
Health Unit - Bradbury and MacLachlan

Civil Defence - Moore and Wren

Ken Hagerman was elected Warden on Jan 17th 1961, at the first yearly meeting, sworn in by Judge Reville. Rev. L.A. Knox of Scotland United Church delivered the invocation.

Warden Hagerman made the following comments:

"In accepting the office of Warden of Brant County I am conscious of the high standards of achievement built up over the years by previous county councils and I realize that to maintain that record will require much time and my best endeavours in behalf of the county for 1961. This I promise to give you if within my power.

"In my experience with County Council over the past two years I have been impressed with the spirit of dedication and co-operation which has prevailed both in Council and in committees. We all have our opinions and have expressed them but, in so doing, it has been evident that our thinking has been on the lines of what is best for the community as a whole and not just what is best for the individual.



January 17th 1961  
Warden Hagerman being sworn in  
(a Brantford Expositor photo)

"This makes the responsibilities of the warden much easier and I ask for your continued co-operation during the year ahead. In this connection I would like to pay tribute to the interest and assistance shown by the appointed county officials and their staffs, without which all of us would have difficulty in conducting the Council's business. I ask, on behalf of the whole council, for their continued support.

"We are all proud of this court house and can see results from the long term planning as far as our county buildings are concerned. We are enjoying this room, which was one of the main projects in 1960. With the growth in population in this area, we must continue our program for more and improved accommodation for the courts and offices and this will require careful study by the property committee.

"Building programs are underway for the John Noble Home and the Children's Aid Society and both will be better able to serve the community. The matter of health unit accommodation will likely be before this council this year. Roads are a very important part of our municipal life and will require careful study by the road committee in conjunction with the county engineer and his staff.

"It is my desire to continue the splendid co-operation that exists between the City of Brantford and the county in their many joint and mutual undertakings.

"Whether I am a good warden remains to be seen, but in having you men as my associates for 1961 I am confident that I have a good and sound county council. It is encouraging to see men who are experienced in county work continue their endeavors for the good of the rate-payers and I welcome our previous warden, Reeve W.G. Hamilton, to this year's council. I know his knowledge of all the various county problems will be of great value to committees, council and myself.

"You will all be appointed to various committees and once again I ask for your best endeavors, at the same time promising my assistance.

"Between us I am confident that, with divine guidance and help, we will be able to look back at the end of 1961 and say - this has been a good year for Brant County."

On leaving office, Warden Hagerman received plaudits at a banquet held in the Agricultural Building at the Burford Fair Grounds, Wednesday November 22nd 1961. Some 250 officials, guests and friends attended.

Ex-Warden Roy McEwan, of Oakland introduced the past Wardens of the County and paid tribute to the late George Cook, the dean of Brant Wardens. Mr. McEwan also made special mention of the attendance of Ex-Warden Herbert German, of St. George; at the



banquet Wednesday evening. Mr. German now becomes dean of Brant Wardens. He is 92 years old.

The Rev. Dr. G. Deane Johnston, of Central Presbyterian Church, Brantford, was the guest speaker for the evening. Other programme included vocal solos by Mr. Chas. D. Hunter, of Scotland, and violin solos by Miss Charlotte Wright, also of Scotland. Mrs. Chas. Hunter provided piano accompaniment.

On behalf of the County Council, the Warden was presented with a silver tray and Mrs. Hagerman was presented with a bouquet of flowers. The presentation was made by Mr. T.R. Maxwell, County Assessor.

In thanking those present, outgoing Warden Hagerman mentioned the achievements over the past year, including a new wing at the John Noble Home, a new administrative building for the Childrens Aid Society and the unveiling of a plaque honouring Augustus Jones (located in front of the Court House).



November 1961 (Burford Advance)

Hugh MacLachlan  
(incoming Warden)

Ken Hagerman  
(outgoing Warden)

- 1966 - Alvin G. Marr farmer lot 7 concession IV  
1974 - Alvin G. Marr (second term)

January 18th 1966:

QUOTE: Moved by - Mr. Wren

Seconded by - Mr. Hodge

That Alvin G. Marr, Reeve of the Township of Oakland, be Warden of the County of Brant for the year 1966 or until his successor is office is elected.

Carried.

The Clerk then declared Mr. Alvin G. Marr, Reeve of the Township of Oakland, duly elected Warden of the County of Brant for the current year, and called on his Mover and Seconder to escort him to the Warden's chair.

His Honour Judge R.W. Reville administered the Oath of Office, offered his congratulations to the Warden on his election to the highest office in the County and wished the Council a successful year.

The Warden called on Rev. Jean Donaldson, Minister of Oakland United Church, who, after offering "congratulations to the Warden and stressing the importance of good government, conducted a devotional period and offered prayer.

Warden Marr thanked His Honour Judge Reville, Rev. Donaldson, the Mover and Seconder of his nomination and all members of Council for their support. He welcomed the three new members to Council and offered congratulations to those returning to County Council and pointed out that there would be three new Reeves who would be assuming added responsibility.

He noted his pleasure at the attendance of County and Court House officials, friends and members of his family.

The Warden paid tribute to the leadership of former Wardens and the manner in which the Wardens and Councils worked for the benefit of the County as a whole, mentioning many projects studied and climaxed under the guidance of Warden Howell.

He stated in his opinion the first duty of Council was to provide adequate accommodation for the Assessment Department, to have the Planning Board organized, to get the Fire Departments equipped with radio, and to arrange for a working agreement between the Historical Society and the County for the operation of the Museum and construction of the addition.

The importance of strong leadership in committees was stressed along with the continued co-operation of City and County in regard to joint undertakings and projects.

He made particular mention of the Roads Department and the leadership of the County Engineer in the Roads Program and Needs Study. The Assessment Department has been organized under the Commissioner System and he asked for the co-operation of Council in this very important phase of the administration.

The fact that department heads had not taken their full holidays in 1965 was mentioned and he hoped same could be arranged early in the current year.

He asked that the Council keep 1967 in mind and be willing to give leadership and assistance in the Centennial planning.

In conclusion, the Warden acknowledged the honour, personally and to his municipality and promised to do his utmost to uphold the high standard set by those who had occupied the Warden's chair.

UNQUOTE



Circa 1974  
Annual Warden's Banquet at Paris Fair Grounds

l - r

Mrs. Marr      Warden Alvin Marr      W. Ross Macdonald  
(former lieutenant-governor)

(other distinguished guests were Brant County Judge E.O. Fanjoy; Mayor Joe Bradbury of Paris; Mayor Chas Bowen of Brantford; Derek Blackburn MP for Brant; Robert Nixon Liberal leader; Dick Beckett MPP for Brantford; Vernon Young Reeve of Burford Township)

During Warden Marr's tenure, the issue of regional and restructured county government became an animated issue. He highlighted the problems inherent during his address to the 200 guests who attended this annual event, pointing out that "we should establish something peculiar to this area and we don't envy the growing pains afflicting our neighbours on all sides".



# Unveiling and Dedication

OF

## HISTORICAL PLAQUE

FOR



THE BRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE

COUNTY COURT HOUSE  
BRANTFORD, ONTARIO

Saturday, September 14, 1974

AT 2:00 P.M.

### Brant County Court House

In July, 1852, the Six Nations Indians sold to Brant County the land upon which this court house now stands. Designed by John Turner and William Sinon and erected by the Provisional County of Brant, the stone and brick building was largely completed in 1852. The original structure contained court rooms, county offices, a law library and a gaol. Additions were made in 1861 and 1886, but the building remains predominantly Greek Revival in style. The centre block facade has two clusters of simple Doric columns rising from the second floor and supporting a triangular pediment. Identical pediments are repeated over each of the wings. The court-house faces Victoria Square, one of Ontario's most impressive public squares.

Erected by the Archaeological and Historic Sites Board,  
Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

## PROGRAMME

Chairman  
Mr. Alvin G. Marr  
Warden, County of Brant

•

His Worship Charles Bowen  
Mayor, City of Brantford

•

Mr. Derek Blackburn  
M.P., Brant Riding

•

Mr. R. B. Beckett  
M.P.P., Brantford Riding

•

Mr. Leslie R. Gray  
The Archeological and Historic Sites Board of Ontario

•

Historical Background  
Mr. Walter D. Rutherford  
Representing the Brant Historical Society

•

Unveiling of Plaque  
His Honour W. Ross Macdonald  
His Honour Judge E. O. Fanjoy

•

Dedication  
Reverend K. Jensen  
Oakland United Church

•

The unveiling ceremonies will be followed by a reception  
in the County Council Chambers

## PROGRAMME SPONSORS

### The Council of the County of Brant

A. G. Marr	Warden, Reeve Township of Oakland
R. W. Emerson	Reeve, Town of Paris
W. J. Ford	Deputy Reeve, Town of Paris
R. W. Kennedy	Reeve, Township of Brantford
W. C. Emmott	Deputy Reeve, Township of Brantford
V. C. Young	Reeve, Township of Burford
E. Stuart	Deputy Reeve, Township of Burford
J. H. Buck	Reeve, Township of South Dumfries
F. D. McPherson	Deputy Reeve, Township of South Dumfries
J. S. McBlain	Reeve, Township of Onondaga

### The Brant Historical Society

Mrs. Gertrude Warrack	Secretary
Bruce Essery	Acting President
Walter D. Rutherford	Programme Convenor

1987 - Joe Keresturi farmer, lot 8 concession III.

Wednesday December 10th, 1986:

On a vote taken, Mr. Keresturi was declared elected Warden for the 1986/87 year. His Honour Judge Fanjoy administered the required declarations of Office and of Oath of Allegiance.

Warden Keresturi addressed Council after receiving the gavel of office from outgoing Warden, Gordon Gibson and after asking the Reverend Murray Campbell to conduct a devotional period.

In his inaugural address, Warden Keresturi remembered a colleague, Ed Hussey, he alluded to the challenge of bringing renovations to the John Noble Home in on budget, he mentioned the difficulties in three Townships with the beleaguered tobacco industry and he reminded his colleagues of the road budget cuts and transfer reductions.



Joe Keresturi

#### Committee appointments:

- Executive committee — chairman, Coun. Warne Emmott; vice-chairman, Coun. Barbara Miller; members, councillors John Clark, Randy Covey, Doris Givens, Mabel Dougherty, Gordon Gibson, Ron Eddy, Warden Keresturi and the Paris deputy reeve.
- Roads committee — chairman, Coun. Covey; vice-chairman, Coun. Eddy; members, councillors Emmott, Dougherty, Gibson and Warden Keresturi.
- Brant County Health Unit — councillors Gibson, Dougherty and Eddy.
- Committee of management, John Noble Home — councillors Emmott, Dougherty, Miller and Warden Keresturi.
- Brant Social Services Committee — councillors Covey, Gibson, Miller and Warden Keresturi.
- Children's Aid Society — councillors Givens and Eddy.
- City-county liaison committee — Warden Keresturi and councillors Clark, Dougherty and Gibson.
- United Community Fund — Warden Keresturi.
- Civic and provincial affairs committee, Brantford Regional Chamber of Commerce — Warden Keresturi.

- Board of governors, Brant Historical Society Museum — Warden Keresturi, councillors Emmott, Givens and Miller and appointees Ruth Stedman, J. C. Webster and Ewart Biggar.
- Brant District Health Council — Coun. Miller.
- Board of governors, Brantford General Hospital — Warden Keresturi and Coun. Dougherty.
- Board of governors, Paris Willett Hospital — Paris deputy reeve.
- Board of governors, Brantwood Residential Development Centre — Coun. Emmott.
- Board of governors, Mohawk College, — R. W. Kennedy.
- Brant-Brantford Housing Authority — Rev. Victor Killoran.
- Joint services advisory committee — Warden Keresturi.
- Mutual planning advisory committee — Coun. Eddy.
- Special trees hearing committee — Warden Keresturi and councillors Clark and Covey.
- Master plan study for the lower Grand — Coun. Dougherty.
- Children and youth services committee — Coun. Givens.
- Tobacco area industrial strategy study — councillors Gibson and Covey.

## BRANT COUNTY SHERIFF

Gordon D. Campbell, born November 28th, 1893 on the homestead farm in the eastern tip of Oakland Township, lot 15 concession I, served as county Sheriff for twenty years. His appointment became effective on November 1st 1944.

He held a number of elected positions:

- 1930 - trustee for nine years  
SS#10, Newport
- 1936 - Councillor, Brantford  
Twp.
- 1939 - Deputy Reeve, Brantford  
Twp.
- 1941 - Reeve, Brantford Twp.
- 1942 - Warden Brant County
- 1943 - Candidate for the P.C.'s  
in the provincial  
election.

Prime Sheriff's duties were to enforce the orders of the court; serving summonses; enforcing judgements; collection seizures; execute writs of possession; sitting on the court of revision; summon jurors; arranging escorts for prisoners sentenced to the penitentiary.

Mr. Campbell, by his own admission, disliked one of his official responsibilities - evictions. He remarked that "evictions of families is one of the most depressing jobs a sheriff has to do".

With the latter foremost in his mind, Gordon experimented with an "eviction warning system", not provided for in law. Essentially, it gave a family three days lead time before taking legal steps to evict. Because of its success rate, this innovation was imitated in many other Ontario counties. As Gordon said: "you don't see furniture piled in the streets here".



Sheriff Gordon David Campbell (1893-1965) - held the office from 1944 to 1964.



608

c.

## Electoral Ridings



Copy of an Order-in-Council, approved by  
The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, dated the  
24th., day of October, A.D., 1944.

Upon the recommendation of the Honourable the  
Attorney General, the Committee of Council advise that Mr.  
Gordon D. Campbell, R.R. #3, Brantford, Ontario, be appointed  
Sheriff in and for the County of Brant, in the room and stead  
of Mr. C.S. Tapscott, deceased, and that he be allowed to re-  
tain for his own use out of the fees of his said office of  
Sheriff the sum of Twenty-Five Hundred Dollars (\$2500.) per  
annum, but not more pro rata for any elapsed period of the  
~~year, effective from November 1, 1944.~~

Certified,

Clerk, Executive Council.

## Electoral Ridings

When fully constituted in 1853, Brant was divided for electoral purposes into two constituencies. Oakland Township fell within the West Brantford political boundary. Herbert Biggar became the first elected representative for the west half followed by Rev. Wm Ryerson in 1861 and E.B. Wood in 1863.

At confederation in 1867, the ridings were altered to North and South Brant. The following are some of the prominent men of the County who represented this electoral area in the House of Commons.

- 1867 - R E.B. Wood M.P. Edmund B. Wood set up a legal practice in Brantford in 1850 and became a leading figure of the Bar. He was named Deputy Clerk of the Crown when Brant evolved as a county.
- 1872 - R William Paterson MP. He was the son of James and  
1874 Martha Paterson who settled in 1829. William arrived  
1878 at Brantford in 1853 and successfully opened a candy  
1882 factory located on Colborne Street, the north side,  
1887 just east of Lorne Bridge. The Honourable Paterson  
1891 officiated at the corner-stone laying ceremony of the  
new Methodist Church, Oakland, in the year 1886.  
(there is a reference in historical records to John  
White MP serving Scotland residents in 1885)
- 1896 - C R. Henry M.P.
- 1897 - L C.B. Heyd M.P. (a by-election)
- 1900 - C.B. Heyd
- (In 1903, constituencies were re-structured as Brant and Brantford)
- 1904 - L Wm Patterson (Brant)
- 1908 - L Wm Patterson (Brant)
- 1911 - C John H. Fisher (Brant) a former County Warden - appointed  
a Senator in 1917
- 1917 - I J. Harold (Brant)
- 1921 - P W. C. Good (Brant) a prominent Brantford Twp farmer
- 1925 - C Franklin Smoke (Brant)
- 1926 - C Franklin Smoke (Brant)
- 1930 - C Franklin Smoke (Brant)
- 1935 - L George E. Wood (Brant)

- 1940 - L G.E. Wood (Brant)
- 1945 - C Dr. John A. Charlton (Brant)
- 1949 - C Dr. J.A. Charlton (Brant-Wentworth)
- 1953 - C Dr. J.A. Charlton (Brant-Haldimand)
- 1957 - C Dr. J.A. Charlton (Brant-Haldimand)
- 1958 - C Dr. J.A. Charlton (Brant-Haldimand)
- 1962 - L Lawrence T. Pennell (Brant-Haldimand) - became Solicitor  
General for Canada
- 1963 - L L.T. Pennell (Brant-Haldimand)
- 1965 - L L.T. Pennell (Brant-Haldimand)

#### POLITICAL PARTIES

C - Conservative L - Liberal R - Reformer I - Independent  
P - Progressive

George Wood M.P. was a well respected county resident and served in the Commons for many years. Wm H. Taylor, a farmer south of Scotland, was elected M.P. for Norfolk in 1926, again in 1930 and in 1935. Later, he was appointed a Senator. Even though his riding did not embrace Oakland Township, he had strong ties in the area, especially with the Scotland United Church.



George Wood MP

Following the final 1966 report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission, some of the residents of Oakland Township were quite perturbed to realize that their little township was to be included in the riding of Oxford.

James E. Brown M.P. for Brant said from Ottawa in part "But there is nothing I regret more than losing Burford and Oakland". I know the people there, I have come to know their problems, and I am sorry that they are going to be left out. These people look to Brantford as their centre and county seat and it is very disappointing. I am disturbed about losing my constituents there, but of course I will continue to represent them in Parliament.

Following this announcement, Mrs. George Chandler provided the incentive to arouse some of the more active party leaders (including all parties) and a meeting was held in the Township Office early in March 1966. The following were present - Mrs. Chandler, Reeve Alvin Marr, Twp Clerk Margery Gatward, Treasurer Ward Irwin, Mr. and Mrs. James Snodgrass, Walter Burrage, Bruce Bonham, and Leslie Medve.

Following the meeting a petition was drawn up and circulated among the ratepayers for their signature:

**PETITION OF OAKLAND TOWNSHIP RE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS**

We, the undersigned electorate of the Township of Oakland in the County of Brant, do hereby petition for reconsideration of the decision to include the said Township in the Electoral District of Oxford. It is our considered opinion that such division of the electorate does not achieve the avowed purpose of Democratic Government which is that it's elected members consider and enact as representatives cognizant with the problems and opinions of the whole population they represent. In support of the above, the following points are submitted.

1. Location - The township is approximately six miles from the city of Brantford, which is the focal centre of the proposed new Brant riding, whereas the closest point to the edge of Oxford County is 10 miles and Woodstock is some 25 miles away.
2. Cultural - Personal interests - all shopping, entertainment, health and welfare endeavours of township residents, other than indulged in locally, are centered in Brantford and in virtually no cases are found in Woodstock etc. It is noteworthy that Brant County is one of the few Counties where participating municipalities joined in financing County and City centennial projects rather than individual municipal projects.
3. Transportation & Communication - Four main highways lead through Oakland Township to Brantford whereas only one leads to the South part of Oxford County. The Brantford radio station towers are located in Oakland township and it's programming commands the attention and interest of the residents, whereas the Woodstock station reception is poor and seldom heard. Telephone to Brant is local whereas to anywhere in Oxford County is long distance. A poll of numerous residents found no one receiving any Oxford County paper whereas the Brantford Expositor is delivered daily by truck to local homes.
4. Services - Fire, police, EMO, justice, etc. are Brant County amalgamated and supported. No bus, train or other transportation service to anywhere in Oxford County.
5. Affinity of Problems and Desires - By far the majority of the workers of Oakland Township, other than farm labour, are employed in Brantford. A certain number are employed in Hamilton and other points East, but we knew of none working in Oxford County.

It is appreciated that in consideration of new ridings, representation by population was a main feature. However it is respectfully suggested that other factors such as detailed above must be considered. That the small wedge of land abutting on the extreme South-East wedge of the proposed new riding be used to balance population is, in our opinion, an anamorphosis not in accord with the best interests of the area. Inasmuch as the assessed population affected totals only some 1,300, it is submitted that the other factors should have emphasis in arriving at representation of we, the undersigned Canadians:

Hansard recorded Mr. Jim Browns' appeal in Parliament - 28 April 1966. His comments were convincing and the decision to place Oakland Township in the Oxford riding was reversed.

# CHAPTER 12

## The Corporation of the Township of Oakland



This right-angled triangular tract has fallen under several jurisdictions, firstly as an annex of Townsend Township, within Norfolk of the Western District. On January 1st 1800, its coupling as a Gore of Burford Township occurred, within Oxford of the London District. Act 38 George III chap. 5, section 34, 1798, authorized the change of jurisdictions. Declared a Township of its own in 1821 by Act 2 George IV, chap. 3, section 11, it remained in Oxford and continued to be conjoined with the London District. In 1839, the District jurisdictions were again altered causing the Township to be absorbed by the newly created Brock District, so named in honour of General Isaac Brock. A further change occurred in 1845 when the existing supremacy of administration lapsed in favour of the County system. Oakland Township then became one of the charges of Oxford County.

In 1849, by Act 12 Vic., chapter 78, Districts were totally abolished and counties substituted, coming into force on January 1st 1850. By virtue of the latter Act, Oakland Township was set apart for municipal purposes and it became autonomous with its own Council which met later in the month.



Council gathered for their inaugural meeting at the inn of Isaac Brock Malcolm on January 21st 1850, proof that the autocratic rule of government known to Upper Canada dwellers for over half a century had run its course. Local government *by the people for the people* was about to be introduced. A local group of five men, legally constituted through legislation titled "An Act to provide by one general law for the erection of Municipal Corporations and the establishment of Regulations of Police in and for the several counties, cities, towns, townships and villages in Upper Canada", were about to tackle the experiment.

Present for the historical occasion were:

Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874) - Public Land Surveyor - He was voted to take the Chair to become the Township's first Reeve.

James Malcolm (1800-1858), farmer, lot 2, Concession II, Eliakim's older brother.

John Eddy (1804-1892), farmer, lot 13 concession I.

Charles Chapin (1808-1871), farmer, lot 3 concession IV (also a landowner in concession III)

Wellington McAlister (1814-1897) farmer, lot 10, concession II.

(Three of the five present, the two Malcolms and Chas Chapin, had been active in the reform movement and were present during the uprising at Scotland thirteen years earlier.)

The original minutes of their first meeting written by a skilled penman, John Toyne, have been preserved and read as follows:

*First Session of the Municipal Council of the Township of Oakland, Held at the Inn of I. B. Malcolm on Monday the 21st day of January 1850.*

*Council met at the hour of Eleven O'clock A.M. Members present, Eliakim Malcolm, James Malcolm, John Eddy, Charles Chapin and Wellington McAlister.*

*Members were duly Sworn according to law.*

*Moved by John Eddy and Seconded by Chas Chapin that Eliakim Malcolm Esq to take the chair.*

*Moved by John Eddy and Seconded by Wellington McAlister, And Resolved, that Eliakim Malcolm Esq, is a fit and proper person to fill this office of Township Reeve for the Township of Oakland and that he now be appointed to that office, carried.*

*Moved by James Malcolm and Seconded by John Eddy, And Resolved, that John Toyne Esq is a fit and proper person*

to fill this office of Clerk to this Council of the Township of Oakland, and that he now be appointed to that office. Carried.

Moved by John Eddy and Seconded by Wellington McAlister, And Resolved, that a committee of three be now appointed to draft Rules and Regulations for the government of this Township Council of Oakland, And that the said committee shall consist of James Malcolm, Chas Chapin, and the Mover.

Application to the Township Council of Oakland, from the Rev. Wm Hay, to be appointed Superintendent of Common Schools for the Township of Oakland Read.

Moved by John Eddy and seconded by Chas Chapin And Resolved, That the Council do now adjourn until to-morrow morning at the Hour of Ten O'Clock and then to meet in the South Room of the building lately occupied by John Toyne as a store.

Council Adjourned until to-morrow morning to meet at the Hour of 10 O'Clock.

(The Reverend Wm Hay (1822-1897), referred to in the minutes, who applied for the position of Superintendent of Common Schools was pastor at Scotland Congregational Church from 1847 to 1894. Common schools later became known as Public or Elementary schools.)

Regular meetings of Council continued throughout the week that followed. A number of resolutions were passed:

- (a) Petition parliament at any early date to cause the proceeds of the clergy reserves to be applied to the vocational interests of the country and other public purpose.
- (b) Abolish the rectories and the law of the progeniture.
- (c) To institute full and complete law reform.
- (d) To cause the simplification of legal processes.
- (e) To reduce court fees.
- (f) Equitable assessment laws to be introduced.
- (g) The election by the people of municipal authorities to their respective offices.
- (h) Abolition of the Court of Chancery, of pensions and the pensioning system.
- (i) Reduction of all public salaries to the extent commensurate with the resources of the Province.



- (j) Prevention of any lawyer from being elected to the Legislative Assembly.
- (k) That the Township Magistrate attend the Quarterly Sessions of the Peace at Woodstock as a measure to minimize county expenses.

Council noted the following in their minutes:

*It has come to our attention that some of the law makers of the District Council, have instructed the Warden, of the County of Oxford, to take stock in the Great western Railway, to the amount of 1000 pounds. We view this action as a most wicked attempt to involve the County of Oxford in ruinous debt.*

The first payment of money authorized by Council was to Isaac Read for "a job of work" on township roads in the amount of twenty-five pounds. The official seal received quick approval, on March 4th.

Council held twenty-one meetings the first year. Apparently, the Reeve, "Liak" Malcolm was pre-occupied with other matters as the Clerk was instructed by the Councillors to write him "to resign or to attend to his duties", he having missed several scheduled meetings.

In the third year, the sum of \$200.00 was levied for all township purposes at the rate of 1/8 per cent of a penny in the pound. The rate for county purposes was 5/16 percent of a penny in the pound. Forty pounds, fifteen shillings and seven pence is recorded as being the County assessment for the Township. Taxes were kept low because most public officials charged a fee for their services, thus paying their way. The municipal tax levy on a farm of 100 acres hovered around \$2.00 in 1845.

The first Bylaw passed by Council on the 12th of February 1850 addressed that perpetual nuisance common to all municipalities, dogs running at large. A tax imposed on the owners, the possessors or harbourers of dogs became mandatory as did a regulation to prohibit dogs running at large. Authorization to permit their destruction, if found illegally at large, became the law. The tax levied on dog owners was set at five shillings per year, payable in the same manner as other taxes. For bitches, the tax increased to ten shillings. Dogs without a collar showing the name of the owner, but not confined, could be destroyed on the order of two Justices. It was the owner's responsibility to make a return to the Clerk, each year, of the number of dogs in his possession. A fine of up to two pounds, and not less than five shillings, could be levied for violating the provisions of the Bylaw, such monies to be applied to highway improvements.

The second Bylaw, passed the same date, appointed five poundkeepers, six fence viewers, ten overseers of highways and three town wardens.

The Poundkeepers appointed were:

Robert Vanderlip (1796-1872), farmer lots 7 and 8 Concession II

Asa Secord, farmer, lot 9 Concession II. Asa died at Oakland about 1885, in his 82nd year.

Josiah (Joseph) Smith (1810-1861) farmer lot 1 Concession V and lot 3 Concession VI.

Geo Cunningham farmer lot 13 (north half) Concession I.

Matthew Messecar (1826-1897) farmer lot 3 ( west half) Concession I. His father, Matthew Sr. was born on March 7, 1792 - reportedly he was a mail dispatch rider. A brother of Matthew Jr., James (1828-1906), homesteaded on lot 3 (east half) Concession I. His son James David Messecar (1872-1948) took over the farm. Matthew married Alphreda Smith (1832-1891). His father farmed the whole 200 acres of land, next to the T.H.and B. tracks on the east side then split the farm for his sons Matthew Jr. and James. Matthews son, Jacob Anderson Messecar (1858-1938), also a farmer, became Reeve in 1901. The west half of the lot still remains in the family, Matthew's great grandson, Edwin Messecar, still works the farm.

The Fence Viewers appointed were:

Daniel Elliott farmer lot 3 Concession V

Josiah Smith farmer lot 1 Concession V and lot 3 Concession VI

Caleb Merritt (1796-1874) farmer lot 3 Concession II

Wm Darby farmer lot 10 Concession II, east half of lot

Wm Secord farmer lot 10 concession III, centre third of lot

A. Newcombe Eddy (Edy) (1811-1882) farmer lot 11  
Concession I

The Town Wardens appointed were:

Therin Averil(1) farmer lot 1 concession VI, at the extreme northwest of the Township

Edward G. Griffin - a hatter - lived at Oakland village

Amasa Beebe (1791-1850) Amasa, an Oakland resident, died just five months after being appointed - he was the father of Smith Beebe (1825-1877) a future Reeve.

The Road Masters appointed, according to Divisions, were:

John M. Marlatt (Division number one)

Robert Vanderlip (1796-1872) Division number two) farmer lots 1 and 2 Concession II

Joseph Godfrey (Division number three)

Silas Burtch (1808-1880)(Division number four) farmer lot 12  
Concession I

James Anderson (1828-1898) (Division number five)  
 Solomon Mathews (Division number six) farmer lot 14  
 Concession II  
 Wm Secord (Division number seven) lot 10 concession III,  
 centre third of lot  
 Francis Gore Fairchild (1820-1897) (Division number eight)  
 farmer lot 6 Concession IV  
 Malcolm Brown (Division number nine) farmer lot 6 Concession  
 III, north half of lot  
 Joseph Smith (1810-1861) (Division number ten) farmer lot 3  
 Concession V and lot 1 Concession I - Joe Smith was a  
 large landowner north of Scotland and built an elegant  
 brick farm house on his main farm.

Bylaw number three dealt with the issue of farm animals such as horses, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, geese and turkeys being at large. The law empowered a person to restrain such animal found at large and to impound it at a common pound. Fines and impounding fees were set according to a schedule. For impounding a horse, the fee schedule allowed two shilling, six pence; for a cow one shilling, three pence; for a sheep seven pence; for a hog seven pence.

The assessment for the Township, the smallest in the county with 10,676 acres, shows a figure of \$571,825.00 compared to Brantford Township's assessment of \$3,711,188.00, with 71,369 acres. In 1876 the assessed value of real estate is recorded at \$310,500.00 and personal property \$42,650.00. By 1924, the assessment increased to \$485,676.00 for a total population of 800. Of the total acreage, 8000 acres had been cleared for agriculture. In 1872, the mill rate ran at about 9.5 mills on the dollar, dropping to 7.6 by the turn of the century.

The Township Assessor had the unenviable duty of enforcing the dog tax. Devious means of escaping payment became the practice. Just across the border, in Townsend, a taxpayer attempted what was rather a well worn ruse:

*Boston April 18, 1892*

*Sir*

*With regard to the dog that were here (at my place) when you were assessing - I have sent him home and he will be here no more. So will you kindly mark off the assessment.*

*Yours,*

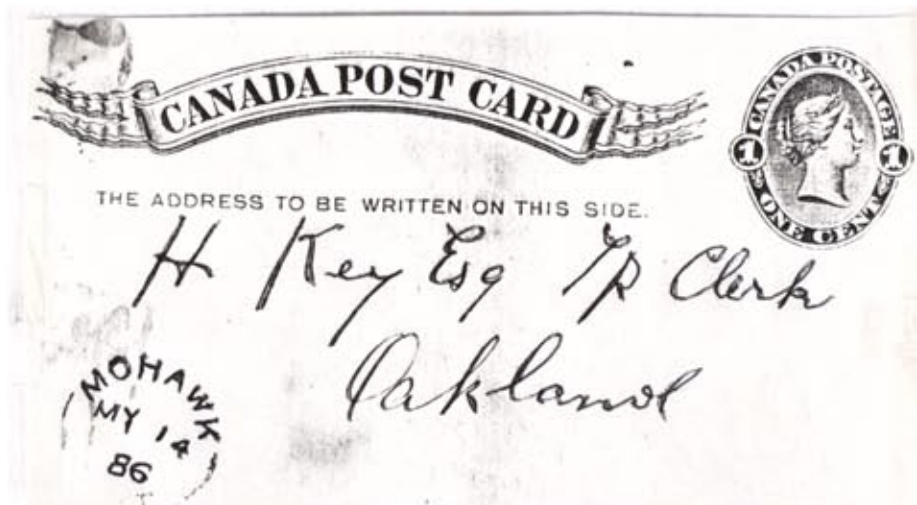
*Frank Fairchild*  
 (from Townsend and Waterford -  
 a Double Portrait)

In 1857 Chas. Chapin assumed the office of Reeve. During his first year of office, the idea of uniting a portion of the township of Burford with Oakland gained momentum. Quick action followed with the appointment of a committee "to keep a vigilant watch and to report to Council at the earliest opportunity in order that measures might be taken to counteract any such move." Ratepayers were incensed at the prospect of the disintegration of their compact municipality, reacting with a united stand by petitioning their MPP, H. Biggs.

During the same year, 1857, Council authorized the sale of the two old school sites in School Section No.2. The trustees received a loan of 300 pounds "for the purpose of building a new school" from funding available through the Clergy Reserve. (One of the school sites sold was just west of the present United church in Oakland village). School Section No. 1 Lower Oakland became a Union School Oct. 22, 1858, joining with No 18 Townsend and the trustees of S.S. No. 3 Scotland were given leave to dispose of their old frame school house. In 1857, Council also turned its attention to road work. The old wooden bridge in the hollow was worn and feeble and in due need of repair or replacement. Council saw fit to authorize the construction of a new bridge over the creek at a cost of \$150.00

In the year 1870, the Treasurer John Toyne shows receipts totalling \$1769.00 and expenses of \$1544.00. Tavern licenses, at \$20.00 each, were issued to Jordon Beebe, George Sayles and Martin W. Sholer. For borrowed money in 1870, Council paid 7%. In 1862, \$25.00 was allocated by Council for support of the poor. Seven years later the "fund for the relief of the poor" amounted to \$10.00. In 1870, the books were audited by W.J. Abbott and Wm Steele. Lawyers engaged by Council, Cameron and Wilson of Brantford, had frequent legal matters to attend to.

An appeal of assessment, sent by a post card, from Robert Francis Pepper to the Township Clerk on May 14 1886 has questionable validity. (the Pepper family lived north of Scotland on lot 1 Concession IV).



May 13th 1886

Mr. Key

Sir

We intend to appeal against the assessment Roll of the Township of Oakland for the current year as the assessor refuses to place us on the assessment Roll.

Robert Francis Pepper

(note: the assessor in 1886 was John Walker)

Received 14 May

Shown in the 1884 audit are expenditures for the relief of an indigent, John Peaker. The following letter to the Reeve, William Devlin, clarifies the circumstances of his residency.

Vanessa Apr 3/86

Wm Devlin

Oakland

Sir

The property in Oakland Village occupied by one Peaker is owned by us. He got his possession through a lease that he held previous to our purchase. His term under the lease expired last spring. We understood by some residents of Oakland that the Township was assisting him some and thought the Council would pay the rent for him. Please let us know what you propose to do. Will they pay the past years rent or any? If not we shall get another tenant.

per

J & H Bartholomew

(John Peaker, born Oct 22, 1807, was a long-time Township dweller. He died three years after the issue of his residency surfaced, on November 4th 1889. His wife, Sarah Thompson, died in 1893 at 88 years of age.)

By Law No 4 for the year 1870.

To divide the Township of Oakland into Polling Subdivisions for Holding Elections of Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Whereas by the 25th Section of the Act of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario 33 Victoria Chapter 31 it is rendered necessary so to subdivide the said Township so that not more than two hundred qualified voters shall be embraced within each of the subdivisions therein,

Be it therefore enacted by the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Oakland now in Council assembled, and it is hereby enacted under and by virtue of the authority therein vested - that the said Township shall be and the same is hereby divided into the following polling subdivisions in pursuance of the said Statute -

Section 1st Polling Subdivisions Number One shall be composed of all that part of the said Township of Oakland lying west of the road allowance between lots number six and seven -

Section 2nd - Polling Subdivision Number two shall be composed of all that part of the said Township of Oakland lying east of the road allowance between lots number six and seven -

(Signed)  
Wm Thompson  
Clerk

William Thivian  
Elected

By Law passed in Council this 16th day of May A.D. 1870.

Repealed by Bylaw No 49



CHARLES VIVIAN, TREASURER

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE

TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND

1884	DR.	
Jan. 1	to	Balancia of caah on hand .....\$ 359.89
Jan. 23	to	Caah recalved from County Traasaurar, non-realdant taasa ..... 38.92
Feb. 27	to	Caah from Catharina Saylaa, cemetary lot Gekland ... 1.00
Feb. 27	to	Caah from Mathew Haaaacar, cemetary lot Scotland ... 1.00
Jun. 9	to	Caah from Wm. Thomason, Sr., for fluaa ..... 22.00
July 11	to	Caah from Bank of Comerca Licanca Fund, first distribution ..... 54.98
July 11	to	Caah from Bank of Comerca Licanca Fund, 2nd distribution ..... 11.88
Oct. 22	to	Caah from Collector ..... 550.00
Nov. 17	to	Caah from Collector ..... 438.00
Nov. 20	to	Caah from Collector ..... 575.00
Nov. 25	to	Caah from Janet Walsh 1/2 cemetary lot Gekland ..... 4.00
Nov. 25	to	Caah from Catharina McIntyrs 1/2 cemetary lot Oakland ..... 4.00
Nov. 28	to	Caah from Collector ..... 555.00
Dec. 2	to	Caah from Collector ..... 300.00
Dec. 15	to	Caah from Collector ..... 101.89
Dec. 20	to	Caah from Fina, Finch va. Vandulan ..... 2.00
Dec. 27	to	Caah from Benjamin Eddy, 1 cemetary lot Gekland..... 1.00
Dec. 31	to	Caah froa Amount advanced to Union S.S. from Township funds ..... 144.00
Dec. 31	to	Caah froa Uncollectad taasa returned by Collector ... 18.72
		<b>\$3178.64</b>

1884	CR.	
Jan. 14	By paid	John Walker sarvicaa aa Poll Clark at alection 8 2.00
Jan. 14	By paid	Geo. O. Rilay, digging grava for indigant .... 2.00
Jan. 14	By paid	Geo. Robinaon, sarvicaa aa conatbla at alection ..... 1.50
Jan. 14	By paid	R. Cowlaa, cara of Town Hall and ahovalling anow ..... 7.75
Jan. 14	By paid	H. Kay, one-half yaara salary clark Divialon Raglatar, atationary and postaga ..... 45.03
Jan. 14	By paid	E.G. Malcola, rant of houaa for Mrs. Saith ... 13.20
Jan. 14	By paid	Jaa Haaaacar, wood furniahad Paakar & Saith ... 13.50
Jan. 21	By paid	R. Cowlaa, wood for town hall ..... 8.00
Jan. 21	By paid	R. Knoa, ald to indiganta ..... 10.00
Jan. 21	By paid	H. Kay, for Harriaon's Municipal Manual and Municipal Blanka ..... 12.43
Feb. 28	By paid	Chaa. W. Leland, auditing townshp accounta .. 4.50
Feb. 28	By paid	J. Vanduaan, goods to indiganta ..... 2.00
Feb. 28	By paid	R. Cowlaa, cutting wood and ahovalling anow .. 3.00
Feb. 28	By paid	J. Nunnick, auditing townshp account ..... 3.00
Feb. 28	By paid	J. Walker, rasprling aaaaarilaa boa ..... .50
Feb. 28	By paid	H. Kay, Municipal Councillora Hand Book ..... 8.00
Feb. 28	By paid	Wm. Kay, Inauranca on Town Hall ..... 1.50
Mar. 10	By paid	N. Leflar, for townshp aafa ..... 50.00
Mar. 10	By paid	D. McNaughton, flour for indiganta ..... 8.00
Mar. 31	By paid	A. Beabe, lamp and oil for town hall ..... .90
Apr. 29	By paid	R. Knoa, ald to indiganta ..... 10.00
Apr. 29	By paid	J. Walker, aaaaaring townshp and aatraa ..... 30.45
Apr. 29	By paid	E.G. Malcola, ald to John Moore ..... 2.00
Apr. 29	By paid	Wm. Thompaon laauing warranta and committing vagranta ..... 3.00
Apr. 29	By paid	Jaa. Haaaacar, wood for Paakar & Smith ..... 28.82
Apr. 29	By paid	Foatar Broa., coffin for colorad aan found in townshp ..... 8.00
Apr. 29	By paid	Watt & Shouaton, for printing ..... 15.50
Apr. 29	By paid	R. Cowlaa, for ahovalling anow ..... .50
Apr. 29	By paid	David Myara, for ahovalling anow ..... 1.00
May 27	By paid	J. Mott, ahaap killed and injured by doga ..... 28.00
May 27	By paid	S. Hunter, atatura labor returned in 1883 .... 3.75
May 27	By paid	R. Cowlaa, rasprling fanca at town hall ..... 1.25
May 27	By paid	B. Marrit, cadar loga for aluicaway ..... 1.00
Aug. 28	By paid	G. Walker, braad for Mrs. A. Saith ..... 1.00
Aug. 28	By paid	D. McNaughton, flour for indiganta ..... 4.75
Aug. 28	By paid	G. Taylor, grocariaa for indiganta ..... 1.50
Aug. 28	By paid	D. McNaughton, flour for Mrs. J. Moora ..... 2.75
Aug. 28	By paid	Wm. G. McEwen, bonua for building wira fanca ..... 30.00
Aug. 28	By paid	H. Kay, 1/2 yaara salary aa Clark, Divialon Raglatar, atationary and postaga ..... 49.18
Aug. 28	By paid	Roawall & Hutchinaon, atationary and aunicipal blanka ..... 3.02
Aug. 28	By paid	Mathlaa Woodlay, timber and plank for aluicawaya ..... 3.15
Aug. 28	By paid	Robert Ruaaall, tilaa for aluicawaya on highway ..... 13.00
Aug. 28	By paid	J. & H. Bartholomew, plank for aluicawaya ..... 13.00
Aug. 28	By paid	P. McEwen, for work aa auditor ..... 1.50
Aug. 28	By paid	T. McEwan, plank for aluiceway ..... 2.77
Aug. 28	By paid	C. Gec, cutting thistilaa on highway ..... .50
Aug. 28	By paid	Wm. Martin, plank for highway ..... 1.20
Oct. 21	By paid	Traasaurar, 1 yaara salary ..... 40.00
Nov. 5	By paid	R. Cooper gravalling on town lina ..... 5.52
Nov. 5	By paid	R. Cooper gravalling on town lina ..... 4.48
Nov. 25	By paid	Donald McDonald, ona ahaap killed by doga .... 4.87
Nov. 25	By paid	R. Knoa, goods for Saith & Paakar ..... 2.00
Nov. 25	By paid	A. Church plank for covaring bridge on highway ..... 4.80
Nov. 25	By paid	D. Book bonua for building wira fanca ..... 7.00
Nov. 25	By paid	J. & J. Shaphard, ovarcharga of taasa ..... 2.87
Nov. 25	By paid	County Traasaurar ..... 457.53
Nov. 25	By paid	Patrick Hulligan, ovarcharga of taasa ..... 8.28
Nov. 25	By paid	J. Walker, aalacting jurora ..... 1.50
Nov. 25	By paid	Foatar Broa., plank for highway on town lina .. 4.73
Nov. 25	By paid	H. Campbell, ovarcharga in taasa ..... .41
Nov. 25	By paid	G. Walker, braad for Mrs. A. Saith ..... 1.00
Nov. 25	By paid	H. Kay, aalacting jurora ..... 1.50
Nov. 25	By paid	J. Haaaacar, wood for Saith & Paakar ..... 18.50
Nov. 25	By paid	Watt & Shanaton, printing Votara' List and advartialng ..... 18.00
Nov. 25	By paid	R. Knoa, goods for Mrs. Saith ..... 1.00
Nov. 25	By paid	J. Nunnlich, work on highway ..... 3.00
Nov. 25	By paid	J. & H. Bartholomew, plank for highway ..... 1.08
Nov. 25	By paid	R. Knoa, goods for Saith & Paakar ..... 10.00
Nov. 25	By paid	D. Book, rasprling aluicaway ..... .80
Nov. 25	By paid	Inauranca on Town Hall ..... .81
Nov. 25	By paid	D. McNaughton, flour for Paakar ..... 3.50
Dec. 15	By paid	Naal Leflar, collecting taasa and postaga, &c. .... 27.00
Dec. 17	By paid	W. McAllatar, Traaa. S.S. No. 1 ..... 208.25
Dec. 17	By paid	E. Eadla, Traaa. S.S. No. 4 ..... 287.22
Dec. 19	By paid	T. Standing, Traaa. S.S. No. 6 ..... 33.81
Dec. 22	By paid	T. Millia, Traaa. S.S. No. 2 ..... 487.24
Dec. 24	By paid	W.F. Millaa, Traaa. S.S. No. 5 ..... 84.07
Dec. 25	By paid	S. Hunter, Traaa. S.S. No. 3 ..... 311.08
Dec. 31	By paid	Townshp Councillora in Council ..... 52.50
Dec. 31	By paid	Townshp Councillora in Comittaa ..... 34.50
Dec. 31	By paid	Stationary and Postaga ..... 4.80
Dec. 31	By paid	Uncollectad taasa returned by Collector ..... 18.72
Dec. 31	By paid	Balancia of caah on hand ..... 580.08
		<b>\$3178.64</b>

of the Township of Oakland,

Auditors appointed by you, having examined the Treasurer's accounts for the year 1884, and found satisfactory.

CHAS. WHEELAND, }  
JOSEPH C. NUNNICK, } AUDITORS.



## MUNICIPALITY OF

The Township of Oakland

List of Lands liable to be sold for Arrears of Taxes in the year one thousand  
eight hundred and Eighty six 32 Vic., Cap. 36, Sec. 110.

DESCRIPTION.	LOT.	CON. OR STREET.	ACRES.	YEARS DUE.	
Wm Taylor	4	4		1880	\$3 44
Amount due this 30th day of January A.D. 1886					\$5 54
John Crawford Wm H. Lee	3	5	30	1883	\$3 94
Amount due this 30th day of January A.D. 1886.					\$4 80

I do certify, that I have examined all the lots in this list named, and that I have entered the names of all occupants therein as well as the names of the owners thereof when known, and that all the entries relative to each lot are true and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sworn before me at Oakland this 30th day  
of April 1886

Henry King  
Township Clerk

John Walker  
Assessor

## MUNICIPALITY OF

## The Township of Cumberland.

List of Lands liable to be sold for Arrears of Taxes in the year one thousand  
eight hundred and Eighty six 32 Vic., Cap. 36, Sec. 110.

DESCRIPTION.	LOT.	CON. OR STREET.	ACRES.	YEARS DUE.	
John Peter	6	1	1	1883	\$2 53
" "	6	1	1	1884	2 60
" "	6	1	1	1885	2 69
Amount due this 30 <sup>th</sup> day of January A. D. 1886.					\$8. 61
George Roberts	7	1	1/4	1879	\$2 00
" "	7	1	1/4	1884	" 37
Amount due this 30 <sup>th</sup> day of January A. D. 1886.					\$3. 91
George Secord	7	1	1/4	1879	\$1. 22
" "	7	1	1/4	1880	1. 28
" "	7	1	1/4	1881	1 25
" "	7	1	1/4	1882	2 30
" "	7	1	1/4	1883	" 68
" "	7	1	1/4	1884	2 23
" "	7	1	1/4	1885	2 29
Amount due this 30 <sup>th</sup> day of January A. D. 1886.					\$14 67

## VOTERS LIST - CIRCA 1927

Anders, Hoyt	Oakland	Bonham, Alfred	Scotland 1
Anders, Martha	Oakland	Bonham, Francis	Scotland 1
Anders, Ellwood	Oakland	Bonham, Bruce	Scotland 1
Anders, Mildred	Oakland	Burton, Geo.	Oakland
Allen, Jas.	Oakland	Burton, Florence	Oakland
Allen, Alfreda	Oakland	Beal, Alonso	Scotland 4
Anders, North	Oakland	Beal, Alice	Scotland 4
Anders, Elizabeth	Oakland	Burton, Lucy	Oakland
Andrews, Floyd	Oakland	Barnes, Wm.	Scotland 1
Andrews, Florence	Oakland	Barnes, Maud	Scotland 1
		Barnes, Frank	Scotland 1
Barnes, Alam	Oakland	Boomer, Simon	Mt. Pleasant 1
Barnes, Nancy	Oakland	Boomer, Blanche	Mt. Pleasant 1
Barnes, Kenneth	Oakland	Blaney, Winnie	Brantford 2
Baldwin, L.H.	Oakland	Blacken, Edwin	Brantford 2
Baldwin, Henretta	Oakland	Brocklebank, Eva	Oakland
Baldwin, Belle	Oakland	Brown, Earl	Brantford 2
Butler, Albert	Scotland 1	Brown, Gladys	Brantford 2
Butler, Ella	Scotland 1	Burkett, Frank	Scotland 1
Birdsell, V.	Scotland 1		
Birdsell, Alberta	Scotland 1	Carpenter, John	Oakland
Butler, A.D.	Scotland 4	Carpenter, Belle	Oakland
Butler, Mrs. A.D.	Scotland 4	Carpenter, Cecil	Oakland
Burrage, Walter	Oakland	Carpenter, Olive	Oakland
Burrage, Emily	Oakland	Crumback, Merritt	Scotland 1
Burtch, Herbert	Scotland	Crumback, Minnie	Scotland 1
Burtch, Mary, G.	Scotland	Cox, Geo.	Scotland 4
Birdsell, Loyd	Scotland	Cox, Mary	Scotland 4
Brown, Fred	Brantford 2	Creighton, Catherine	Oakland
Brown, Frances	Brantford 2	Cunningham, Florence	Scotland 1
Biggar, Geo.	Brantford 2	Cunningham, Kilborn	Scotland 1
Biggar, Margaret	Brantford 2	Campbell, Geo.	Mt. Pleasant



Campbell, Lulu	Mt. Pleasant	Edy, Maitland	Scotland 1
Cramer, Wm.	Brantford 2	Edy, Helen	Scotland 1
Cramer, Eunice	Brantford 2	Edy, Howard	Scotland 1
Cooke, Geo.	Scotland 4		
Cooke, Florence	Scotland 4	Ford, Geo	Oakland
Cooke, Willie	Scotland 4	Ford, Anna	Oakland
Carson, John	Scotland 4	Fleming, Wm. H.	Oakland
Carson, Sarah	Scotland 4	Fleming, Ida	Oakland
Crumback, Geo.	Scotland 1	Flie, Mikel	Oakland
Crumback, Mary	Scotland 1	Flie, Ethel	Oakland
Cannell, Ambrose	Oakland	Fields, John	Mt. Pleasant
Cannell, Mabel	Oakland	Fields, Minnie	Mt. Pleasant
Crumback, Sheldon Jr	Scotland	Fewings, Thos.	Brantford 2
Churchill, Verne	Oakland	Fewings, Alonsa	Brantford 2
Churchill, Vera	Oakland	Ferris, Alfred	Brantford 2
Cramer, Sadie	Brantford 2	Ferris, Florence	Brantford 2
Crumback, Lila	Scotland 1	Ferris, Jas.	Brantford 2
Crumback, Leslie	Scotland 1	Fallon, Evelyn	Scotland 1
Crumback, Sheldon Sr	Scotland 1	Fisher, Harold	Oakland
Crumback, Adelaide	Scotland 1	Foulds, Robt.	Scotland
Cox, Earl	Scotland 4	Foulds, Alice	Scotland
Dunnett, Herbert	Oakland	Guest, Chas.	Brantford 2
Dunnett, Edith	Oakland	Guest, May	Brantford 2
Dunnett, Eliza	Oakland	Gammon, Hiram	Scotland 4
Davis, Ernest	Oakland	Gammon, Ernest	Scotland 4
Davis, Edith	Oakland	Gammon, Ethel	Scotland 4
Dunningham, Alice	Oakland	Grantham, Wm. R.	Scotland 4
Davis, R.J.	Oakland	Grantham, Gertrude	Scotland 4
		Grantham, Maria	Scotland 4
Eadie, Jas.	Brantford 2	Grantham, Walter	Brantford 1
Eadie, Blanch	Brantford 2	Grantham, Jean	Brantford 1
Eadie, Alfred	Brantford 2	Grantham, Geo.	Brantford 1



Grantham, Mathias	Oakland	Montgomery, Jas.	Oakland
Grantham, Jennie	Oakland	Montgomery, Mary	Oaklandrd 2
		McFarland, Ida	Oakland
Hepburn, Clara	Oakland	McEwan, Roy	Oakland
Hepburn, Walter	Oakland	McEwan, Alma	Oakland
Harvey, E.H.	Oakland	McIntyre, Chas	Scotland 1
Harvey, Blanche	Oakland	McIntyre, Nellie	Scotland 1
Howell, Fred	Oakland	McIntyre, Reg	Scotland 1
		McIntyre, Muriel	Scotland 1
Johnson, Art	Oakland	Montgomery, Ed	Oakland
Johnson, Lorenzo	Oakland	Montgomery, J.R.	Oakland
Johnson, Harriett	Oakland	Merritt, Clark	Brantford 2
Jenkins, W.M.	Scotland	Merritt, Laura	Brantford 2
Jenkins, Anna	Scotland	Mordue, Etta	Scotland
		Muirhead, Agnes	Oakland
Knox, Geo.	Oakland	Malone, Jas.	Scotland
Knox, Laura	Oakland	Malone, Stella	Scotland
King, Chas.	Oakland	Mulligan, Wm	Brantford 2
King, Mary Ann	Oakland	Mulligan, Jean	Brantford 2
Kitchen, Harold	Oakland	Miller, Birdie	Oakland
Kitchen, Emma	Oakland	Mordue, Grace	Scotland 1
Knight, Francis	Brantford 2	McCardy, Ed.	Scotland 1
Knight, Phoebe	Brantford 2	McCardy, Emma	Scotland 1
Knight, Jas.	Brantford 2		
Kelly, J.W.	Brantford 2	Norrie, Elsie	Brantford 2
Kelly, Belle	Brantford 2		
		Perkins, Rev. C.	Oakland
Lassing, Lon	Mt. Pleasant	Perkins, Ethel	Oakland
Lassing, Mary	Mt. Pleasant	Poole, Jas.	Oakland
Longstreet, Sophronia	Oakland	Poole, Fannie	Oakland
		Patterson, J.W.	Brantford
Martin, Alfred	Oakland	Patterson, Ruth	Brantford
Martin, Nellie	Oakland	Patterson, Hugh	Oakland

Robertson, A.W.	Oakland	Springall, Wm	Oakland
Robertson, Maggie	Oakland	Springall, Naomi	Oakland
Ripley, Jas.	Oakland	Short, Leonard	Scotland 4
Ripley, Reva	Oakland	Short, Amy	Scotland 4
Rock, Albert	Oakland	Shaw, A.W.	Scotland 4
Rock, Lucy	Oakland	Shaw, Louise	Scotland 4
Roberts, Joseph	Oakland	Sowers, Abram	Brantford 2
Roberts, Edith	Oakland	Sowers, Edison	Brantford 2
Rammage, Russell	Oakland	Sowers, Irene	Brantford 2
Rammage, Florence	Oakland	Scott, Aleah	Scotland 3
Secord, Cecila	Oakland	Scott, Mary	Scotland 3
Smith, Frank	Scotland	Smith, Howard	Scotland 3
Smith, Emma	Scotland	Smith, Olive	Scotland 3
Scott, Jas. B.	Brantford 2	Smith, Frank	Brantford 2
Scott, Emma	Brantford 2	Smith, Sadie	Brantford 2
Secord, Chas.	Oakland	Smith, Wm. H.	Brantford 2
Secord, Nellie	Oakland	Smith, Alice	Brantford 2
Stratford, Perley	Oakland	Stratford, Sylvester	Oakland
Stratford, Clara	Oakland	Stratford, Hattie	Oakland
Stratford, Harold	Oakland	Stratford, Effie	Oakland
Stratford, Maggie	Oakland	Secord, Chas.	Oakland
Stratford, Percy	Brantford	Secord, Eva	Oakland
Stratford, Blanche	Brantford 2	Secord, Ernest	Oakland
Shellard, Morris	Mt. Pleasant	Secord, Rachel	Oakland
Secord, Earl	Scotland 4	Smith, L.L.	Scotland 4
Secord, Josephine	Scotland 4	Smith, Hannah	Scotland 4
Smith, Kenneth	Scotland 4	Smith, Clayton	Scotland 4
Smith, Rose	Scotland 4	Sharp, Jno.	Scotland 4
Smith, Albert	Scotland 4	Scott, Gordon	Brantford 2
Smith, Myrtle	Scotland 4	Thomas, Elise	Oakland
Smith, Ed.	Oakland	Thomas, Norman	Oakland
Smith, Effie	Oakland	Thomas, Francis	Oakland
Springall, Arthur	Oakland		

Vivian, Stephen	Oakland	Woodley, Alice	Mt. Pleasant
Vivian, Jas.	Oakland	Woodley, Mrs. Thos.	Brantford 2
Vivian, Payson	Oakland	Westbrook, Helen	Oakland
Vivian, Florence	Oakland	Westbrook, Ward	Oakland
Vivian, Lloyd	Oakland	Westbrook, Ferne	Oakland
		Weaver, Albert	Oakland
Welsh, John	Oakland	Weaver, Theresa	Oakland
Welsh, Sarah	Oakland	Westbrook, Harry	Scotland 4
Whiting, Agnes	Oakland	Westbrook, Ada	Scotland 4
Whiting, Edward	Oakland	Woolcott, J.	Scotland 4
Whiting, Delmar	Scotland		
Whiting, Constance	Scotland	Young, Herbert	Oakland
Woodley, Jno.	Mt. Pleasant	Young, Lena	Oakland
Woodley, Jenny	Mt. Pleasant	Yerox, Mary M.	Scotland 1
Woodley, Arthur	Mt. Pleasant		

Half of the 1927 voters listed here were females. The reader will appreciate that this was not always the case. In 1849 the Reform government banned women from going to the ballot box, re-confirming a previous decision seventeen years earlier.

Through the women's suffrage movement headed by Dr. Emily Howard Stowe of Toronto, Canada's first female doctor, a spirited campaign began in 1876. It took long years of public education and awareness before gaining any concessions. Two other women's groups took up the cause, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the National Council of Women. Ontario suffragists got their right to vote provincially on April 12th, 1917. Mounting pressure on Federal politicians forced similar legislation to be passed in Ottawa on May 24, 1918.

Leave had been given, in 1872, to allow married women in Ontario to control their own earnings from her occupation (but a husband must consent to her working) and previously, in 1859, it had been legislated that married women could own property, separate from her husbands.

Tax notice to Percy Abbott for the year 1944 -  
for his tobacco farm east of Oakland village -  
purchased in 1943

No. 362 OAKLAND, ONT., Sept 25 1944.

MR. Percy Abbott

Dr. to **Township of Oakland**

Demand for Taxes 1944.

* General, at 12 mills .....	\$ <u>24.00</u>
Special Township, at 2-2/10 mills .....	\$ <u>4.40</u>
Police Village, at 3 mills .....	\$ .....
Secondary Education, at 4 mills .....	\$ <u>8.00</u>
§ Local School Rate, Section 1-6 .....	\$ <u>13.60</u>
Debenture Rate, S.S. No. 2, at 9-9/10 mills .....	\$ <u>19.80</u>
Continuation School Rate, at 6-2/10 mills .....	\$ .....
Burford High School, at 5-3/10 mills .....	\$ .....
Total .....	\$ <u>69.80</u>
Penalty .....	\$ .....
TOTAL and Penalty .....	\$ .....

Received Payment,

Date Nov 23/44

Collector

E. M. Edy  
E. Maitland Edy

**The General Tax Rate has been reduced One Mill by reason of Provincial Subsidy to Municipalities, and such rate for the year 1944 has been further reduced by an extra One Mill for the purpose of reducing the taxation levied for Educational Purposes.**

Taxes are due and payable forthwith. Any person neglecting to pay his taxes fourteen days after demand, the Collector may levy for the same with costs. Four per cent will be added to all unpaid taxes after the fifth day of December next.

On presentation of this Tax Slip on or before December 5th, next, taxes will be received by the Manager of the Brantford or Scotland branch of the Royal Bank of Canada, subject to a small charge to be paid by the ratepayer. After December 5th and before January 1, 1945, taxes must be paid direct to the Collector, Mr. E. M. Edy.

After December 31st, next, taxes must be paid direct to Mr. Payson Vivian, Treasurer of the Township of Oakland. The Statutory interest of one-half of one per cent per month will then be added to all Principal tax unpaid.

E. M. EDY, Collector.

\* General Rate includes: County at 5-7/10 mills; General Township at 3 mills; General

School at 3-3/10 mills.

§ Local Rates: S.S. No. 1 at 2 mills; S.S. No. 2 at 6-8/10 mills; S.S. No. 3 at 8-4/10 mills;

S.S. No. 4 at 8-4/10 mills; S.S. No. 5 at 8-4/10 mills; S.S. No. 6 at 4-4/10 mills.

Exchange must be added to cheques when necessary.

BRING THIS NOTICE WITH YOU

- 632 -

To the Ratepayers of the Township of Oakland:

In 1966 a by-law providing for a two year term of office for members of Council was passed, making this the first year since the incorporation of the Township of Oakland, One Hundred and Seventeen years ago, that there will be no Nomination Meeting held. This letter and the enclosed Treasurer's Report is to supply you with information that ordinarily would have been available at this time.

In reviewing the activities of Council during the past year, it was felt that the following three by-laws would be the most interesting to you.

**BY-LAW NO. 844 - TO ESTABLISH A TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY**

On October 10th, 1967, a by-law establishing the Scotland Library as an Oakland Township Public Library was passed. Because of new legislation, this library can no longer operate as an associate library after the end of the year. The by-law becomes effective on January 1st, 1968. To be eligible for a Provincial grant, it is required that the necessary funds be raised by taxation at a minimum rate of one-half mill. The cost to the taxpayer will be fifty cents for every thousand dollar assessment. The Scotland Library has been giving good service, but with great difficulty because of limited funds. This action will ease the situation and should allow for some improvements. It is hoped that the citizens of the Township of Oakland will avail themselves of this service.

**BY-LAW NO. 843 - TO AUTHORIZE THE PROVISION OF MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL TAX CREDITS FOR THE ASSISTANCE OF THE ELDERLY PERSONS.**

A system of Municipal and School Tax Credits to assist elderly residents of the Township of Oakland has been adopted by this municipality. This allows a taxpayer who is sixty-five years of age or over to apply for a tax credit of one-half of the real property tax to a maximum of One Hundred and Fifty dollars in each year. The total amount of the tax credit outstanding is payable to the Province when the property changes ownership and is interest free. The Township is reimbursed by the Province for each tax credit; therefore, other taxpayers will not be subsidizing those eligible. It will be necessary for anyone wishing to take advantage of this service to make application at the Township Office.

**BY-LAW NO. 842 - TO AID IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF TILE DRAINS**

A by-law to assist in the construction of tile drains has been passed by the Council of the Township of Oakland, but will not become effective until approved by the Treasurer of Ontario. This will enable an individual to borrow Seventy-Five percent of the estimated cost of tile drain construction at four percent interest. Payments are spread over a ten year period and repaid in the same manner as taxes. The service is administered by the Township and financed by the Province.

For further information, contact the Township Office, or if you have any questions regarding the proceedings of Council during the past year, any member will be pleased to serve you.

Yours truly,

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP COUNCIL.

During the nineteenth century, the Municipality of Oakland, and its neighbour Townsend, had much in common. Their responsibilities were similar, with road work, schools and relief taking up much of their annual budget. Taxes remained low for the first few years only because the services offered by the two municipalities were limited. Statute labour for road work had a stabilizing impact in keeping the rate down even though the rate-payers loathed this system of a levy in lieu of money.

It was during World War I that outside forces caused the rate-payers to dig deeper into their pockets. The trend started after the introduction of the county road system in 1917, and with the enactment of a road tax in 1922. In the thirties, special relief programs for the destitute added to the tax spiral. The rates of pay for municipal workers during this difficult period was a measure of the dismal state of the economy. For an ordinary labourer, the pay averaged twenty cents an hour. A man and team could negotiate no more than forty-five cents an hour. In 1948, a new county system of assessment became law and taxes have been levied on that basis since. A few years earlier, in 1941, the Grantham farm north of Oakland village, 100 acres, was assessed at \$97.00. By 1960, the levy had more than doubled to \$263.00.

Incredibly, for nearly a century and a half, this small township has managed to retain its traditional status under the County system, while its neighbour to the south was forced into oblivion. On April 1st 1974, Regional government replaced and consolidated several townships into one central municipality. Townsend became a part of the Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk. The era of integration and amalgamation, to save precious tax dollars, is still at hand and it remains to be seen whether outside forces can be contained and the status quo continued.

The Village of Scotland, straddling the Townline, is half in Burford and half in Oakland. Its municipal affairs are managed by three elected trustees, reporting to Council who pay the bills. The Scotland Fire Department has one of the trustees as an overseer. Over the years, considerable tax dollars have been spent on upgrading Scotland's sidewalks and street lights.

A NOTICE, issued by Clerk, Percy M. Button on Apr 2nd 1954, states:

QUOTE

There will be a session of Oakland Council on Monday, April 5th at 9 a.m. held in the clerk's office, for the transaction of General business which will include the passing the Rate By-Law to cover the following requisitions:

S.S. No. 1,2 and 4  
 Burford Township Area, S.S. No.3, 5 and 6  
 Burford High School  
 Waterford High School



Scotland Police Village  
 Scotland Street Lights  
 Scotland Fire Protection Area  
 General School requirements  
 County rates  
 Township roads  
 General Township purposes

UNQUOTE

Council struck the following rates in 1954:

- (a) County, General Township and General School rate struck at 16 mills
- (b) Township Road road rate lowered two-tenths of a mill from 1953
- (c) Burford Twp area and Waterford District High School requisition was increased considerably
- (d) Ratepayers paid the following mill rate on the 1953 assessment - SS No.1, 35.2 mills,; SS No.2, in the Oakland Village, 40.6 mills; No. 2 SS, outside the village, will pay 39.6 mills; SS No.3, out of Police Village, will pay 38.9 mills if they do not have street lights, if in the Street Light Area, will pay 41.6 mills; if living in the Police Village area, the rate will be 44.1 mills, SS No.4, will be called upon to pay 36.4 mills. The rate for property owners in SS Nos. 5 and 6, who are not in the Burford High School District will be 38.9 mills. Those in the B.H. District will be called upon for 35.8 mills.

In 1954, Melville Slight became the Animal Control Officer, appointed to enforce By-law 653, dogs running at large in Scotland and Oakland villages. His responsibilities were confined to five months, from May 1st to October 1st. The Building Inspector appointed the same year was Leon Welsh.

Percy Button, Clerk, issued another NOTICE on Jan 5th 1955:

QUOTE

The Rev. P.C. Brown will address the members of the Oakland Council at the 1955 inaugural meeting on Monday January 10, at 10 a.m.

Council will then proceed with regular business till noon, when at the invitation of the Road Superintendent, Mr. Percy Stratford, council will then adjourn to Brantford for lunch at 12.30 p.m.

This invitation has been extended to Mr. Howard and Mr. Lloyd Vivian.

On the return to the office, the unfinished business of the day will be continued to completion.

UNQUOTE

In May 1992, ratepayers received a "good news" budget. They paid \$215,336 in taxes to cover the township's share of municipal taxes, down about eight per cent from about \$263,000 in 1991.

Despite the municipality's small share of the tax pie (about 24 percent), the decrease was sufficient to offset a 16 per/hike in the levy of Brant County and more than five percent jumps in the levies of the boards of education. The end result was that ratepayers paid marginally less total municipal taxes compared to 1991.

Township councillors approved a budget of \$528,000. Most of the municipality's revenue came from provincial grants and subsidies, building permits and other fees, leaving \$215,336 to be paid by Oakland ratepayers by way of taxes.

Among the factors contributing to the favourable budget was a 1991 surplus of more than \$27,000. Also, the 1991 budget included more than \$4,000 for expenses related to last November's municipal election and about \$6,400 needed to cover a 1990 budget deficit.

Oakland Township Reeve Louis Campbell stated that councillors sharpened their pencils in many areas, particularly recreation and office supplies. The township spent \$6,844 on recreation, about half of 1991's total, and only \$2,000 was budgeted for buying office equipment, a drop from more than \$13,000 last year.

Township figures showed that of each tax dollar collected, 64 cents will go to the school boards, 12 cents to the county, and the remaining 24 cents to the municipality.

Of the township's 24 cents, nine cents went for general administration, seven cents for roads, four cents for library service, three cents for fire protection and one cent for police village services.

## CENTENNIAL YEAR

As decreed by Council, on July 26th, 1950, the Township celebrated one hundred years of self government with the dedication of their Memorial Hall, Judge D.J. Cowan officiating. Together with the dedication ceremony, the Township honored its oldest and youngest citizens, held a reunion of its former residents and completed the centennial celebration with a parade, band concert, sports and entertainment program. The Reverend Herlihey gave a prayer of dedication. Mrs. Alfred Martin unveiled an honour roll bearing the names of those who served in the Armed Forces in WWI and WWII. She was a fitting person to officiate as it was Mrs. Martin's son, Franklin (Chub), who made the supreme sacrifice on August 19th, 1942, at Dieppe.

The festivities were highlighted by a parade of gaily-decorated floats, bicycles, pets and other entries, moving off from the hall and touring several village thoroughfares before continuing to the school grounds. At the school grounds, where the celebration continued, presentations were made on the residents' behalf, by George T. Gordon, M.P.P. for Brantford, to the oldest and youngest citizens. Receiving the gifts were Mrs. David Secord, 92, a resident of the township for more than 70 years, and to Marvin Leslie Smith, 10-day-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Smith.



A view of the Memorial Hall in the background, formerly the C.O.F. Hall. In the driver's seat of the 1910 classic touring car is, Reeve Howard Edy (1905-1963), and Sheriff G. D. Campbell, passenger. In the rear is Judge and Mrs. Cowan.

Municipality of  
**Township of Oakland**

Scotland, Ontario, May 26th, 1950

Dear Sir:

At a meeting of the Council and members of the General Committee, held in the Memorial Hall, Oakland, to make further arrangements for "The Centennial Garden Party and Old Boys Re-union", it was decided to hold the celebration August 7th. Owing to several other special events in neighbouring municipalities being held on that day (Civic Holiday), the Council has decided that it would be advisable to change the day of the celebration of our Centennial to **Wednesday, July 26 next.**

Committees were appointed to take charge of the various activities that are being arranged to make the Centennial of the Oakland Township an event that will be enjoyed and long remembered by all participants.

Much of the success of the day will depend on the efforts made by the appointed members of the following committees, the first named person being Convener:

**Advertising:** Cecil Davis, C. B. Hunter, Alston Campbell, Earl Secord, W. Burrage

**Sports:** James Allan, Stuart Macaulay, John McDougal, Percy Stratford, Bruce Bonham, Ralph Fink, Harry Orchard, Earl Logan, C. Benfield

**Evening Program and Memorial Hall Dedicatory Services:** Jack Learmonth, C. D. Hunter, Philip Durham, Payson Vivian, Charles McIntyre, Donald Eddy, Mrs. C. D. Hunter, Mrs. Dorothy Smith, Mrs. Edith Bonham, Geo. Chandler (Sound Equipment)

**Invitation Committee:** Clayton Smith, Kenneth Barnes, Kenneth Hagerman, Roy McEwan, Earl Messecar, George E. Cooke, F. G. Smith, Payson Vivian, Percy M. Button

**Lunch Booths:** Presidents of the Women's Institutes, Mrs. Evelyn Chandler, Mrs. Roger Fisher, Mrs. Ritchie

**Attraction:** Roy McEwan, Ernest Smith, Ted Porteous, Gordon Scott

**Seat and Platform:** Ronald Sutherland, Gerald Ripley, William Davis, Ensley Graves, Morley Wheeler, Cleland Benfield, Walter Schaeffer

**Lighting:** North Anders, Hoyt Anders (power to add)

**Reception:** Payson Vivian, Charles McIntyre, C. D. Hunter, George E. Cooke, J. W. Kelly, P. Durham

**Traffic:** Lloyd Vivian (with power to add)

**Finance and Grounds:** The Members of Council

Members of Committees will meet with their Conveners when notified.

CO-OPERATION BRINGS SUCCESS

HOWARD EDY, Chairman

PERCY M. BUTTON, Secretary

The  
Township of Oakland

One Hundredth  
Anniversary



1850 ————— 1950

**This is Your Invitation**

to attend

**The Oakland Township Centennial  
and Old Boys' Reunion**

to be held in the Village of Oakland on

**Wednesday, July 26th**

---

1:30 p.m.

The Dedication of the Township Memorial Hall by His Honour,  
Judge Cowan, County of Brant,

2:30 p.m.

Afternoon ball games and other sports on School Grounds, Oakland

6:00 p.m.

Legion Band Concert

8:00 p.m.

An evening entertainment, in the United Church Barn, Oakland

RYTHMETTES - - - Four Girls in line

EDDIE PHILLIPS and his Marimba

D. G. MacMILLAN, Scotch Comedian

BELLAIRES, Barber Shop Quartette

GEORGE and ANDY, Accordion and Guitar, Cowboy Songs

MARIONETTES SHOW, Harry Easterbrook

HELEN HANDS, Girl Soloist

ACROBATIC DANCING TEAM          ACCOMPANIST

DUNC. MCGILVARY, Master of Ceremonies

**COME**

**ADMISSION FREE**

---

RECEPTION COMMITTEE

Payson Vivian, Chas. McIntyre, C. D. Hunter, George Cooke,  
J. W. Kelly, Philip Durham, Percy Button

---

**This Day is for You to meet Your Friends, Relatives, Acquaintances**



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**SPECIAL FEATURES**

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Following the dedication of the Memorial Hall there will be a  
PARADE

from the Hall to the School Grounds

Good Prizes will be given for:

The Best Dressed Pet

The Best Dressed Bicycle

The Best Dressed Coaster Wagon

The Best Comic Costume

BALL GAMES and TUG-OF-WAR

Teams from Oakland, Scotland, Mount Pleasant and East Oakland  
will compete for the Championship of the Township,  
in each event

RACES FOR YOUNG AND OLD

---

**SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS**

---

An exhibit of Indian relics and costumes and Early Settler  
possessions will be exhibited by  
MR. and MRS. MARTIN, from their Mohawk Museum

Some of the earliest farm implements will be exhibited,  
along with the latest power implements

One of the earliest automobiles that can be found will be shown  
along with one of the latest that can be obtained

And other attractions depicting the progress of time

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**REFRESHMENTS**

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The Women's Institutes from Oakland, Scotland and Maple  
Grove will serve refreshments on the School Grounds during the  
afternoon and will have a booth open in the Church barns from 6 p.m.

## Township of Oakland, 1850 - 1950

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"First session of Oakland Council held the 21st day of January, 1850, at the Inn of J. B. Malcolm.

"Members present: Eliakim Malcolm, James Malcolm, John Eddy, Charles Chapin and Wellington McAlister."

So reads the opening paragraphs of the minutes of the first meeting as given in the records of the Oakland Township Council of ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

A committee of three was appointed to "draft rules and regulations for the government of the Oakland Township Council." The Reeve, Clerk and Superintendent of Schools were appointed.

On the 22nd day of January, the following resolution was passed: "That the Municipal Council of the Township of Oakland, with a view of pressing the subject of the Clergy Reserves, and other matters of vital interest to the country on the attention of Government, will petition Parliament at an early period of the approaching session, to take such action as shall cause the proceeds of the Clergy Reserves to be applied to the vocational interests of the country and other public purposes, to abolish the Rectories and also the law of Primogeniture, for full and complete law reform, simplification of all legal processes, reduction of Court fees and lawyers' fees, an equitable assessment law, the election by the people or the municipal authorities of all local or county officers, the abolition of the Court of Chancery, and of pensions and the pensioning system, the reduction of all public salaries to an extent commensurate with the resources of the Province."

Five copies of above were posted within the Township and a copy sent to "The Brantford Herald," for publication.

The first By-law that passed was for taxing of dogs and restraining them from running at large.

The first salary By-law provided for paying the Assessor £6 per annum; the Clerk, £5 per annum; the Treasurer, £2-10 per annum; the Collector, 6 per cent. of all monies collected; the Auditors, seven shillings and six pence each.

Minutes of all subsequent meetings of the Council give full particulars of the municipal work that has been accomplished by the members of the Council during the past century.

The members of Council for the year 1950, Reeve, Howard Eddy; Councillors, Clayton Smith, C. Roy McEwan, Cecil Davis and Kenneth Hagerman are now carrying on into the second century, the ever increasing and larger scope of work and duties of the Municipal Council of the Township of Oakland.

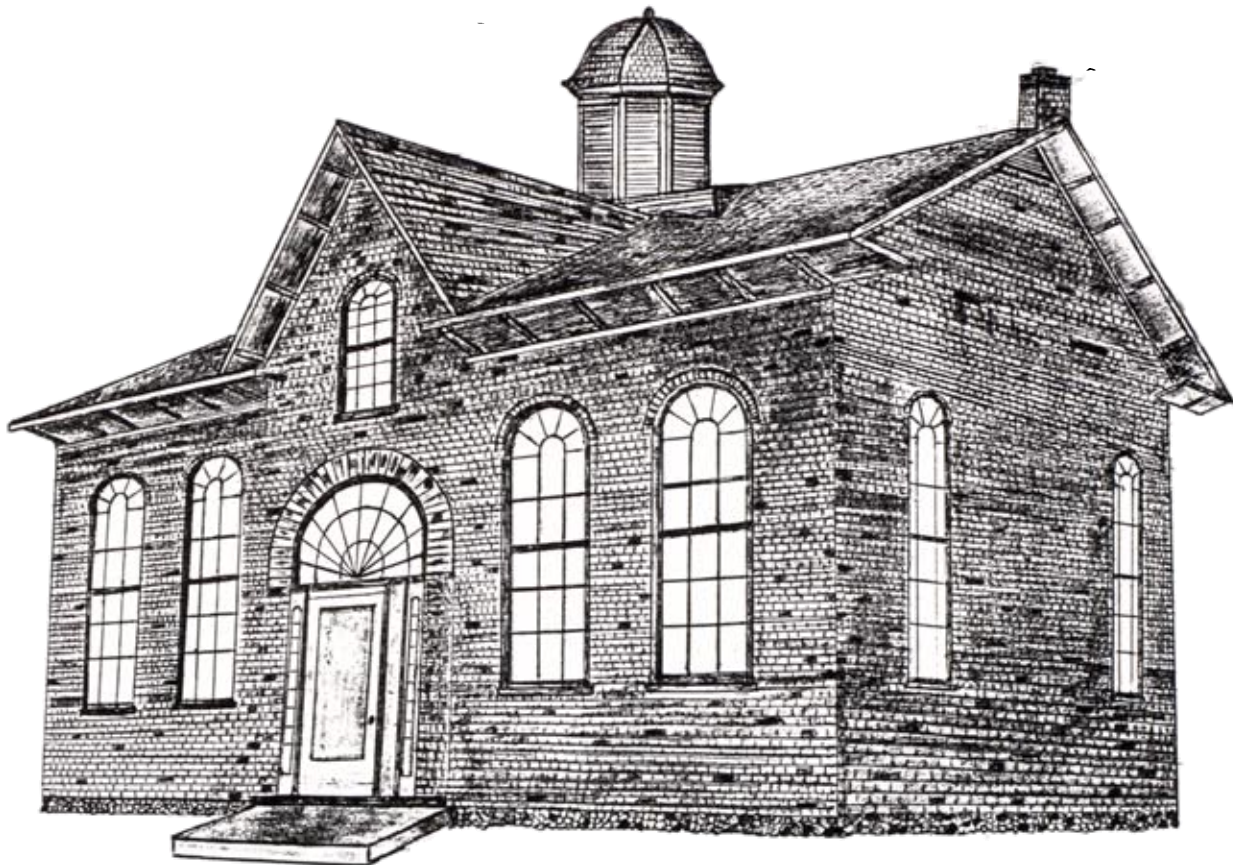
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Note: Every ratepayer in this Township is now getting benefit from the Clergy Reserve Fund mentioned in the minutes of the first Council session.

## Municipal Hall

Firstly, Council met at the post office, a room rented from John Toyne, the township clerk. This arrangement continued for four years. In August of 1854, the construction of a Town Hall commenced at a cost of four hundred and two pounds (\$2400.00), the builder being W.A. Whiting. Reeve Malcolm preferred a Scotland location for the new building, others wanted an Oakland site. In any event, "Liak" Malcolm won a partial victory by insisting that the edifice be seen from his east Scotland home. The site chosen, on the top of the hill, at the west entrance to Oakland village, on the north side of the road in lot 6 concession I, apparently met the Reeve's fervent demand. This was the highest piece of ground in the Township and the new building could be seen for miles around.

In 1854, it was necessary to impose a levy at the rate of 3-8ths penny in the pound, then in 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858 at the rate of 1/2 penny in the pound for the construction of the seat of local government.



Built of white brick, the new edifice was architecturally designed in true form and symmetrical balance. A large front entrance with double doors faced south. A transom panel of semi circular design ornamented the entrance way, as did side panels.



To the left and right of the entrance were four semi-circular front windows and two similar windows at both the east and west sides of the building with a rear entrance at the north (rear) side. Two chimneys protruded at the east and west peak of the roof, suggesting at least two fireplaces. A gable, with dormer window facing south, extended to the centre roof ridge and joined in with a centrally located bulbous shaped cupola (dome). On the lower level were the council chambers and offices, on the upper floor storage space. The cupola was often referred to as "Lover's Roost" and it is said cupid resided therein.

A driveway ran from Oakland Street up a steep incline to the parking area, equipped with tethering posts. Beside the driveway was built a long stairway extending from a landing at the top down to Oakland Street. The road had been carved into the bank some twenty feet to reduce its steep grade. A decorative fence surrounded the building, built to keep grazing cattle out. At election time, the elderly voters were carried up the long stairway by two men, their hands locked together to form a seat.

The building, however impressive, soon became a flawed capital project. Too large, ill placed, inaccessible in the winter months, costly to heat and totally inappropriate and grandiose for the small Township with a limited budget, the building lost its favour. As an example, in 1884, villager Richard Cowles received \$12.50 for caretaker duties including snow shovelling up the steep steps from Oakland Street. At today's wages, the caretaker's expenses seem insignificant but it was more money than Council of that day wished to budget for upkeep. Progressively, it was allowed to fall into a state of disrepair and, by early twentieth century, abandoned. Disposed of by Council in 1928, remnants of the building and the solid oak benches remained for vandals to destroy. For curiosity seekers, it was a favourite location well into the 30's, before the site was cleaned up.

Council moved to new quarters in the upper floor of the Masonic Lodge at Scotland, rented from Wm Foster. About 1960, the former general store of Lewis Baldwin, at Oakland, became the Township office. These quarters housed the municipal office until November 20, 1976 when Council approved a location at Scotland, in the Library building. Subsequently, the office was moved to the former public school, at the four corners in Oakland, the school having been vacated in 1978. Over the years, many Council meetings were held at the home of the clerk, Percy M. Button, who lived west of the village.



Circa 1880

The Town Hall, looking north-east. The identity of the "top-hatted" gentleman standing at the base of the hill has not been determined.

## Elected Officials

To choose their Councillors, men only, the rate-payers who met the property qualifications were entitled to elect five Councillors, one became Reeve. During the formative years, the major focus at meetings, held once a month, was roads, schools and assessments. Council concerned itself, as well, with welfare, public morals, animal pounds, peace and good order and the eradication of noxious weeds.

These tillers of the land had little formal training for the task at hand. The administrative decisions necessary in municipal government were foreign to them. The forum for self government was theirs to usher in, with dexterity. Their instinctual skills were about to be tested on behalf of their fellow countrymen. But they were men possessed of common sense and they did not waver.

Township dwellers who committed themselves to this new form of public service, among others, included:

1850 - Reeve - Eliakim Malcolm Esquire (1801-1874) - a public land surveyor, a conveyancer, a Commissioner of Queen's Bench, a sawmill operator, a hotel proprietor and a Magistrate.

A rebel and a committed reformer with an instinct for the political forum, "Liak" Malcolm possessed the qualifications necessary to occupy the Chair. His experience in municipal affairs through service on the Brock District Council placed him a front runner to assume the office of charter Reeve. "Liak" continued his active role in local government up until his death on Saturday September 26, 1874 at his residence in Scotland - cause of death "congestive chills".



"Liak" Malcolm

Extracts from his obituary provide a greater insight into his life and public service:

*"Eliakim Malcolm P.L.S. was a well known and highly respected citizen of Brant, where he had resided during the greater portion of his life. He was the eighth son of Captain Finlay Malcolm, R.N., who emigrated from Scotland to this country shortly after the close of the*

Revolutionary war. The Captain and his family remained in the Province of Nova Scotia until near the close of the eighteenth century, when he removed to Canada West - a wilderness then - and built the first house in what is now the village of Scotland. Here Eliakim was born in 1801, and here, too, he received his early rudimentary education. At an early age he commenced the studies necessary to qualify him for the profession of Provincial Land Surveyor. On attaining his profession he was for many years employed by Government in surveying new townships in the western portion of this Province. In 1822 he was married to Miss Samantha Sexton, daughter of Adjutant Jonathan Sexton, late of Vergemus, Vermont, and one of the first settlers of Port Hope."

"During the troubles of thirty-seven and eight the late Mr. E. Malcolm - a liberal of the most advanced school - took an active part on the side of liberty and justice, and, together with the late William Lyon McKenzie and other kindred spirits was driven to a brief residence in the land south of the lakes. The demise of Mr. Malcolm leaves Mayor Mathews, of Brantford, the only survivor of a party of six who went over to Buffalo at the time of the rebellion. On his return to this country he took up his residence in his native village where he ever took an active part in advancing education and in aiding every project calculated for the benefit of the many."

"Of a generous disposition, free and open-hearted he was a favorite with all who knew him. On Saturday the 20th day of September he passed away of congestive chills, after an illness of two weeks, sinking to sleep amid a large circle of sorrowing friends and relatives. His demise leaves a vacancy in his neighborhood which it will be difficult to fill."

1857 - Reeve - Charles Chapin (1808-1871)

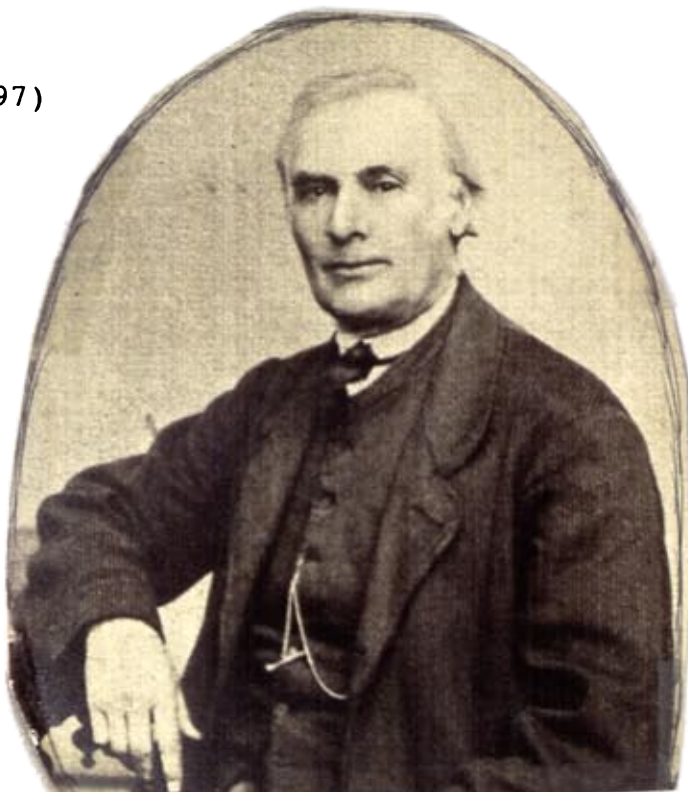
Farmer on lots 3 and 4 Concession III. He also owned land in Concession IV. Charles had served on Council since its inception seven years earlier. He was active in Scotland Congregational Church affairs, becoming a Deacon on June 5, 1858. His first wife died in 1841 and he re-married to Loemma Haviland (1820-1915). There were two sons, Lyman and Elam. Lyman's son, Dr. Cecil Chapin, practiced in Brantford. Elam Chapin had a son, Dr. Chas Chapin, who became Chief Medical Officer for the Foresters. Charles Chapin Sr. (1808-1871) had a brother Lyman who married Matilda Fairchild. Lyman Sr. died in 1876 at 64 years of age. Brothers, Lyman and Charles, were active in the Uprising of 1837.



1858 - Reeve - Wm Thompson (1801-1897)

Farmer, lot 8 Concession III. Before moving to his farm at Maple Grove in 1826, Squire Thompson had settled in Oakland village.

He was born in Ireland in May of 1801, the son of Michael Thompson who served in the Royal Meath Militia and the First Royal Scots. In the fall of 1811 the regiment was ordered to the West Indies, and in June, 1812, they were ordered to Canada. In the interval, war was declared between Great Britain and the United States. The command was then sent west, and participated in the several battles fought in Western Canada, particularly at Chippewa, Lundy's Lane, and the siege of



Squire Thompson

Fort Erie. In the two former, the Royals were noticed for their valour and received special acknowledgment from the officers in command at Lundy's Lane. Mr. Thompson was wounded slightly and taken prisoner, but made his escape and joined his regiment again before the close of the battle. In 1815, immediately after the close of the war, he was discharged as sergeant, which office he held for some years previous. After serving his King and country for over twenty years, soon after his discharge his wife died, and in a short time he too died leaving three children, two of whom survived, William and Samuel. In 1817, the former came to the County of Brant, and in 1822 learned the blacksmith trade. He established the first smithy in Oakland Township in 1824. He married Miss Lucinda M. Sayles, a young lady born in the township in 1806. In 1826 Squire Thompson left the blacksmith business, settling on his farm of 175 acres. During his residence in Oakland, a term of sixty-one years, he took an active part in political, educational, and municipal matters connected with the county and township. He was honoured by Lord Monck with a Captain's commission in the Militia, which office he resigned. Serving as Councillor in the township several years, as Reeve and as Warden of the county one year, his contribution to public life was considerable. Mr. Thompson held a commission as Justice of the Peace for many years, and was one of the oldest in the county as well as being the oldest member of the Masonic Fraternity at the time of his death.

While a young lad, William lived with his family at Fort George where he helped build the breastworks and drove a team of oxen for the British Army. Duncombe's Uprising of 1837 saw

him in action again for the Rebel cause. For his part in the fiasco, he spent several months in prison at Hamilton.

Squire Thompson's marriage to Lucinda M. Sayles (1806-1888), daughter of Thomas and Bethea Sayles, produced a son Walter (1850-1936) who married Betsy J. Lewis (1855-1934), farmers east of Maple Grove on the Thompson homestead. Their son Charles David Thompson (1879-1944), married Gertrude Whiting (1881-1946), farmers at Burtch. Their son Walter Wray Thompson was born in 1917 and died in 1970. Squire Thompson, who died on June 29th 1897, and his wife Lucinda, who died June 27th 1888, are buried at Mount Pleasant. Their descendants are all buried at Oakland cemetery.

Extracts from Squire Thompson's obituary have been taken from the expositor, June 30th 1897:

AGED 97 YEARS

\*\*\*

Death of Squire Thompson, One of  
the Oldest Men in Ontario  
- Aged 97 Years.

\*\*\*

The death of Squire Thompson took place at Mount Pleasant on Tuesday. His demise removes one of the landmarks of the county, and one of the county's first white sons. Mr. Thompson was in his 98th year. All his marvellously long life time he had enjoyed the best of health. Indeed it is only during the past few months that wearied nature thoroughly worn out, asserted herself, and called home the spirit of a man who had seen many changes in a life-time of nearly a century.

The squire was born in 1801, and helped to drive a wagon in the army during the war of 1812. He was quite a big boy when Wellington defeated Napoleon at Waterloo. He lived all his life within a short distance of where he died, and has seen the most wonderful transformations imaginable. When the Queen was born in 1819, he was already 18 years of age and at the time of her accession he was a man of 37 years.

He was made a Freemason nearly seventy-five years ago. The ceremony of initiation took place at Waterford, and the young man, who was introduced to the mysteries of Masonry at the same time was the late and greatly esteemed Mr. Kitchen, father of Dr. Kitchen, of St. George, and Mr. Alfred Kitchen, governor of the county gaol.

Mr. Thompson was by a long way, the oldest man in the county of Brant, and perhaps in Western Ontario. At the time of his death he was in the 98th year of his age, and until recently has been able to move about, although he has been retired from all active labor for years. He was of a genial and kindly disposition, and a man well-read and well-versed in public affairs. Many years ago he was made a justice of the peace and occupied the bench always with fairness and impartiality. His familiar figure will be much missed by a large number of the citizens of Brantford and also residents of the whole county.

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## 1863 - Reeve - John Eddy (1804-1892)

Farmer, lot 13 Concession I. Mr. Eddy had served on Council since 1850. In political matters he was a Reformer. John, was the son of Charles Eddy (1781-1852) and Sarah Malcolm (1774-1860), farmers north of Scotland, married Caroline McLeod. Secondly, he married Abigail Smith. There were five children by the first marriage and six by his second marriage. Two sons became Methodist clergymen. John has many descendants throughout Brant County. Besides farming and politics, John had talents as a lay preacher. He left Oakland about 1885 to live with his daughter, Jemima, who married Rev. Robert Smylee, a Methodist preacher at Ida Grove, Iowa. He died there on February 7th, 1892. His remains came back to his native land for burial - Rev. W.C. Watson officiating along with Rev. J.G. Foote of Cainsville and Rev. Mooney of Mt. Pleasant.

were                   At the time of John Eddy's death, eight of his children living:

1. Rev. Samuel Eddy - a preacher in Iowa
2. Rev. Charles Eddy - pastor in New York State
3. Dr. A. Eddy - in Nebraska
4. Edward B. Eddy of Brantford
5. Eliza, Mrs. Orrin H. Lawrence, of Detroit
6. Catherine, wife of Rev. (Dr.) Cleaver, of Iowa
7. Jemima, wife of Rev. Bob Smylee, of Ida Grove, Iowa
8. Jane (1844-1910), wife of John A. Diamond (Dymond) (1846-1924), an inn-keeper at Oakland

## 1864 - Reeve - Shubael Downs Malcolm Esquire (1814-1878)

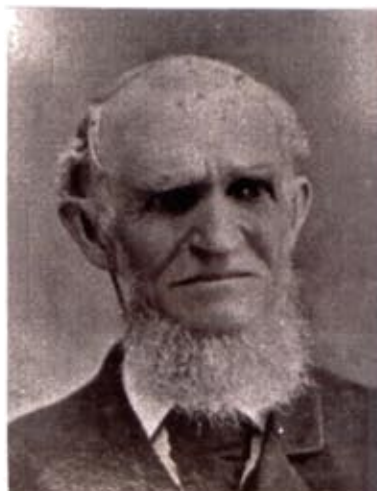
Farmer on lots 5 and 6 of Concession I. Shubael was the son of Finlay Malcolm Jr, the grist mill operator. His four sons; Dr. John R. Malcolm, Charles Parke, Egbert G., and Horace Finlay were all established in business by their father. This family had a great impact on the development of the Township. Shubael married Elvira Foster (1820-1894). He suffered a paralytic stroke in 1873 and was forced to retire, remaining on the homestead of his birth. A second stroke took his life. To his family, he was called "Mr. Shubael".



Shubael D. Malcolm

1865 - Reeve - Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874)  
(Second term)

1866 - Reeve - Wellington McAlister (1814-1897)  
Farmer, lot 11 Concession II. Born in Burford, Wellington was the youngest son of Samuel McAlister and Elizabeth Salmond who homesteaded near Mount Pleasant. He married, firstly, Samantha Brown, secondly, Elizabeth Smith and thirdly, Catherine Smith. By Samantha were Welby (1838-1923), Earl and Albert Henry; by Elizabeth were Lois, Sabina, Almeda, Owen, Obedience, Elizabeth, Arthur Murray, Robert and Ellsworth; by Catherine were Charlie, Herbert, Annie Grace, Edith A. and Clara Maud (1870-1951) who married Wallace Westbrook (1869-1953). Wellington attended the first meeting of Council in 1850. One of the best known and highly respected agriculturalists of Brant County, he lived in the Township for over fifty-seven years. Wellington served on Council for over twenty years and, for forty-three years, as a school trustee. In politics, Wellington favoured the Liberals which brought him the appointment of license commissioner.



Wellington McAlister

1867 - Reeve - Shubael D. Malcolm (1814-1878)  
His second term as Reeve.

1869 - Reeve - Charles Chapin (1808-1871)  
(His second term) Councillors during this term were Henry S. Westbrook farmer, lot 7 Concession I south 1/4; John Eddy (1804-1892); Smith Beebe (1825-1877); Marcus Malcolm (1830-1903). Marcus operated the woollen mill, east of Scotland village.

1870 - Reeve - Wm Thompson (1801-1897)  
(His second term)

1874 - Reeve - Smith Beebe (1825-1877)  
Farmer, lots 7 and 8 Concession II. Smith married Sarah Secord. He was the fourth child of Amasa Beebe, an Oakland pioneer. Smith's son, Wm A. Beebe (1849-1940), migrated to Western Canada at the time of the Klondike gold rush and later moved to Blairmore, Alberta where he served as Mayor of the town.



1876 - Reeve - Wm. Thompson (1801-1897)  
(A third term) His postal address was shown as Mohawk Post Office (Mount Pleasant)

1877 - Reeve - Smith Beebe (1825-1877)  
(His second term)

1878 - Reeve - Eliakim Malcolm (1829-18 )  
Eliakim Jr., born at Scotland on Feb. 11th 1829, was son of Eliakim Sr. and Samantha (Sexton) Malcolm. He married Emily Smith on December 22nd 1850. Emily was the daughter of Isaac and Abigail Smith of Scotland. Acquiring a common school education, Elakim Jr. engaged in farming, then turned his attention to the lumbering business, which he followed for fifteen years, afterwards keeping the Jackson House Hotel where he and his family resided.



Eliakim Malcolm Jr.  
(1829-18 )

To Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm were born 9 children - 6 boys and 3 girls: Walter E., born May 26, 1852; Alfreda S., June 16, 1855; James H., Sept. 13, 1857; Francis E., April 6th, 1859; Isaac R., Feb. 4, 1861; Freddie, Dec. 27, 1863; Sophronia L., Oct. 1, 1865; Esther E., June 23, 1867; John, July 4, 1869.

Eliakim Jr. and his family were members of the Congregational Church at Scotland. As well, he was an active Mason and a member of the Canadian Order of Foresters.

1880 - Reeve - William Devlin  
(1838- ) - farmer lot 10 Concession III - postal address Mohawk Post Office. In late life he lived at Mount Pleasant after serving as Director of the House of Refuge. William was the son of John (1811-1881) and Sarah (Jordon) Devlin, natives of Ireland.

John Devlin came to York County, Ontario, with his parents at the age of 17 years; afterwards moved to Simcoe County; thence to Ontario County; and from there back to York County in 1853. He was married in 1836, and in 1863 moved to Brant County, where he remained until his death. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits during life.



William Devlin

Wm. Devlin was born at Simcoe, March 20, 1838, received a common school education, and was married Nov. 24, 1862. His wife was Hannah Ransom, born Dec. 9, 1838, and daughter of Thomas and Anna Ransom. Mr. and Mrs. Devlin had three children, viz.: Julia, born May 28, 1864; Annetta, born Oct. 8, 1867; and John W., born March 2, 1876.

One of the leading citizens of the Township, Mr. Devlin occupied a number of positions. Besides serving on Council, he was a school trustee, served on the executive of the United Order of Workmen, and was elected Warden of Brant County.

1889 - Reeve - Joseph McIntyre (1838-1914)

Farmer, lot 12 Concession II - son of Nicholas McIntyre, one of a family of nine children. Some of his Councillors included; Chas Vivian (1844-1914); Horace Foster (1832-1908); Mahlon Edy (1856-1909); Abraham Westbrook (1844-1910); Isaac Kelly (1835-1912). Henry "Hy" Key was the Clerk at this time. Joseph's son, Charles (1875-1955), followed in the family tradition, becoming Reeve in 1922. Joseph McIntyre served on Council a total of twenty years and was also Warden of Brant County. He married twice, firstly to Miss Maria Westbrook who died in 1879, then he married Miss N. Biggar. Joseph served as a Deacon at Burtch Baptist Church. In late life, he lived with his daughter, Mrs. T.E. Ryerson of 63 Brant Avenue in Brantford where he died on July 27th, 1914. In politics, Mr. McIntyre favoured the Reformer movement.



Circa 1890  
Joseph McIntyre

1897 - Reeve - Abraham (Abram) Westbrook (1844-1910)

Farmer, lot 7 Concession I, known later as the Barnes farm. "Abe" was the son of Mordecai Westbrook Sr. (1800-1883) and Mary Ann Shaver, pioneers in the Township. A brother of Abraham, Mordecai Jr. (1840-1913), had an adjacent farm. "Abe" and Hanna (Brown) were married on Sept. 23rd 1868. Born to them were five sons - Albert E. 1872-1958; R. Allen (1875-1963); C. Henry (1877-1961); F. Lorne (1879-19 ); Roy E. (1881-1969) and a daughter Ruby M. (1883-1912) who married Clark Merritt.



Abe Westbrook (1844-1910)

Hannah Brown, born Oct 6th 1848, was the daughter of Archibald and Rebecca Brown. Abe received a common school education, filled the offices of Councillor and School Trustee and served on the Methodist Church Board. He inherited 108 acres from his father and added to it another 27 acres. Besides farming, he had other local business interests. Confusion exists as to the correct spelling of the Westbrook (Wesbrook) name. Local lore suggests Abe and his family kept the "t", while his brother Mordecai Jr. dropped the "t" from his name, all because of an internal family dispute, the root cause of the schism having now lapsed into infamy.

1899 - Reeve - Mahlon Edy (1856-1909)

Farmer, lot 11 Concession I. Mahlon was the son of Andrew Newcomb Edy (1810-18 ), of UEL stock, who was appointed a local Magistrate. Mahlon had two sons, Maitland and Lavell. Maitland was the Township tax collector for over forty-years. His son, Howard, (1905-1963) served as Reeve during centennial year.



Mahlon Edy Mrs. Edy

1901 - Reeve - Jacob Anderson Messecar (1858-1938)

Farmer, lot 3, Concession I (west half). The whole 200 acres of lot three was originally owned and farmed by Matthew Messecar Sr., Jacob's grandfather. He split the farm for his sons Matthew Jr. (1826-1897), Jacob's father, and James (1828-1906). Jacob married Minnie Bouchner. Earl (1880-1965), son of Jacob, carried on the farm operations, followed by his son, Edwin. Following Earl Messecar's marriage, his father left the land to become Executive Secretary of the Brant Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Jacob was active in the Scotland Brass Band around the turn of the century.



Jacob Messecar



- 1906 - Reeve - George Edwin Cooke (1872-1961)  
Farmer, lot 9 Concession II. Mr. Cooke took an active part in the South Brant Liberal Association and the Canadian Order of Foresters. He married Florence E. Taylor, who died in 1956. They had a son, Wm T. Cooke. It was during George Cooke's term as Reeve that Percy M. Button received his appointment as clerk, a position he held for half a century. George's Councillors were James Eadie, Wm Stuart, Thos Barnes and John Dymond.



George E. Cooke

- 1907 - Reeve - Jacob A. Messecar (1858-1938)  
(Second term)
- 1908 - Reeve - George E. Cooke (1872-1961)  
(Second term)
- 1909 - Reeve - Jacob A. Messecar (1858-1938)  
(Third term)
- 1911 - Reeve - George E. Cooke (1872-1961)  
(Third term)

- 1916 - Reeve - James B. Scott (1853-19 )  
Jim Scott, son of William, who operated a cooperage shop. Settling near Maple Grove, Jim ventured into the manufacture and installation of wooden pumps. He died of a heart attack at the bottom of a well. His pumps, now artifacts, may still be found in the Township. He owned land, fifteen acres, on lot 6 Concession 4, at Maple Grove.



James B. Scott

## 1922 - Reeve - Charles McIntyre (1875-1955)

Farmer, lot 12 Concession II. Charles, a second generation to serve on Council, was born at East Oakland on April 15th 1875, son of Joseph and Marie (Westbrook) McIntyre. He married Nellie Crumback on Sept. 22, 1897, a childhood playmate. Their son, Reginald, was a well known market gardener. Chas served on the Board of the Brant Sanatorium and became Director of the Brant Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Both Charles and his wife Nellie Crumback were active in community affairs. They semi-retired to a farm at the eastern edge of Oakland village, lot 8 Concession I, and specialized in fruit growing. Councillors during his tenure as Reeve were David Holloway, George Biggar, J. Wes Kelly and James Poole.



Circa 1920  
Chas McIntyre

Reg and Muriel McIntyre were the parents of Louise (Mrs. Golembeski). She moved to New London, Conn.

## 1926 - Reeve - John Wesley Kelly (1870-1957)

Farmer, lot 10 Concession II. Wes, a second generation to serve on Council and the sixth of eight children, was the son of Isaac Kelly (1835-1912) and Caroline Roberts (1837-1913). Wesley's mother, Caroline, the first of seven children of John Roberts (1803-1888) and Francis "Fanny" Vivian (1814-1905), were pioneers on the Town line, south of Oakland. Caroline's brother, Joseph Roberts (1847-1941), lived in the stone house, a mile east of Oakland. He has dozens of descendants in the area. Wes married Annabell Messecar. Their granddaughter, Margery Smith Gatward, daughter of Albert Smith and Myrtle Kelly, served as Township Clerk from 1965 to 1981.



Wes Kelly

1929 - Reeve - George Taylor Knox (1886-1944)

George was born in Oakland Township on May 17th 1886, one of eleven children of Franklin Knox (1848-1923), building contractor, and Laura Pew. He received his education in County public and high schools. For more than 40 years he had been associated with Payson Vivian in the grain, feed and milling business at Oakland Mills.

He was elected to the Oakland Township Council in 1926, serving as Councillor for two years and Reeve for three. In 1931 he was elected to the highest post in the County - Warden - and served with distinction.



George Knox

On completion of his term as Warden he retired from the Oakland Council and shortly afterwards was appointed a member of the Brant County Suburban Roads Commission of which he was chairman and was a member at the time of his death on Feb 13th 1944. This was during the peak of WWII and George was actively assisting in the sale of War bonds locally when he died after a brief illness. He was Secretary of the Brant County Ex-Wardens Association. Mr. Knox was appointed Division Court Clerk for the Township of Oakland in 1935 and occupied that post at the time of his death. He had been an active member of the Oakland Cemetery Commission for many years.

Very active in Free Masonry, he was a Past Master of Scotland Lodge, Past District Deputy Grand Master of Brant District, Past President of the Brant District Past Masters and Wardens' Association and Past Patron of Halo Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Scotland.

In his youth Mr. Knox was well known as a soccer player and played for Oakland and Scotland teams when the game was in its heyday. Later he took up softball and was manager of the Oakland team for five years.

George married late in life to M. Alma Birdsell (1888-1961). At the time of his death in 1944, three sisters and six brothers were living; Mrs. Arthur Alton, Oakland; Mrs. Herbert McIntyre, Mount Pleasant, and Miss Luella Knox, Los Angeles; Judson, Lockport, N.Y.; John, Victoria, B.C.; Harry, Cleveland; Fred, Grimsby; Robert and Gordon Knox, Oakland. Councillors during George's tenure as Reeve were: Earl Messecar; Clark Merritt; Alfred Bonham; Chas D. Hunter.

## 1932 - Reeve - I. Clark Merritt (1880-1949)

Farmer, lot 8 Concession III, 100 acres formerly owned by his father. Clark, son of Benjamin B. Merritt and Rhoda Clarke, married Ruby May Westbrook, then re-married, following her death in 1910, to Laura Cowie. Ruby Westbrook (1883-1910), Clark Merritt's first wife, was the daughter of Abraham Westbrook (1844-1910), Reeve in 1897. Councillors during Clark's tenure were Bruce Campbell, Phillip Durham, Wm Grantham and Chas Hagan. Clark's term as Reeve continued until 1939. Clark and Laura were the parents of Gordon (farmer-deceased); Donald a teacher at Thunder Bay; Hugh of Mount Pleasant (deceased 1993).



Clark Merritt

Clark's father, Ben, was born in New Brunswick April 28th 1835, the son of Abraham (1796-1861) and Sarah (Hendry) Merritt who migrated to Upper Canada with their family early in the 19th century to become pioneers in the Township. Ben married Rhoda M. Clarke, daughter of Ben and Maria J. Clarke, on May 31st 1859. The Merritt family were staunch Baptists and played a leadership role in the organization and upkeep of the Scotland congregation.

## 1939 - Reeve - Philip H. Durham (1889-1958)

Farmer, lot 1 and 2 Concession IV. Phil was the son of Isaac Durham (1850-1922) and Jane McNellis (1855-1950). His wife, Mabel Wheeler died in 1967, at 80 years of age. They had nine children: Earl who lives in Burford; Helen (deceased) married Jack Wilbee; Bruce; Ernest; Irvin; Charles; Hazel (deceased); Walter and Lawrence.



Philip Durham



1946 - Reeve - Kenneth M. Barnes (1901-1974)

Farmer, lot 7 Concession I. Ken farmed together with his father, Alam (1867-1952) at the top of the hill, south of the village on the former Abe Westbrook property. Ken married Rheba B. Secord (1906-1993), daughter of Ern and Rachel Secord. Born to Ken and Rheba; Gwendolyn (Orchard); Corwin.



Ken Barnes

Rheba Secord Barnes

Ken took the Chair in post war times. Victory had been ours, and the boys had returned home. The war factories in Brantford had ground to a halt, the surrounding military bases were reduced to only a shadow of their former operational staff. In its wake, the cessation of hostilities had brought with it a transitional period. Factory workers, some from the Township, were retrained, servicemen with no trade or profession went back to school, more homes were needed for the boys who had married, either under VLA or otherwise, and more classrooms would soon be needed to accommodate the surge in births. Social reform and labour relations took a high priority.

But times were good and the fruits of victory were still in the air. The cost in blood had been small, much smaller than World War I. A sense of national pride and national confidence permeated the mind set.

With the economy strong and jobs still available for all who genuinely sought work, with farm prices stable, with taxes on the average farm well under \$100.00 and the general tax rate reduced by two mills through a provincial subsidy (general at 12 mills), and with a rapidly expanding tobacco industry (smoking having been glorified and promoted amongst the troops), Reeve Ken Barnes found the Reeveship responsibilities manageable and well under control. For Ken, there was continuity as the guiding hand of Clerk Percy Button was still at hand. His term as Reeve was nearly "a piece of cake".

1948 - Reeve - James Howard Edy (1905-1963)

Howard "Speedy" Edy farmer on lot 11, Concession II. His father, Maitland, served as the Township tax collector for over forty years. Mahlon Edy (1856-1909), Howards' grandfather, had served on Council late in the nineteenth century. Howard married Verna H. Westbrook (1905-1991), daughter of Henry Westbrook, son of former Reeve, Abe Westbrook. Howard and Verna were the parents of Joyce who married Peter Irwin of R.1 Caledon. The centennial celebrations of 1950 found Reeve Edy in the forefront of the activities, along with his Councillors, Clayton Smith; C. Roy McEwan; Cecil Davis and Ken Hagerman.



Howard Edy

Howard served as Brant County Warden in 1950, was on the Waterford District High School Board, a Director of the Brant Mutual Fire Insurance Company and Scotland Masonic Lodge. He died at 57 years of age.

As Council started its 101st year, in 1951, Reeve Edy called on the Rev. H.J. Herlihey to open the session and newly elected Councillor, Ken Hagerman was introduced. The treasurer reported a balance of \$6,066.39 and the collector stated \$1,956.59 was in arrears from 1949 taxes. At the same session, Councillor Davis and Road Superintendent Earl Secord were authorized to purchase a larger grader. The treasurer received authority to realize on bonds in the township trust funds, as they were called or became due, and to purchase new bonds to replace them, such purchases to meet statutory requirements.

Other transactions, as the Municipality entered into its second century, included the appointment of Philip Durham to the Waterford High School Area Board, the introduction of By-law No. 615 appointing Gerald Ripley as the building inspector, the appointments of Philip Durham and Charles Guest, Sr., as sheep valuers for subdivisions 1 and 2 respectively. A further Bylaw, No. 617, appointed Florence Andrews as collector of rates.

## 1951 - Reeve - Clayton Smith

Farmer on lot 8 Concession III. Clayton, a resident of Maple Grove, was one of the early tobacco farmers to emerge in the 1930's. He converted his farm, just east of the old Maple Grove school, to a tobacco operation at a time when it was discovered that certain areas of the Township contained the proper soil for this new agricultural product. His daughter, Joyce (Kicksee) and her husband, operate a tobacco and ginseng farm on lots 7 and 8 Concession IV.



Mrs. Smith Clayton Smith

## 1954 - Reeve - C. Roy McEwan (1889-1971)

Farmer on lot 10 Concession II. He married Alma Bradshaw (1888-1975) daughter of Seth Bradshaw and Mercy C. VanEvery of Bealton. Roy was the son of Thomas A. McEwan (1863-1941) and Julia Vivian (1864-1929). Roy and Alma were the parents of Jean RN, living in retirement at Oakland, and Donald (1920-1935). Roy served as Brant County Warden in 1955, was secretary-treasurer of Oakland Township School Board for 16 years, Clerk of Sessions of Oakland United Church for 25 years and a Master of Scotland Masonic Lodge No.193.



Alvin	Bruce	Cecil	Ken
Marr	Bonham	Davis	Hagerman
			(1893-1986)

C. Roy McEwan (1889-1971)	Percy M. Button (1870-1957)
(Reeve)	(Township Clerk)



## 1956 - Reeve - Cecil Davis

Farmer north of Scotland, lots 1 and 2 Concession V - son of Frank Davis. The Davis family lived originally in the Bealton area, then moved to Tutela Heights, and in 1927 moved to their farm north of Scotland. Cecil was a Director of the Otter Dorcheater Mutual Fire Insurance, served on the Fire Area Board for twenty-six years, Treasurer of Fairfield Church, Sec/Treasurer Burford/Oakland Planning Board, served on Board of Arbitration of Brant County School Board, Director Brant Milk Producers and was on the Board of the John Noble Home.



Cecil Davis



Oakland Township Council - 1958

seated - H. Ward Irwin (Clerk), Walter Burrage (1891-1977), Jas Snodgrass,  
Bruce Bonham, Cecil Davis (Reeve), Alvin Marr  
standing - Percy Stratford (1892-1972) road supervisor

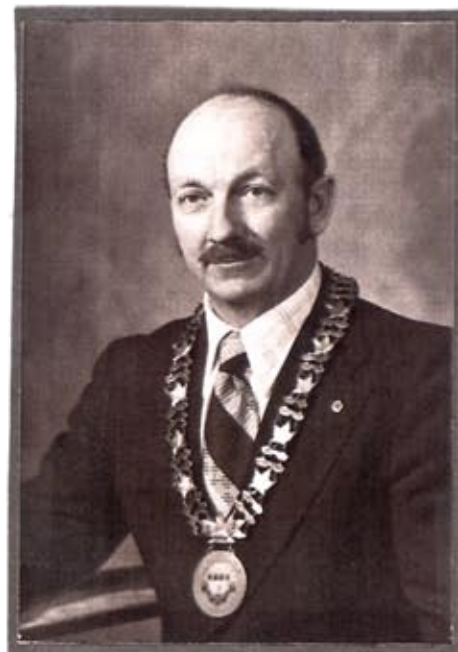
1959 - Reeve - Kenneth Hagerman (1893-1986) - farmer lot 4 Concession I. Ken was born at Teeterville on Nov. 29, 1893, son of Wm and Martha (Crane) Hagerman. He married Charity E. Henry (1894-1984) of Windham Centre. They had two children: Wray born 1919 and Bob born 1931, owner of the Right House Department stores in Brantford, Cambridge and St. Catharines. Bob married Marjorie Gibson, daughter of Oscar and Edith Gibson of Scotland.



Before coming to the Township in 1943, Ken and Charity were tobacco farmers in Norfolk. Ken served on Council for ten years, his first term commenced in 1951. In the 1959 Circa 1959 - Ken Hagerman elections, Ken took 252 votes while his contestant Bruce Bonham received only 188 votes to replace Reeve Cecil Davis. Ken was re-elected by acclamation on November 25, 1961 and served the term with councillors Walter Burrage, Alvin Marr, James Snodgrass and Claude Wright, School trustees were Gale Macaulay, Jean Ripley, Harry Bowen, Don Marr and Murray Baker. Ken died at Paris on January 5th 1986.

1963 - Reeve - Alvin G. Marr

Alvin, a former Councillor, came to the office by acclamation. He had a lengthy tenure of twenty years, the longest serving Reeve. Born in 1926 to Dave and Aletha Marr, farmers lot 3 Concession III, Alvin moved with his family to lot 7 Concession IV in 1933. He married Margaret McCormick in 1950 and bought land on lot 6 Concession IV two years later. Alvin and Margaret are the parents of Jayne Carman, Deputy Clerk Brant County; Larry, Brantford Twp Roads Dept.; Kathy; Barbara; Linda.



Alvin Marr

Alvin entered politics at the urging of his neighbour, Clayton Smith, a former Reeve. He never considered himself "a politician" but demonstrated effective political prowess for twenty years, capturing the attention of local voters through his unassuming but sincere leadership style and his integrity amongst the populace. His only threat of losing his seat on Council came in 1965 when he ran a tight race for Reeve. Since that time, he held office by acclamation.

A corn grower and pig-breeder, he began as a Councillor in 1954. His twenty-nine year career in municipal government included two terms as Brant County Warden in 1966 and 1974.

During his terms as Reeve, the new Township library at Scotland and the new Township office were officially opened. The looming threat of annexation was, without question, one of the motivators that kept Alvin involved in local municipal affairs for such a lengthy time.

On Sunday November 21st 1982, Oakland Community Centre filled to capacity as hundreds gathered to honour Mr. Marr. Bob Nixon presented a plaque from the Province of Ontario in recognition of "long and dedicated participation in municipal affairs", signed by the Premier, Wm Davis and by Mr. Nixon. Reeve elect, Joe Keresturi, presented another plaque on behalf of the Township of Oakland. Clerk/Treasurer, Betteanne Cadman, presented Mrs. Marr with a bouquet of flowers. Some 400 guests attended at the Community Centre location, fitting because it was Alvin who had championed and supported the idea of opening this local facility.

1983 - Reeve - Joe Keresturi - farmer, settled on lot 9 Concession III in 1954. Joe had served as a Councillor since 1971. During his tenure, he was on the Board of the Childrens Aid Society, the John Noble Home and Brant County Social Services - also active in the South Brant Lions Club. On the Nov 12th elections of 1991, he lost the contest to Louis Campbell. Joe moved to lot 6 Concession IV in the late 70's.



Joe Keresturi

1991 - Reeve - Louis Campbell, farmer along the Cockshutt Road, lot 15 Concession I. Elected on November 12th, he ran on a platform of "Council should listen to the concerns of the taxpayers and "not in favour of County restructuring". He served as Deputy Reeve on the previous council. On May 11th, 1992 Reeve Campbell presented certificates of appreciation to Jim Campbell who sat on the Committee of Adjustment for sixteen years, to Joan Gatward who served three terms on Council to Joe Keresturi outgoing Reeve and Warden of Brant County in 1987, to Tom Arthur who served 13 years on the Committee of Adjustment and to Larry Davis, Councillor since 1988. The Deputy Reeve elected in 1991 was John Gatward. Councillors elected were Bev Bowen, Sylvia Meggs and Robyn Runhardt.



Louis Campbell

Since 1850, a total of twenty-seven Township men have held the Reeve's position, some several times. As of 1993, no women have been elected to the key position on Council.

#### COUNCILLORS:

There have been dozens of Councillors elected to office over the past century and a half. Except for Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874), all of those identified as having graduated to the Reeve's position served their preliminary stint as a Councillor. Many preferred to remain in the less sensitive role of Councillor and did not run for the Reeve's office. In 1950, Councillors were paid \$2.00 per meeting, usually held during the daytime. The Memorial Hall served as the site for nomination meetings for many years.

Among others, the following have served the municipality in this way:

M. Hervy Baldwin (1827-1905) served on Council for four years about 1870/74.

Born in New York State on March 26th 1827, he was the son of Moses (1790-1881) and Phoebe Baldwin (1790-1851) who were married in New York State on November 14th 1812 and came to Upper Canada in 1833, settling on lot 5 Concession III. Moses went blind in 1838.

Hervy Baldwin married Nancy Smith on December 4th 1851. Both were active in the Oakland Methodist Church, Hervy serving as a lay preacher for fourteen years. He was appointed a Magistrate for the township. Hervy and Nancy Baldwin took over the homestead, 100 acres, north-west of Oakland village after Hervy's father went blind. They were the parents of



eight children. Their eldest, Lewis H. Baldwin (1855-1935) operated a general store in the village for many years which later became the Township office. Another son, Emerson, served with Canadian troops in the Boer War.

Thomas Mills (1828- ) farmer west of Oakland village. Thomas was born in England on Oct 16th 1828, son of Richard and Hannah (Wilson) Mills. Tommy Mills married Melissa Smith (1837-1872) on January 1st 1856. Secondly, in 1876, Tommy married Carlotta Malcolm daughter of Isaac B. and Charlotte Malcolm. By his first marriage four children were born: Mary M. born 1856; George W. born 1863; Frederick born 1868; Susan H. born 1870.

Tommy was a carpenter for several years before turning his attention to farming. Besides serving on Council he was Steward at Oakland Methodist Church for twenty-five years and Recording Secretary for twenty years. He served four years as a Councillor and held the office of J.P.

Robert Eadie Jr. (1825-1879), farmer lot 6 Concession 3, north of Oakland village. born in Glasgow, Scotland Oct 28th 1825, son of Robert and Eliza (McLaws) Eadie. Robert Eadie, Sr., died May 25, 1882. Robert Jr. came to Canada in 1842, and on the 17th of Feb., 1851, married Martha Swift. Miss Swift was born in New York, Jan. 26, 1833, and when ten years of age came to Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Eadie were blessed with a family of eleven children, six sons and five daughters: Robert, Emily, Ebenezer, James, George, Andrew, Eliza, Martha, Beatrice, Charles and Ethel May. Of these Robert taught school one year, studied for the ministry, then taught in Guelph; George studied to become a dentist; Andrew studied medicine; Eliza married Samuel Eddy. Robert Eadie Jr. was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, and himself and wife members of the Congregational Church after coming to Canada. He purchased 200 acres of land in Oakland Township, north of Oakland village. A Reformer in politics, he filled several positions of trust and responsibility. Robert Jr. was a member of the Town Council for one year, and was for several years a Magistrate in Oakland Township, and also a Deacon in the Congregational Church. His death occurred Nov. 25, 1879.

Shuman Bingham (1799-1863)

Farmer, lot 6 concession I. In 1857, as one of the school trustees, he along with Robert Eadie signed a petition for the construction of a new school at Oakland, at a cost of 3000 pounds.

Edward Vanderlip

He was also a Magistrate in 1868 and succeeded Andrew Westbrook as Captain of the Militia. Edward lived north of the four corners, lot 7 Concession II, land later bought by

Perley Stratford. He is believed to have been the son of Robert Vanderlip (1796-1872) and Mary (1797-1870). Edward had a family of nine children.

George G. Biggar (1856-1933)

Farmer near Maple Grove - George was a market gardener and one of the leading citizens and community leaders of Maple Grove. On the right is George and his second wife, Margaret (Marr) Biggar. They were married by Reverend G.W. Down B.D. at Oakland on December 3rd, 1924. Margaret was the mother of David Marr of Maple Grove. George Gilbert Biggar married his first wife, Martha Elizabeth Binkley, on January 10th, 1900. She died September 10th, 1919. Their daughter, Aletha, born May 11th, 1901, married David E. Marr in 1923.



George and Margaret  
(Marr) Biggar

Isaac Kelly (1835-1912)

Farmer, lot 10 Concession II - served on Council over 20 years. His son, Wesley, followed him on Council and assumed the Reeves' office in 1926. In 1870, Councillors were paid \$5.00 per annum for their services.



Isaac Kelly

Wellington McAlister (1814-1897)

He occupied a council seat for over twenty years over and above his term as Reeve, in 1866.

James Eadie

Farmer near Maple Grove

Wm A. Stuart (1867-1935)

Shipping agent at Scotland

Thomas Barnes (1848-1932)

John Dymond (Diamond - 1846-1924)

## Henry "Hy" Key (1840-1925)

Farmer on the Downs place, lot 4 Concession II. He served on Council for seven years then took the Clerk's position, also served as Assessor in 1875 and was a J.P.



Hy Key

Henry was born in Cumberland County, England on Oct 11th 1840, son of George and Barbara (Benn) Key. The family migrated to Canada in 1845, settling in Oakland Township. Henry married Julia Ann Reynolds on May 21st 1868. They were the parents of seven children (two died young): James A. born 1868; Nettie L., born 1870; Barbara L. born 1872; Margaret E., born 1877; Henry O., born 1879.

Marcus Malcolm (1830-1903) woollen mill operator at Scotland, later moving to Brantford where he lived at 18 Palmerston Avenue. Marcus served on Council for twelve years, also Commissioner of Affidavits and J.P. In politics, he was a Liberal. He died at Brantford on Nov 11th 1903 of cancer. His wife, Huldah Ann Bugbee, migrated from Vermont.



Marcus Malcolm

Wm Case Malcolm (1826-1892), farmer south-east of Scotland, son of Duncan and Jane (Heron) Malcolm. Wm C. Malcolm married Amanda J. Harkinson in 1855. They had two children, Mary Malvina (Terryberry) and Eugene G. Malcolm. Wm also held the position of Constable.

Chas Vivian (1844-1914) - son of John Vivian (1810-1870). Both were grist mill operators.

## Horace Foster Jr. (1832-1908)

His father, Horace Sr. (1797-1881), opened the first hotel in Scotland. Both Horace Jr. and his brother, Alonzo (1819-1905) were well respected residents of Scotland, Alonzo having been appointed Clerk of the Division Court. The Foster family owned a farm south-west of Scotland on lots 1 and 2 Concession XIV Burford Township. The son of Horace Jr., Herbert W. Foster (1857-1942) was manager of the Crown Bank of Scotland.

David A. Holloway (1864-1951) - lived east of Scotland on the Oakland Road. He was the father of Jennie Holloway, a long time elementary teacher at Scotland.



James H. Poole (1871-1929)

Farmer, lot 8 Concession I. Jimmy Poole died suddenly of a heart attack while threshing at the farm of Russell Rammage. He was found slumped on his wagon with the reins to his team loose and unattended.

E. Earl Messecar (1880-1965)

Farmer, lot 3 Concession I - his father, Jacob, served three terms as Reeve.

Wm Cramer (1870-1935) farmer - married Eunice Burtis (1873-1955). Mr. Cramer ran for Reeve in 1923 but lost to Chas McIntyre.

Alfred Bonham (1880-1935)

Farmer, lot 11 Concession I

Chas D. Hunter - served on Council in the late 30's and was also Township Assessor - proprietor of Hunter's Lumber Supplies, Scotland

Claude Wright

Farmer lot 3 Concession I

Hazel (Riddle) Snodgrass (first female Councillor)

Wife of Jim Snodgrass, also a Councillor, farmers on lot 1 Concession V.



Hazel Snodgrass

Cleland Benfield (1909-1970)

Merchant and postmaster at Oakland

Walter Burrage (1891-1977) farmer and other pursuits. He lived in Oakland village with his wife Emily. They were the parents of five daughters.

Walter Schaeffer (1906-1969)

Merchant at the four corners in Oakland village.

Bruce Bonham

Farmer, lot 11 Concession I, son of Alfred, a former Councillor.

Bruce Hill

Retired farmer from Windham Township who moved to Scotland.

Bill Jenkins

Burnley Stratford

Farmer lot 5 Concession I

Percy Abbott

Tobacco farmer, lot 8 Concession I



Percy Abbott

Wm "Bill" Taylor

Bookkeeper - Hunter Lumber and Building Supplies of Scotland. Served as a Scotland Village Trustee.



Bill Taylor

Joan Gatward - wife of John Gatward, Deputy Reeve - Joan served three terms on Council.



Joan Gatward

Edwin Smith

Grist mill operator East Oakland

Jim Campbell - served on Committee of Adjustment and Planning Board - he gave sixteen years of service.

Larry Davis - elected in 1988 - farmer - son of Cecil Davis Reeve 1956 to 1959.

Carl Georgian



Larry Davis



Jim Campbell

**Councillors elected in 1991 were:**

Bev Bowen - assembler at Raymond Industrial Equipment Ltd., Brantford - Bev had served on Council for nineteen years and on various committees including the Community Centre Board, Cemetery Board, Library Board, Planning Committee and Committee of Adjustment - he was against any type of restructured government in the County.



Bev Bowen

Sylvia Meggs RN - served as a Scotland Police Village Trustee, Chairperson of Oakland Township Library Board and the Fire Board and secretary of the Oakland Township Community Centre Board.

Robyn Runhart - Tech teacher with Norfolk Board of Education - Director-Secretary of the Ginseng Growers Association of Canada.

## Appointed Officials

Fortunately, the Township has been favoured with an array of competent administrators, some holding the position on a long term basis, thus providing the continuity necessary for the ever changing Councillors. By far, the most durable of these was Percy M. Button (1870-1957). His credentials and experience as an educator at Robinson's Business College, together with an impeccable character, brought to the office of Clerk a measure of stability and trust for over half a century. Others served the Township in a similar way for up to twenty years.

To follow is a list of the Clerks, their tenure, and other biographical information about them;

1850 - John Toyne (1812-1874)

Mr. Toyne was appointed first Clerk, receiving six pounds per annum for his services. In 1852, this amount raised to thirteen pounds, ten shillings, with added duties as Clerk/Treasurer plus the rental of a meeting room at Toyne's combined residence store and post office. Mr. Toyne, postmaster for thirty-four years, died at Scotland on August 31st, 1874. He had resigned as Clerk on January 1st 1864.

1864 - Wm Vivian (1836 - 1921) - he was paid \$70.00 per annum.

Bill was a millwright by trade, a younger brother of John Vivian (1810-1870), grist mill operator. Bill's nephew, Charles (1844-1914), served on Council in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Bill Vivian moved to Tillsonburg and took up employment at Tilson's Mills. He took an active part in local politics there. After marrying Mary Yarrington (1842-1935), a son, Carmel (1864-1945), was born at Oakland. While in Oakland, this branch of the Vivian family lived directly across from the Mill Road, along the old #24 Highway, a house built by Bill Vivian following his marriage.

The house still stands, over a century later. The family are buried at Tillsonburg. Bill Vivian had been appointed Clerk on January 1st 1864 and resigned the position August 29th 1873.



Bill Vivian

## 1874 - Orrin Hutcheson Lawrence (1818-1880)

Born in New York on April 1st 1818, Orrin came to Canada sometime before 1854, settling near Waterdown where he became an agent for Equitable Life Insurance. Later, he came to Oakland. He was married on December 27th 1854, at Mohawk (Mount Pleasant), to Harriet Victoria Griffin. About 1865, Orrin took employment as a teacher at Scotland Common School, a position he held for a number of years. Harriet died at age 30 and is buried in the Scotland Cemetery. Orrin re-married to Eliza (Eddy) Carson, a widow, daughter of John Eddy (1804-1892) and Caroline McLeod.

Born to Orrin and Harriet were six children:

1. Mary Elizabeth - born 1856
2. Julie Harriet - born 1858
3. Charles Orrin - born 1860 - Charles married Fannie Marie Kelly at Oakland on January 3rd 1883. Fannie was the third daughter of Isaac Kelly (1835-1912) and Caroline Roberts (1837-1913) farmers on lot 10 Concession II. Isaac was active in municipal affairs. By Charles and Fannie Lawrence were three daughters. The family moved to Lowell, Michigan.



Circa 1904

Ariel (Sisson)      Clara (McCarty)      Lila (Fuller)  
 Charles O. Lawrence      Fannie M. (Kelly) Lawrence  
 (daughter of Isaac Kelly 1835-1912  
 and Caroline Roberts 1837-1913)

4. Cyrus Edmund - born 1862
5. Clara M. - born 1864
6. Jennie Victoria - born 1866



Orrin Lawrence was appointed Township clerk on August 29th 1873, serving for six years, until his sudden death on October 11th 1880. He was also Secretary/Treasurer of the Oakland School Board at a salary of \$10.00 per annum. Following his death, an investigation of missing school funds occurred and trustees Abraham Westbrook and John Proper were held liable for the loss because of their direct supervisory responsibilities over the office of School Board treasurer.

1880 - William Thompson Sr. (1801-1897) - appointed 18th October 1880 as a temporary replacement - Squire Thompson had served as Reeve in 1858/63, 1870/74 and 1876/77.

1881 - Henry "Hy" Key (1840-1925) - appointed on January 17th 1881.

Farmer, lot 4 Concession II. Later, he farmed on lot 6 Concession II. The latter farm was sold to Sylvester Stratford (1856-1943) about the year 1912. "Hy" married Julia A. Reynolds (1845-1921) and there were several children including: James Alton (1868-1904); Carl B. (1885-1920); Henry O. (1879-1903). In late life, Henry ran a fire insurance agency at Paris. In 1884, Mr. Key was paid \$94.21 for his services as Clerk and Division Registrar.



Henry Key

Henry served seven years as a Councillor, was the assessor in 1875, and held the appointment of J.P.

1901 - Mahlon Edy (1856-1909)

Farmer, lot 11 Concession II. Aside from his appointment as Clerk, Mahlon served on Council, holding the Reeve's office in 1899.

1903 - Henry Key (1840-1925)

(Second appointment as Clerk)



1905 - Percy M. Button (1870-1957)

Born at Greenwich on August 23, 1870, Percy migrated to Canada at eighteen, settling in Berlin (Kitchener). After moving to Oakland he married Lelith Maud Waugh (1877-1932), daughter of Tommy Waugh (1839-1901) and Susan Smith (1843-1910). They had three sons; Cyril, Reginald and Laverne. Their farm west of Oakland, on lot 5 Concession II, was the original Smith farm which was cleared for agriculture about 1835 by Lewis Smith (1814-1847), Lelith's grandfather who died in a logging accident at thirty-three years of age.



Percy Button

Percy's son Cyril lived in Paris. Reg and Laverne moved to Jacksonville, Florida.

Besides serving as Clerk for fifty-two years, Mr. Button taught for fifteen years at O. U. Robinson Business College in Waterford. An active church worker, he served in many positions at Oakland (Methodist) United Church. He was a member of the Scotland Masonic Lodge, the Order of Eastern Star and Canadian Order of Foresters.

Percy was the dean of Township clerks not only in Brant but in other surrounding counties. With business training and years of experience, his advice on municipal matters was sought far and wide, and wisely given. He had helped draft hundreds of Bylaws and had overseen the transition of over a dozen Councils. His sense of the public mood to important local issues always had a ring of truth. No wonder his counsel and advice generated a wide audience. The phone rang often at Scotland exchange 405 as Oakland's number one public servant and intelligencer helped others through difficult municipal decisions.

Municipality

## Township of Oakland

PERCY M. BUTTON  
TOWNSHIP CLERK  
PHONE SCOTLAND 405

Scotland, Ont., May 27, 1943

On Saturday June 11th 1955, a Testimonial Dinner honoured Mr. Button's half century of service to his community. Three hundred well wishers attended to pay tribute to a person whose service as Clerk was unparalleled in Brant County.

## Testimonial Dinner

In honour of

Percy M. Button

Clerk of The Township of Oakland

Oakland United Church

Saturday, June 11, 1955

1905 ===== 1955



### Entertainers:

Mrs. Don Graham, Mrs. Jack Eadie, pianist; C.D. Hunter, soloist; Mrs. Bruce Bonham, readings;

### Guest speaker:

Judge D.J. Cowan

Mr. Button re-married after Lelith's death. His second wife, Eva Kitchen, was appointed Assistant Clerk on December 14, 1945, at a salary of fifty dollars per annum. Just eight days after retirement, Percy died of a heart attack on January 8th 1957 at his home. He was found the next day by his grandson, Peter Button.

1957 - H. Edward "Ward" Irwin - a veteran of WWII - served as Clerk/Treasurer, Assessor and Relief Officer - formerly manager of a branch of the Toronto Dominion Bank - lived on lot 11 Concession I.

1965 - Mrs. Margery Gatward

The daughter of Albert "Bert" Smith and Myrtle Kelly, Mrs. Gatward served as Clerk, Tax Collector and Welfare Officer and was one of the first graduates of the Municipal Clerk/Treasurers Course. In 1967, H. Edward Irwin was named Deputy Clerk/Treasurer to assist her. Mrs. Gatward has been called upon as a substitute Clerk from time to time.



Marg Gatward

1981 - Betteanne Cadman - she worked at the Burford Township office and is now Clerk of Delhi Township.

1986 - Irma Harris - of Brantford, now living at Windham Centre where she works as an animal control officer for Norfolk.

1990 - Mrs. Susan Hitchon - of Brantford

Mrs. Hitchon had the appointments of Clerk/Treasurer and Tax Collector.

1992 - David Brenneman of Kitchener was appointed acting/clerk - treasurer. Mr. Brenneman holds degrees in environmental studies and political science from the University of Waterloo.

#### Tax Collectors

The first collector received six percent of all monies collected. The auditors got seven shillings, six pence. Those appointed collectors included:

Neal Lefler (1820-1889) was collector in 1884 - he was paid \$27.00.

Mahlon Edy (1856-1909), one of the early collectors

Maitland Edy (1880-1949), second generation to act as collector - he served in the position for over forty years.

J. Howard Edy (1905-1963), third generation to serve as collector.



Verna  
(Mrs. Howard)  
Edy

Helen  
(Mrs. Maitland)  
Edy

Maitland  
Edy

Joyce  
Edy

Howard  
Edy

#### Treasurers

The office of treasurer warranted a salary of two pounds ten shillings per annum in 1852. John Toyne (1812-1874), the Clerk, also held the office of Treasurer at this time. Charles Vivian served as treasurer in 1886 and was paid \$40.00. Payson Vivian (1876-1958) filled the position for over twenty years. His son, Lloyd, was appointed assistant treasurer on December 14, 1945 under the authority of Bylaw 567, which also made him Assistant Clerk and Constable. At various times the position has been combined with that of Clerk.

#### Assessors

The first salary paid to the assessor in 1850 was five pounds per annum. William Morin was the assessor in 1861. His salary was reduced from \$24.00 to \$15.00 per annum. In 1886, John Walker (1813-1900) served as the assessor. In 1924, Howard Smith held this somewhat sensitive position and Chas D. Hunter was appointed the assessor in the 30's.

**Road Superintendents:**

J. Merritt Crumback (1870-1953), East Oakland farmer at lots 13 and 14 concession I, held the appointment of Township road supervisor in the 30's.

Percy Stratford (1892-1972), farmer on lot 10 Concession III worked for the Township, part time, on road maintenance, succeeding Merritt Crumback. If not working his farm, he could be found on the gravelled township streets and roads with his team of horses and grader filling the ruts and levelling the grade. His amiable personality and appealing sense of humor made him a favourite personality who was always approachable as he travelled throughout the township by-ways. Percy's first cousin, Earl D. Secord (1884-1951) farmer on lot 10 Concession I, also a Township road supervisor, met an untimely death on September 4, 1951 while working at a gravel pit north of Scotland. He was run over by a gravel truck. At the time, Earls' mobility was impaired by a broken leg, causing him to use crutches. Earlier in the summer, he had been the victim of a "runaway" at the farm of Howard Edy, during threshing operations.

**Other appointments - circa 1945:****Fence Viewers -**

Otto Shearer, Perley Stratford, Clayton Smith, Ed Messecar, Lewis Burtch.

**Pound Keepers -**

Clayton Smith, Frank Tottle.

**Live Stock Evaluators -**

Stan Mordue, Ed Messecar and Clayton Smith.

**Truant Officers -**

Herman Persall, Fred McEwan.

## Fire Protection

Why have an organized fire fighting force in a small community like Scotland? The reason can readily be found after reading about one of the most damaging fires of the nineteenth century which destroyed Charles Van Dusen's drug and fancy goods store. The fire occurred on September 8th, 1891:

*"Fire was discovered issuing from the premises of Mr. Charles Vandusen's drug and fancy goods store in Scotland village yesterday. The alarm was immediately given and the villagers turned out. There were no fire appliances at hand, however, and nothing could be done save to protect the adjoining property. Pails of water were plentifully supplied and strong efforts made to save the fence in front and the valuable adjoining property of Dr. Malcolm. This was done successfully after a great deal of labor. Mr. Vandusen's store, however, was burned to the ground with the whole of his stock. The damage would be over \$1,000."*

(a quote from the Brantford Expositor)

The local bucket brigade, however well intentioned, was in no position to save the store and it went up in smoke. Scotland, a typical village with many wooden structures, was vulnerable. With no equipment, or at best it was primitive, with a lack of readily accessible water and without a local trained group to provide the leadership, fires such as the one that destroyed Van Dusen's commercial establishment could not be successfully brought under control. From accident, spontaneous combustion and incendiarism, dwellings and businesses have been left blackened and bare only to be re-built. With no fire protection, many early wooden structures were licked up by the darting fiery tongues of flame, many uninsured.

Ultimately, the Municipality allocated funding to buy a pumper, drawn by hand, which was stored under the bandstand at the Gore. With this basic equipment at their disposal, a hook and ladder crew became the forerunner of the present volunteer muster. The pumper was powered by a single cylinder gas engine, mounted on a four wheel cart. This motor driven machine was an improvement over the hand pumpers of that era which required up to six men to operate efficiently. Unfortunately, this primitive artifact was not preserved. It was loaned out to remove pump water from an irrigation site and stolen.



The Fire Department received a boost when a renovated garage was acquired early in the century to house the local Department's truck, and about ten cisterns were dug throughout the village. At that time, Willis Mackey headed the volunteer force while the bell at the United Church was commandeered to serve a dual purpose by sounding the alarm. An unusual, almost heavenly, event occurred in 1937 when lightning struck the United Church spire, causing a fire in the steeple, which rang the bell, and aroused the villagers. For the Congregation, it was Divine intervention!



The following Bylaws were passed, from time to time, to upgrade fire protection in the Township:

- (a) Bylaw #328, passed in 1924, authorized trustees to borrow \$1,000.00 for fire apparatus.
- (b) Bylaw #33, passed in 1933, allowed for the installation of fire cisterns.
- (c) Bylaw passed in 1936 permitted borrowing for a Fire Hall.
- (d) Bylaw #627, passed in 1950, created the Scotland Fire Protection Area.
- (e) Bylaw #630, passed in 1950, permitted borrowing of \$8,000.00 for a fire truck.
- (f) Bylaw #677, passed in 1954, permitted more cistern construction.

In 1960, John Shepherd, chairman of the Fire Area Board, opened the village's first new fire station. The one-storey cement block and brick building replaced the renovated garage which had been home to the village pumper truck for many years. The building, complete with siren, cost \$13,000.00.

Located on Simcoe Street, the fire station had three bays with an eye for future expansion.

The twelve-member volunteer fire brigade, so structured in 1951, not only served Scotland but an area of some forty-five square miles, taking in all of Oakland Township and part of Burford Township. The Scotland Fire Area, as it was called, was administered by a Board of two appointments from Burford Township, two from Oakland Township and two from Scotland Village. Bruce Hill became the first chairman and Oscar Gibson a member.

All building and equipment was financed through a levy on taxes from the municipalities receiving benefit from the brigade. The South Brant Lions Club donated a resuscitator to the brigade for rescue work. The more modern fire siren was now activated to alert villagers, who years earlier, were conditioned to respond to the church bell.

Present to officiate at the opening of the new station was:

Reeve Ken Hagerman, Chief Hunter and Inspector Bob Kaufman from the Fire Marshall's office. Kaufman, a native of Scotland and son of the Continuation School principal, served with the volunteer force before joining the Ontario Provincial Police in 1945.

Chief Charlie B. Hunter joined the department in the mid 40's. Appointed Chief several years later, he served in this capacity for over thirty years. The Chief was paid \$75.00 a year, the Deputy \$50.00 and firemen \$25.00 per annum. Chief Hunter was instrumental in having a new fire truck purchased the year after he was appointed head of the department. Twenty-five years later, in 1976, another truck was acquired at a cost of \$26,000.00. Jim Campbell, an electrician with Anders Electric, served as Deputy Chief. The new truck became one of three which were available to cover the Township, parts of neighbouring Burford, the City of Nanticoke and the Township of Delhi. With pumpers, a big tanker, fog and foam facilities, two way radios, Scott air packs and with the department now banded together as part of the Brantford Mutual Aid Association, Chief Hunter, his Deputy, his Captains and a volunteer force, numbering nearly twenty, now felt assured that a major conflagration could be controlled - a far cry from the bucket brigade of 1891 which fought the Van Dusen store fire.

The first recorded incendiary blaze in Burford Gore, the burning of Malcolm's grist and saw mills on Monday November 7th, 1814 following the battle the previous day, caused considerable damage. The Malcolm brothers were partially compensated through a war reparation claim - there was no insurance protection available at that time.



Markles General Store and Ice Cream Parlour at the top of Oakland Street, on Simcoe, burned to the ground at the turn of the century.



Probably the most devastating fire to occur in the Township happened at Scotland in the early morning of Wednesday April 14th 1886, thought to be of incendiaryism. With no fire fighting equipment, the blaze got out of control quickly. The Expositor reported on the conflagration, discovered by George Phillips (1829-1911), burning in a store which had been occupied by W. H. Finch for the three previous years:

QUOTE:

*About two o'clock this morning fire was discovered in the rear part of Mr. F. Finch's general store, and though every effort was made to stay the progress of the flames, the fire soon spread to a small building adjoining on the south side, and from there to the premises of John A. Eddy, occupied by him as dwelling and post office. The fire spread so rapidly that scarcely anything was saved.*

*Adjoining Mr. Eddy's premises was a brick store owned by E.G. Malcolm, the individual who figures so prominently in a recent suit at the assize court in Brantford. As Malcolm had sold his stock of goods there was little left in the store to burn, and here the devouring element stopped for want of more fuel.*

*The destruction of this row of buildings is a serious loss to the village.*

*Finch was partly insured, but his loss is as yet unknown. Eddy's loss is \$4,000, insured for \$2,500, Malcolm was insured to \$1,500.*

*The deed was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary, and there are strong suspicions entertained by the honest villagers as to who the fire-bug may be. Every effort should be made to discover the perpetrator of such a dastardly crime and secure for him his just deserts, a long term in the Penitentiary. No punishment could be too severe in such a case, where not only property is destroyed, but where the blazing buildings might just as well become the funeral pile of sleeping inmates. Every resident of the village should seek to ferret out and hand over the incendiary to the authorities.*

UNQUOTE

The owners did carry some insurance - E.G. Malcolm \$1,100.00; Finch \$2,500; J.A. Eddy \$1,600. Thus, the loss to the three owners was only partial.

The origin of this fire was indeed shrouded in mystery. Three stores and a house were levelled and because the origin of the fire was in a recently vacated building, suspicion of spite was whispered about as two of the persons burnt out were principals in a criminal court action being heard at the Brantford assizes.

The volunteer force at Scotland responded to the following blazes:

Markles Store, at the top of Oakland Street on Simcoe Street in Scotland - burned in the early 20th century.

About 1925, a barn fire at the farm of C. Cunningham of East Oakland destroyed his barn and a mutually owned threshing machine. The syndicate machine, owned by County Warden Chas McIntyre, Earl Burtch, Alfred Bonham, E.M. Edy, Merritt Crumback, George Crumback, Gordon Bonham, Herbert Burtch, was valued at \$4000.00. They carried partial insurance of \$1500.00.

Chas McIntyre (1875-1955), farmer on lot 12 Concession II, suffered a severe loss when his barn, livestock and machinery were destroyed on the night of January 24th, 1930. Mows of hay, granaries full of wheat and oats, horses, cattle and pigs were all trapped and consumed.

The Expositor, January 25th 1930 edition, reports as follows:

QUOTE:

*A loss estimated at \$25,000 on his farm buildings, as well as the loss of several head of valuable cattle and all the other contents of the buildings, was sustained by Charles McIntyre, Oakland road farmer, and a former warden of Brant county, when fire of unknown origin destroyed his barns on Friday afternoon.*

*The Brantford fire department was called out by a telephone alarm at 3 o'clock yesterday, Assistant Chief Kingswell responding with Firemen Lambert and Brown in the Reo truck. The barns, which ranked among the finest in Brant county, were found to be a roaring mass of flames when the firemen arrived on the scene, and utterly beyond saving. The contents of the barns, a car owned by a neighbor, including 21 head of cattle, three colts, and a pen of 60 pigs, as well as the year's supply of feed and several pieces of machinery, were burned to ashes with the buildings. A smaller building close proximity to the blazing barns, housing Mr. McIntyre's poultry and various farm implements had caught alight when the firemen arrived, but had not made any serious progress. With the aid of the Booster pump on the truck the men were able to save this building, only minor damage to the walls being suffered.*

UNQUOTE

Clarence Stratford's farm house, north-west of Oakland, burned to the ground on Nov. 23rd 1938.

SS#2 Oakland Public School, a brick building and landmark in the Township, burned in February, 1940.

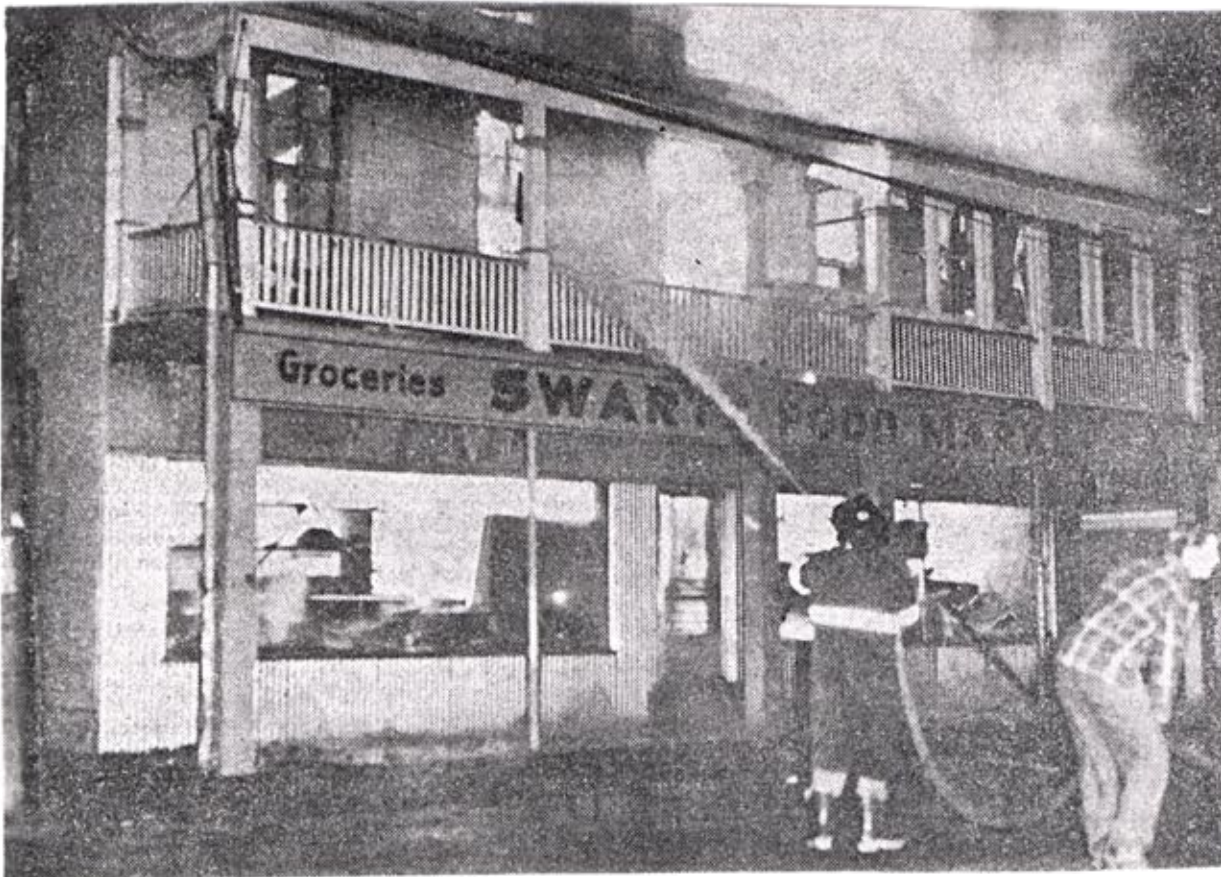
Harold Stratford's barn, north of Oakland, burned in August, 1942.

The Ruby Davis house, formerly the William Fleming property at Oakland, burned about 1950.



Harry Langs died of asphyxiation at his Simcoe Street home in Scotland on January 6, 1956. He was pronounced dead by Dr. H.R. Serles.

Swartz Lucky Dollar Food Market burned in March 1962. It was a 125 year old landmark at the top of Oakland Street in Scotland, originally a hotel. John Swartz estimated his loss at \$80,000.00. The upper floor had been converted to an eleven room apartment, where Mr. and Mrs. Swartz lived with their five children. Firemen from Scotland, Brantford and Burford fought the blaze, containing it to the one building.



The landmark building on the south east corner of Oakland and Simcoe Streets burns (a Brantford Expositor photo).

Perley Stratford's farm house, north of Oakland, burned on December 7, 1963. His wife, Clara Courtnage, perished.

Hewitts Store, the former post office and store of Ernest Thorne, burned on 22 Feb 1983.

Oakland Centennial Hall, formerly the C.O.F. hall, burned in 1984.



Ross Auto Body at Scotland was destroyed by fire on New Years' Eve, 1991/92.

In the mid 20th century a seasonal hazard was ever present, kiln fires. Tobacco kilns, of wood construction, using wood or coal in their furnaces, were vulnerable. The Department responded to many such calls, along with many fires at barns, sheds and grass fires.

G.E. Huff replaced Charlie Hunter as Chief.



On the left is the first Fire Area truck, next right the Buick truck and on the far right the original pumper (barely visible) on display in front of the Fire Hall.



The new Fire Hall at Scotland.



Charles Hunter of Scotland, third from left, received the Volunteer of Distinction Award for emergency services - 44 years as fire chief.

(the Brant News)

# CHAPTER 13

## Law and Order



The first settlers to arrive in Townsend Gore found the administration of justice far removed from them. The seat of government, consisting of Justices of the Peace who were appointed by the central government of Upper Canada, was located at Detroit. After 1800, the seat of government moved to Turkey Point. These men were upstanding citizens, and above all, they were loyal to the Crown. They received their appointments *not only to govern but to judge their peers.*

The Justice's responsibilities were varied. Justice, defense, policing, licensing of clergy and taverns, setting and collecting taxes, performing marriages, hearing petitions, education, welfare for the poor and destitute and other legal matters all fell within their purview. The meetings of the magistrates, held at least four times a year at Quarter Sessions, served a dual purpose. They governed as well as sitting in judgement at regular proceedings of a court of law. While now foreign to our present system of justice, for the dwellers of what would later become Oakland township, the Courts exercised all the powers that were later vested in county and township councils together with the added role of sitting at trials as a police magistrate. It was a well understood fact that the Lieutenant Governor of that era had little faith in open elections and preferred to appoint Country Squires of proven loyalty to the Crown to represent him throughout Upper Canada and to keep the peace.

By the Provincial Act 32nd Geo III Chapter 8 (1792) four Districts of Upper Canada were created. One, the Western District formerly the Hesse District, established by the British Act of Parliament in 1788, had within its territory the small triangular tract known then as Townsend Gore. The same Act of 1792 provided for the erection of a Goal and Court House in each District and described where they should be built.

For the first dwellers at Oakland, their seat of government and gaol was placed at "The Town of Detroit". By the Act 33rd Geo III chap 6 (1793) section 4, it was enacted "that the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the Western District shall commence and be holden in the town of Detroit on the second Tuesday

in the months of January, April, July and October" also "that a Court of Special Sessions of the Peace shall be held yearly, and in every year, in the Town of Michilimackinac on the second Tuesday in the month of July. By an Act 36 Geo III chap 6 (1796) "the place for holding the Courts was altered to the Parish of Assumption (Essex County), in such place as may now be found most convenient by the Magistrates of said Western District until it is expedient to them to remove same nearer the Island of Bois Blanc, being near the entrance of the River Detroit". (Historical records indicate that the Court House and gaol were built at Sandwich and not at Detroit as suggested.)

With Oakland being in the Western District, before the turn of the nineteenth century there was no immediate government authority available to them short of going by boat from Port Dover, via Lake Erie, to the Detroit area. Historical records fail to reveal whether anyone from the Oakland area was appointed to Court of Quarter Session at Detroit or whether any local dwellers were required to travel to this distant point to be heard or dealt with in a court of law.

In 1800, when the area became part of the London District which comprised Oxford, Middlesex and Norfolk counties and organized by the appointment of a general commission of the peace with the necessary officials to administer it, the Courts of Quarter Sessions were moved to Charlotteville, near Turkey Point, much closer for Oakland dwellers than Detroit. The authorities had no building of their own and went looking for a suitable location, choosing the residence and tavern of Lieutenant James Monroe, a settler of United Empire Loyalist stock. A temporary jail was erected near the Monroe house in 1800, a log building 25' x 14' divided into two halves, one for criminals the other half for debtors facing a jail term. Lieutenant Monroe acted as jailer while the facility was located on his property.

Having settled on the Monroe place as temporary quarters for the holding of Courts and the general administration of justice, an inaugural meeting was called on April 1st, 1800 for the purpose of carrying the Commission into execution. The first Quarter Sessions were set for the 8th of April at the same place. Courts continued at this location until 1804 when they were moved to the public house of Job Lodor, an inn-keeper at Turkey Point. (Job Lodor became active in building grist mills - one such mill was built by him at East Oakland.)

A temporary log jailhouse was authorized and built near the Lodor place and Mr. Lodor served as jailer, replacing Lieutenant Munroe.

In the fall of 1803, a contract for a new courthouse was let, to none other than Lodor. It was a frame building 40' x 25', two stories high with special appurtenances installed for the Bench and the Bar. The Courts were held on the first floor while the second floor housed the jury rooms. This new facility served the London

District, including Oakland residents, until the War of 1812 when it was turned over to the military for a headquarters and barracks. Following the war, a less exposed location was chosen to the northwest, at Vittoria. District Courts were moved to Vittoria even before the construction of their new court house and jail. The first meeting of the quarter Sessions was held in the new building on April 8th, 1817.

In so far as the administration of justice was concerned at this time, there was a noticeable absence of serious crime. Petty cases such as common assault were tried and dealt with. For disturbing the peace, a penalty of one shilling might be assessed. Prior to 1812, no statutory law was in place to compel the payment of debts. Historical documents show debts and alcohol, to be a root cause of many of the assault cases coming before the court, the delinquent often being harassed and "dunned" into payment by physical force until he was glad to acknowledge the jurisdiction of this "impromptu court".

At one of the early Sessions chaired by Samuel Ryerse, Magistrates Peter Teeple, John Beemer (of Burford Gore), Wm Spurgin, Wynant Williams, Wm Hutchinson and John Backhouse decided, along with advice from the Clerk of the Peace Thomas Welch (he surveyed Oakland in 1796) and the Sheriff Joseph Ryerson, to build moveable stocks and a whipping post. These rather naive guardians of law and order deemed, in their wisdom, such form of corporal punishment to be quite realistic and necessary for the suppression of unruly acts of riotous or offensive behaviour. Such recompense was the extreme humiliation imposed by the court on its citizens and was loathed with contempt by the populace. A crime felt deserving of public disgrace, with lashes to the back, was that of swindling your neighbour. Finlay Malcolm Sr. (1750-1829) of Oakland was threatened with "the stocks" following a verbal exchange with the Justices at the Court of General Quarter Sessions held at Charlotteville on the 14th of December 1802. At this Session, Finlay served as a Grand Juryman. Thomas Hornor of Woodstock, one of the Justices, requested of the Court to order Mr. Malcolm "to give up a Bond which he, as having been town Warden of Burford Gore, for some year then past, held against him". Another Justice, Samuel Ryerse (Chairman), said to Malcolm "the law says you ought to give up that Bond to your succeeding town Warden". Justice John Backhouse addressed Malcolm and said "you are a scoundrel and deserve your ears cropped and to be put in the stocks, if we had them we would put you in them for holding a Bond that is not your own". It was shortly after this exchange with the Oakland miscreant that the Court arranged to have a whipping post and stocks erected - thankfully for Finlay Malcolm Sr. they were not available earlier.



At the June 1805 Sessions, Burford Gore residents received the following appointments:

Finlay Malcolm Sr - Constable for the territory of Burford Gore (he served under the direction of Oliver Mabee the High Constable).

John Beemer - Justice of the Court of Request  
Wm Tyler Esquire - Justice of the Court of Request  
(both Beemer and Tyler were also appointed a Commissioner of Roads)

At the 1805 Sessions approval was given for the procurement of 12 staves (a symbol of office) for the Constables. They were to be seven feet in length with the name of the township on each staff. Two shillings six pence was allowed for the purchase of each staff.

At the June 14th, 1809 Court Sessions, a panel made up of Wm Hutchison the Chairman, Thomas Welch, Samuel Ryerse, John Beemer (of Burford Gore), Ben Mallory, Daniel Springer and Joseph Ryerse, found William and John Winegarden, who lived near the Oakland-Townsend town line, guilty of assault and battery and they were fined five shillings and court costs. Both were placed on a recognizance to keep the peace and be of good behaviour towards His Majesty and all his Liege Subjects, and in particular, towards Philip Sovereign. The term of recognizance was six months. They signed a bond of 20 pounds which they entered into along with John Malcolm (10 pounds) and Finlay Malcolm Jr. (10 pounds).

At the same Session, in an action titled The King vs Samuel Mosier, the defendant was indicted by the Grand Jury for "feloniously stealing one axe, the property of Noah Fairchild of the value of one shilling". The accused failed to appear and the case was set over the next Sessions. The informant in this case was the son of the Reverend Peter Fairchild. The Fairchild family settled near Boston and later moved to a farm at the south east tip of Oakland Township where they built a small church known as the Old Boston Church.

At the June 1809 Sessions, Charles Burtch of Oakland was sworn as a Constable and a Crier working under the direction of John Backhouse, High Constable. Charles was the son of elder David Burtch who settled in the township in 1796, the year of the survey. He was granted several hundred acres of land from the Crown but failed to make the required improvements and lost much of the land by default. His land holdings at Lower Oakland, Lot 12 Concession I were taken over by a son, Silas (1808-1880). In turn, his son Hamilton Burtch (1839-1898), an active elder at Oakland Methodist Church, farmed the original homestead at Lower Oakland. At the same Session, in 1809, John Winegarden pleaded guilty to assaulting Daniel Malcolm (1777-18 ) and was fined two shillings six pence. The second son of Finlay Malcolm Sr., Daniel and his family moved away from Oakland and settled at Tillsonburg.

The following Oakland dwellers are recorded as having been involved in proceedings at the 1809 Session;

John Malcolm (1776-1846) mill operator  
 Finlay Malcolm Jr. (1779-1862) farmer and grist mill operator  
 Chas Eddy Sr. (1781-1852) farmer, lots 1 and 2 concession III, north of Scotland  
 John Beemer  
 Swain Corliss of East Oakland - he was wounded five years later at the Battle of Malcolm's Mills.

At the June 1815 Session, William Everingham was appointed Constable for Burford Gore.

A month later, at the July 1rst 1815 Session, a Lower Oakland pioneer, Charles Burtch, was accused of illicit trafficking in liquor;

The King        }  
           vs            } For selling liquor without licence.  
 Chas Burtch}

Cornelius Slaght sworn.  
 Peter Shoemaker Constable for Walsingham  
 Ordered that the Clerk do issue a Bench Warrant for Charles Burtch of Burford Gore to appear at the house of Thomas Finch in Charlotteville on the 22nd inst. Said Warrant issued at Court given to John Manuel.

The Court is adjourned till the 22nd instant.

R. W. Dease  
 Clerk of the Peace

Court sat on July 22nd 1815 and another Oakland inhabitant faced punishment for contempt of court;

July 22nd Finlay Malcolm Junior fined Three Pounds for Contempt of Court. Fine paid Sheriff.

(John Backhouse Esquire, James Mitchell and William Hutchison sat on the bench during the latter proceedings.)

August 12th, 1815

District of } The Special Sessions of the Court holden  
London to wit } at the house of Thomas Finch in Charlotteville  
on the Twelfth day of August in the Fifty fifth Year of the Reign  
of Our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of the  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King Defender of the  
Faith. Before the Justices of Our Lord the King assigned to Keep  
the Peace in the said District and also to hear and determine  
*divers felonies trespasses and other misdemeanours* in the said  
District Committed.

Present in Court were: John Backhouse  
Wm Hutchison  
Thomas Bowlby

Among others, the following Constables from Oakland were called at this Session;

Finlay Malcolm Jr. (1779-1862)  
John Malcolm (1776-1846)  
Haggai Westbrook (1772-1821) farmer lots 7 and 8 Concession  
I

Alex Westbrook, son of Haggai (1772-1821)  
Jacob Yeigh, son of John Yeigh - this family took up arms in the War of 1812 and Jacob later became involved in the Scotland uprising of 1837.

Two cases dealt with at the Session involved one George Ryerson for selling spirituous liquors without a license and John Martin for selling liquor by retail without a permit.

The Courts were moved from Turkey Point to the village of Vittoria in 1815. Firstly, sessions were held at the house of Thomas Finch and then at Mathias Steele's place. This was authorized by an Act 55, Geo III Chap 9. A court house, built of brick at a cost of 9000 pounds, accommodated the Courts after 1822. Unfortunately, the building burned in November of 1825. The Courts were removed to St. Thomas and then to London where a permanent structure was erected to serve the London District. Instead of going south to Lake Erie, Oakland citizens now had to travel west by stage coach some forty-five miles to attend the quarterly Sessions. They expressed their displeasure but it was still many years before their grievances were seriously addressed.

Appointments:

- Constable - 1816 - James Malcolm (1800-1854) son of Finlay Sr. - James was a farmer on lot 2 Concession II.  
Adam Yeigh (a brother of Jacob)  
Archibald Burtch, farmer at Lower Oakland.
- Constable - 1817 - Robt Lynnburner  
John Tyler  
Jonathon Stevens
- Constable - 1818 - Horatio Fowler  
John Brown  
Joseph Davis  
(these three worked under the direction of Caleb Wood, High Constable. Caleb lived at Lynnville in Windham Township. His daughter, Angeline (1811-1871), married the Rev Wm Rammage, an Oakland-Townsend circuit rider for the Methodist New Connexion Church.

In todays society we hear much about women's rights and blatant sexual abuse. It is apparent that our forefathers faced similar wrenching issues and, to the best of their ability without professional guidance or intervention, they dealt with crimes against the person with as much understanding, logic, compassion and jurisprudence as was known and understood at that time. One such case came before the July 1817 Sessions presided over by Chairman John Backhouse. The accused, Mathew Gilmore, was presented and indicted for "living in a lewd manner with his daughters Anna and Eliza Gilmore". An order was made that a Bench Warrant be issued to bring Mr. Gilmore before the next Assizes. Gilmore was ultimately convicted and sent to jail.

The inconvenience endured by jurymen and accused alike to attend court sessions at Lake Erie was a long standing grievance of the residents of Oakland and Burford. They were summoned to travel by horse and carriage over fifty miles round trip. The usual practice was to have their wives prepare a pack of provisions for their stay of several days away from home. With mounting complaints about lack of recompense and the difficulties of leaving their homes and farms for an extended period of time, a decision was finally made to relocate, spurred on by necessity for new quarters, when the court house at Vittoria burned in November of 1825. The Courts were transferred to London in 1826 which brought government services marginally closer but still too distant. With the division of the London district in 1837, Oakland Township was transferred to the newly created Brock District, Woodstock becoming the Seat. The first Court session followed in April of 1840, again another reduction in travel for Oakland dwellers. When Oakland became the smallest township of Brant County in 1852, their struggle for convenient services became a reality but it had taken half a century to accomplish.

The Brant County Court house and adjoining jail, (built to hold 20 prisoners) were erected almost immediately on land purchased from the Six Nations for the sum of \$10.00. County expenses for the year were estimated at 1,095 pounds, which included the payment of one-sixth of the debt created for erection of the Court House and jail. Of this amount, Oakland was apportioned 40 pounds, 15 shillings, seven pence. Aside from Sheriff Smith's appointment, other officials appointed in 1853 were; Stephen James Jones first County Court Judge; T.S. Shenstone, Registrar; John Cameron, Clerk of the Peace; Wm Murphy, Inspector; E.B. Wood, Clerk of the County Court; Wm H. Burns, Registrar of the Surrogate Court. The flag flew for the first time over the Brant County Court House and Jail on June 22nd, 1853 with Warden Eliakim Malcolm of Oakland Township officiating on this special occasion.

Administrative matters handled by the County Council in 1859 concerning the jail recommended that each prisoner receive a daily allowance of 1/2 lb. fresh meat, 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. potatoes, other vegetables plus soap. Authorization was made for the gaoler to be paid 20 cents per day, per prisoner. Another expenditure authorized by Council early in its first mandate was the payment for jurors to the Assize Court, Quarter Sessions of the Peace and County Court in the amount of three shillings nine pence per day and two pence per mile beyond the first six miles of travel. For Oakland jurors, their travel allowance amounted to eight pence.

In 1875, Bylaw number 91 received assent and provided for the payment of a reward of not less than \$20.00 for the apprehension of horse thieves in the County.

The now defunct Courts of Quarter Sessions not only recommended the appointed officials such as the Clerk of the Court, the Surrogate and Registrar of Surrogate Court, Treasurer and Commissions of roads but also other legal and quasi legal officials such as the Coroner, Clerk of the Peace, Judge and Clerk of the District Court and the Sheriff. One of the first Sheriffs appointed in 1800, with jurisdiction over Oakland residents, was Colonel Joseph Ryerson of Norfolk. When Oakland came under the jurisdiction of the Brock District in 1837 Sheriff James Carroll presided. When Oakland joined Brant County, John Smith of Paris became their first Sheriff and served from 1853 to 1885. He was followed by W. J. Scarfe from 1885 to 1890; W. Watt from 1890 to 1909; W. H. Ross from 1909 to 1914; J. W. Westbrook was appointed in 1914.

Many township citizens held the appointment of Magistrate, commencing at the turn of the nineteenth century. The following, among others, were so appointed;

1802 -	Squire Wm Tyler
1850 -	Hervy M. Baldwin (1827-1905) farmer lot 5 Concession III
1870 -	Chas Chapin (1808-1871) - farmer lot 3 Concession III



- 1869 - Lyman Chapin (son of Chas) - farmer lot 3  
Concession III
- 1837 - Andrew Eadie - a farmer at East Oakland - in the  
mid century he owned and operated the grist mill  
known then as Millford Mills.
- 1869 - Robert Eadie - farmer lot 6 Concession III
- 1865 - Constant Eddy (1817-1892) farmer lots 1 and 2  
Concession III
- 1869 - John Eddy (1804-1892) farmer lots 12 and 13  
Concession I - an older brother of Constant.
- 1876 - Francis Foster
- 1833 - Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874) the first Reeve of the  
Township
- 1850 - Shubael D. Malcolm (1814-1878) farmer lots 5 and 6  
Concession I
- 1869 - Isaac B. Merritt (1830-1911) farmer lot 3  
Concession II - son of Caleb Merritt (1798-1874)
- 1840 - James Racey of Mohawk Post Office
- 1850 - Wm Thompson Esquire (1801-18 ) blacksmith and  
farmer lot 8 Concession III
- 1868 - Edward Vanderlip (1793-18 ) - he served on  
Council.

The tenure of Magistrates' appointments, in some cases, extended over a period of years. By the Act 33 George III Chapter 5 (1793) Magistrates were permitted to marry any person residing over 18 miles from a Church of England minister, and they were required to post up in some public place, the following notice: - "Whereas, - and - are desirous of intermarrying with each other, and there being no parson of the Church of England living within 18 miles of them; all persons who know of any just impediment why they should not be joined in matrimony, are to give notice thereof to - Esquire, of -, one of her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the - district." The Justices were also required to use the same ceremony as was used in the Church of England, but there was no fine imposed by the Act for non-compliance.

Squire Wm Tyler of Burford Gore, a Magistrate by appointment, performed the first marriage in the area, in the year 1803. In a civil ceremony, he married Charles Eddy (1781-1852) of Scotland and Sarah Malcolm (1774-1860), daughter of Finlay Malcolm Sr. founder of Oakland.

Many Township residents have held positions with the legal system.

#### Clerk of the Fifth Division Court:

- 1840 - 1853 - Mr. Foquett
- 1867 - Alonzo Foster (1819-1905) of Scotland village
- 1896 - Walter E. Hooker (1854-1931) the postmaster  
at Scotland from 1901 to 1931
- 1891 - Dr. John Rolph Malcolm (1839-1895) a local  
medical practitioner and owner of the  
Scotland grist mill and foundry.

Bailiff (5th Division Court)

1869 - John G. Pettit (1825-1899) husband of Lucinda Winegarden (1842-1929).

Attorney at Law (practice at Scotland)

Francis Hicks Malcolm of Scotland, born about 1848. He was the son of Augustus Malcolm (1820-1896) and Sarah B. Bugbee, leading citizens of Scotland for over half a century.

When Ontario was called Upper Canada, the responsibility for law enforcement rested with the Justices, the Sheriffs, the Bailiffs and the Constables. In May of 1793, parliament at its second session, passed a law providing for the appointment of a High County Constable for each District. As Oakland was then Townsend Gore in the Western District, the appointment went to a person in Norfolk. This official had the power to appoint non-paid Constables "to assist him in every parish, township or other place". The military served as a back-up in the event of serious crime or unrest.

By 1830, trends in crime changed causing the system to break down. Serious crime had increased but there were no long term institutions, such as a penitentiary, to incarcerate these inveterate criminals. The Government responded in 1835 by building Kingston Penitentiary. Stiffer prison sentences were invoked to deal with the hardened criminal element. Anna Jameson wrote in 1838 "the whole frontier district of Upper Canada is not only remarkable for the prevalence of vice, but of dark and desperate crime".

Because of the limited number of enforcement people available then to combat crime, the offering of rewards was a tactic used to involve the public in the problem. The Upper Canada Gazette, in 1840, offered a twenty-five pound reward for the "apprehending and bringing to justice" of one KA-KAS-SEP (Jacob Cook-a-Din-na) an Indian accused of assaulting and raping Elizabeth Johnson. Oakland Township inhabitants saw the reward system in practice, first hand, following the Scotland Uprising of December 1837. Several of their own including two of the Malcolms, Finlay and Eliakim, had a price of two hundred and fifty pounds placed on their heads for information that would lead to their capture - their crime "traitorously in arms against their Sovereign". In 1868, a reward was offered through the Expositor for information leading to the discovery of Peter J. McIntyre of Oakland Township who went missing

on New Years eve. His relatives offered \$70.00 for information concerning him, twenty dollars to anyone discovering his whereabouts and \$50.00 to anyone advancing information that would lead to a conviction of those who had done away with him. Peter J. McIntyre was the son of Peter Sr., a farmer at Lower Oakland.

Business proprietors and homeowners alike found the reward system effective in the recovery of stolen property. Frequently, there were ads in the Scotland Sun offering a handsome reward for the return of property, with no questions asked. A clever and enterprising thief found the custom profitable and much to his advantage in disposing of "hot goods".

In 1858, the Municipal Institutions of Upper Canada Act was passed which authorized cities and towns to form their own police forces. Two years later The Appointment of Constables Act allowed the Court of General Sessions of the Peace to make appointments of proper persons to be constables in their respective Counties, in the case of Oakland, Brant County. These were replaced by the Police Act of Ontario in 1949.

In the case of Scotland, because most crime occurred after darkness, patrolling was done by the "night watch" system. Constable Secord, referred to elsewhere in this chapter, was a county constable with responsibilities to investigate criminal offenses throughout the County; including the Township of Oakland. The forerunner of the O.P.P. was a salaried provincial constable, appointed in 1875, as a detective for the Government of Ontario to work under the Attorney Generals' Office. In 1909, particularly because of the lawless element working in the Northern mining industry, the organization of the Ontario Provincial Police occurred. Once motor traffic replaced the horse and buggy, the O.P.P. were assigned to patrol #24 Highway, from Brantford to Simcoe, through Oakland Township.

Without question, for the law abiding pioneers, the unregulated sale and the availability of alcohol was a major cause of lawlessness and disorder in their midst. Drink was easily accessible, in unlimited quantities, and cheap. The distillery and the grist mill were the first businesses to open in the hamlets of Upper Canada. In Burford Gore there were several public liquor outlets, notably at Fiddler Ann's corner, at the Oakland House located at the four corners and at least two taverns at Scotland were within easy travel by horse and carriage. Also, the Red Tavern at Maple Grove opened before 1850, operated by Thomas Wesbrook.

Whisky was not only served over the counter but was offered freely as a favour, by the pail full, at barn raisings and other work bees as well as at social gatherings. It is said "liquor flowed like water" during the raising of Vivians Mill in the summer of 1842. The Government of the day had not yet seized on the idea of taxing booze, and indeed, was hesitant to do so as this would promote the illicit trade. When Finlay Malcolm Jr. and his brother

John ran the grist mill, they operated a small distillery and became a local commercial supplier of whisky. On December 5th, 1813, Finlay sold ten gallons to the military authorities for troops on the march to Port Dover to engage the Americans.

The original inn of Isaac B. Malcolm, later operated by Timothy Shavelear, has a history filled with intrigue. The story is told that Tim was disturbed after closing hours by a local customer seeking more booze. After some banging at the front door, Tim opened his upstairs bedroom window, and with little warning, dumped the contents of a bed chamber over the intruder. Yes, Tim's conspicuous sign at the entry-way to the bar "NO DRINKS SOLD TO DRUNKARDS" was enforced, even after hours! While it would be reasonable to conclude that this quiet pastoral community could not possibly be tarnished with the same alcohol scourge of other larger centres, such was not the case in the mid nineteenth century. Alcohol was simply too available and too cheap not to be abused. Its impact on the staid life style of the rural folk was significant. Drunkenness was deemed to be a vice rather than a misdemeanour. Its sequel precipitated many to go into debt or to steal to keep their habit alive. In years past, you could go to jail for a debt, even a trifling one, causing many a family severe hardship and heartache. Two Bylaws, one in 1875 and another in 1880, attempted to prevent the occurrence of "outrageous offences" but legislation alone had little impact.

In his opening address to fellow Councillors during the first session of the Brant County Council on January 24, 1853, "Liak" Malcolm of Oakland alluded to the unwarranted presence of too many "distilleries, breweries and low grog shops, the enemies and destructives of a great portion of the race". His remarks were proof positive that the municipal fathers were sensitive and concerned about the alcohol issue. In 1891, Bylaw #95 prohibited the sale of spiritous liquor within the Township and, in 1916, a Temperance Officer was appointed to further supervise the curtailment of liquor abuse.

In Liak Malcolm's day, the philosophy of sentencing and the general principles of jurisprudence placed no credence in reform or rehabilitation, just harsh punishment. A poor miscreant from nearby Windham Township was sentenced to be hanged for treating his horse in a cruel manner. Fortunately, the Governor of the day, in his wisdom, commuted the sentence. Whipping or flogging could legally be imposed. In the early part of the nineteenth century, one might find himself on public display in the stocks, the sadists amusing themselves by throwing rotten eggs or rocks to taunt the disgraced soul.

The first person to be hanged in the area was a negro for the crime of arson at Culvers place, near Simcoe. This occurred in 1813. Sheriff James Bostwick handled the proceedings together with Job Lodor, the gaoler. It being a public hanging, the customary crowd of fun-seekers attended.

One of the first recorded offenses against property in Burford Gore occurred in 1813 when the log house of Richard Howey, a recent settler from the Niagara area, was raided by a band of Indians during his absence on duty with the Militia. The dwelling was stripped of most valuables including furniture, bedding and clothing. Howey applied for compensation after the war, and at the hearing, a neighbour James Bennett of East Oakland living on lot 13 Concession II, testified that he and his neighbour Elizabeth Olmstead had followed the culprits beyond the Grand River swamp to recover Howey's stolen horses and personally witnessed an Indian wearing Howey's pants. Howey got his compensation. This case illustrates the vulnerability of the settlers to rogues and thieves, taking privileges with little risk of being apprehended. A police presence was not readily at hand and the people of a community tended to band together for their own security as well as to protect their property from law-breakers - an early form of the present day "neighbourhood watch" program.

While Oakland Township was always perceived to be a quiet, law-abiding place to live, free from the invidious activity that might be found in one of the more populous centres, it was obvious that crime had no boundaries. A robbery and subsequent execution, with an Oakland connection, occurred outside of Paris on April 14th 1859 when Launcelot Adams, a mail carrier, was travelling by horse and carriage to Brantford with the daily mail and negotiable currency. Two negroes, John Moore and Robert Over together with one Joseph A. Armstrong, accosted Adams on his regular run to Brantford. They shot him and stole his bag. The two negroes were convicted of murder and were subsequently hanged at a public execution on the Court House grounds at Brantford on June 7th of that year. As it was considered a sign of loyalty to attend a public hanging, people of all ages and sexes assembled to witness the spectacle, overseen by Sheriff Smith. The victim was the son of J. Q. Adams, a tavern keeper at Oakland.

In the mid nineteenth century, crime received a high priority. The hanging of the two negroes took place just two months after the murder. The Brant Weekly Expositor, June 10th, 1859 edition, described the hanging. It was reported that at least 8000 curious dwellers assembled for the spectacle, some from Oakland Township. The O'dell tavern at Fiddler Anns' Corner was a customary stopping place enroute to Brantford. The locals left on Monday evening, June 6th, stopped for refreshments at their favourite watering hole, and continued on to Brantford for the hanging early the next morning. All night long, the Old Indian Trail, leading through Oakland to Maple Grove to Mohawk (Mount Pleasant) resounded with the tramping of horses feet. It is said one tavern keeper counted several hundred teams passing by, their loads containing men, women and children. And what did they see? The local paper described the squalid scene;

*"At 10 minutes to 9, the procession from the gaol to the scaffold took place. Immediately following the Sheriff, came the Rev. Messrs. Davidson and Hawkins, and*

after them the two criminals. They wore no clothing except a clean white shirt and trousers. They walked with a firm step up to the platform. Moore exhibited a little more stoicism than Over. They each had a rope round his neck, and their arms were pinioned. Following them came the hangman, who wore a mask. This functionary might as well have been dispensed with, as he appeared to us to be of little use. Drs. Griffin and Bown were also on the scaffold, as well as several reporters for the Hamilton and Toronto papers, and other gentlemen. After the legs of the prisoners were pinioned, and the rope attached to the horizontal beam above, Mr. Davidson stepped forward and said that they begged through him to say to the public, that they had made a full confession of the crime for which they were to suffer death, but that it would not be published till after their execution. [We give the confession above.] They also desired to express their gratitude to the Sheriff of the county, John Smith, Esq., and to the gaoler, Mr. Geo. C. Keatchie, for their kind attention and christian treatment of them during their confinement. They also indulged an humble hope that through the atoning blood of him who died to save sinners, they might receive mercy at the judgement seat of God. Mr. Hawkins then offered up a prayer, which was followed by a prayer by Mr. Davidson. The hangman then drew a white cap over their eyes, adjusted the noose around their necks, and just as they commenced to sing the hymn

"Hark from the tomb - "

the fatal bolt was drawn, and Over and Moore were launched into the presence of their Maker.

After hanging about 20 minutes, the Doctor pronounced them to be dead, and their bodies were taken down. Neither of their necks were broken, so that they must have died from strangulation."

The crowd dispersed and went back to their homes, some travelling thirty miles. They had been up for twenty-four hours without sleep and their horses needed a rest as well.

Lest you be too critical of these thrill-seekers, who went on a sort of a Roman holiday to witness a grisly hanging, it should be pointed out that there was patriotism in attending a hanging. By so doing, they bestowed credibility to a justice system which still believed that "the punishment should match the crime".

Some convicted of serious offences which could result in the death sentence were relieved when it was invoked. The 140 cell penitentiary, built in 1835 near the rocky terrain at Kingston where the availability of stone for hard labour and easy access to troops in case of a riot were favourable features, had a reputation of imposing harsh and severe living and working conditions on its inmates. They spent their days at hard labour in the rock quarries



and their nights in private cells. The cells were 30 inches wide with a bed hinged to the wall and a bucket for waste. Some offenders preferred to die rather than face years in this penal colony.

Canadians preferred the scaffold to the American way. Authorities had studied electrocution but found the technique lacked precision, was susceptible to failure and in the eyes of the law-makers much more vile. On the same day that Township folk learned of the passing of one of their most revered citizens, Squire Thompson (1801-1897), they read of a sobering, step by step, portrayal of an electrocution just across the border. Was the death more grisly than death on the gallows witnessed by many Oakland dwellers thirty years earlier? You be the judge bearing in mind it took four bolts and seven minutes for a declaration of death:

"They shocked Robert J. Powley's soul out of his body at Auburn at 11.10 o'clock this morning, wife murderer that he was.

At 11 o'clock Warden Mead formed the witnesses in two lines in the long main hall of the prison, with a burly guard at their head. The men who came to see Powley die marched through the corridors to the little whitewashed death chamber down in the depths of the prison.

Electrician Davis was there. He had a bank of incandescent lights across the arms of the chair. Just as the party entered the chamber he turned the electricity, with a sudden flash, through the lights, and the room became intolerably light. There were three rows of chairs for the spectators. The men sat down. Then the warden cautioned everybody to remain seated, no matter what happened, and the guards went after their man Powley from Niagara Falls.

It was 10 minutes after 11 o'clock when the door leading to the corridor where the condemned men are kept swung open. Warden Mead walked in. Then came the Rev. C.N. Clement Brown of St. John's Episcopal Church, in full vestments, reading from that beautiful passage of Scripture beginning: "I am the resurrection and the life".

Powley walked close behind. He was pale, very pale, but he walked firmly and needed no support. In his right hand he held a small silver crucifix. He walked to the side of the chair and stood looking curiously at the witnesses. His eyes fell on District Attorney Hopkins of Niagara County. Powley started, and stretched out the hand containing the crucifix. "Can I make a speech?" he said. "I would like to say a few words." A guard took Powley by the arm and brought him in front of the chair. "Mr. Hopkins," said Powley, "Mr. Hopkins, you know all about my wife." The guard took Powley by the arm and brought him in front of the chair. "Mr. Hopkins," said Powley, "Mr. Hopkins, you know all about my wife." The guard pushed Powley down into the chair. "Mr. Hopkins," the condemned man said again, "you were prejudiced against me." Mr. Brown stopped reading and said, warningly, "Robert, prepare your soul to meet your God."

By this time Powley was in the chair and almost strapped. The electricians were fixing the electrodes.

Just before the hood was placed over Powley's face he said very distinctly: "Mr. Hopkins, I forgive you."

Then the hood was pulled over his mouth, but from behind it came muffled ejaculations of, "Oh, God, have mercy on my soul," "Oh, God, forgive me for my sins."

Powley called on his Maker continuously until the warden lifted his finger, the electrician turned the switch and the electricity shot through his body. The body strained against the straps, the hands clasped and unclasped and after about 45 seconds the switch was turned off and body fell back limply into the chair. There were four contacts. The first was made at 11.10 o'clock, and at 11.23 o'clock the doctors said the wife murderer was dead."

Under the British law, applicable in this country until 1859, over 200 offences including minor theft were punishable by death. Later, only murder, treason and rape fell in this category. Effectively, in 1976, parliament abolished capital punishment. For our forefathers, however, the perceived deterrent to crime was to punish the offender quickly, harshly, and without compassion.

An incident in 1869 aroused local interest, as reported in The Expositor;

*"The quiet village of Oakland was surprised when Mrs. Brown, wife of the proprietor of a tavern here eloped with a teamster named Morrison. The latter sent a horse and buggy from Brantford and she and one of her children and \$100.00 of Brown's money joined Morrison here. The husband is nearly out of his mind about the money she took with her."*

The following articles appeared in the Expositor;

*June 3, 1870*

*Some time during the night of the 25th, burglars looted the store of Henry Lyman, the Post Master, stealing some twelve hundred dollars in gold.*

(Mr. Lyman held the postmaster's position at Scotland from 1852 until his death in 1879.)

Robberies at Scotland, Oakland and Boston occurred in November 1867. An eighteen year old was arrested for stealing goods and money from the home of Rev. D.B. Montgomery, Baptist minister at Scotland. He also stole jewellery from Simon Nelles of Boston and a horse and buggy from John Bryce who lived at Secords' school house in Lower Oakland.

August 19, 1870, from the Expositor Correspondent:

*Corresponding for a newspaper from this village is not a safe business, especially if one should happen to dabble a bit too much in personalities. Although I do not pretend to be much of a correspondent yet, a young fellow threatened to "bust my nose" for an account having appeared in your paper a few months ago, of a skirmish between a couple of 'Teutons' of which he was one.*

Another incident of interest concerning an Oakland resident was reported in the Expositor about 1870;

*"If he had only done what he purposed doing on Friday last, a farmer from the township of Oakland would have been richer by \$3.50 than he was when he returned home on Saturday afternoon, after an audience with the police magistrate in Brantford. He didn't put bells on his harness and came to town without the merry jingle that warns pedestrians of the approach of the prancing steed over the smooth surface. For his neglect he contributed to the town treasury the amount mentioned."*

Years ago, many local disputes were settled by arbitration, thus keeping the courts free of petty cases. One such case, reported in the Scotland Journal, May 1885 edition. It reads as follows;

*An arbitration case took place a couple of weeks ago between Mr. Morgan Silverthorn and Mr. W. H. Finch, in regard to fruit trees, damaged by Mr. Finch's horse, he having the property rented from Mr. Silverthorn. Mr. Finch was assessed damages to the extent of \$50.00 and \$7.00 cost. The Arbitrators were Messrs. Augustus and William Malcolm, Mr. Aaron Erb, referee.*

Morgan Silverthorn (1832-1915) and his wife Jean McInytre (1828-1920) lived near Scotland as did Augustus Malcolm (1820-1896), one of the arbitrators. The other arbitrator, Wm Case Malcolm (1826-1892), was a farmer on the Duncan Malcolm homestead south of the village.

Shortly after Dr. Wm J. Glassford settled in Scotland, his chicken coop was raided. Yes, on February 23rd 1893 this new practitioner experienced the reality of semi rural living when his egg source dried up. Local thieves relieved him of all his laying hens. As the local paper described the event, "chicken thieves have been operating freely in this village for sometime". In November of the same year there was still a pattern of petty thievery in the area: "fowls, including turkeys and chickens are disappearing throughout the township of Oakland, Burford, part of Brantford and Townsend, and all efforts to find the thieves have been fruitless. Mr. Francis Smith of Mt. Pleasant had 15 turkeys weighing fifteen to thirty pounds each stolen from his fowl house. He reported the loss to the police and together with County Constable Ashbaugh he went to the premises of George Conlen who lives at Scotland and searched the premises. They found no trace

of the fowls but returned the next day and searched a swamp area. In a dry ditch they found the lost turkeys and others. Meantime Conlen has disappeared."

Scandal rocked the village of Scotland in the spring of 1886, which was ventilated at the assizes in Brantford, and implicated a number of prominent local residents. Figuring prominently in the action was businessman and store owner, E. G. Malcolm. Suspiciously, Mr. Malcolm's store and several other buildings were levelled in a fire as the court case proceeded. Spite was whispered about, giving more sensationalism to the whole affair which was widely covered in the press. The accused, postmaster John A. Eddy (1855-1943), was acquitted on a charge of theft.

Scotland, a small village with only sporadic police presence, has witnessed at least three sensational crimes - bank hold-ups. The first occurred on Saturday, October 3rd, 1936. This was a "shoot-out" involving the manager, J. C. Moore and the robber William Thomas of Hamilton who knew the area well, having worked on the T. H. and B. as a section hand. The second occurred on December 10th, 1959 when two gunmen robbed the bank of \$10,000.00 and the third occurred in 1972 with \$25,000.00 being stolen.

Historical records show a local police presence in the Township before 1867. Census returns list the following persons as Constables in the mid century. They worked closely with Coroner, Dr. Edwin Tegart, a Scotland physician.

Constable - George Robinson (1849-1918) - he policed the Municipal elections in 1884 and was paid \$1.50.  
 Constable - John Walker of Scotland  
 Constable - William Brown of Scotland  
 Constable - Secord. In 1869, an article appeared in The Weekly Expositor concerning a blacksmith named Wallace who worked at Malcolm's Foundry in Oakland. Wallace hired a horse from James Dunnett and a harness and sulky from H. S. Westbrook and went to Brantford where he pawned the outfit, valued at \$140.00, for a mere \$15.00. He was about to depart Brantford with the loot when arrested by Constable Secord and lodged in the County jail. James Dunnett (1790-1870) was the father of the Reverend Samuel Dunnett (1815-1896) a Baptist clergyman at Oakland for some twenty years. H. S. Westbrook served as a Councillor in 1869.

It appears the Constables appointed in years past did not always meet the test of being sobriety proof when on duty. The Expositor dated November 27, 1868 reports the following dereliction of duty;

*SCOTLAND ... The quietness of this peaceful village was disturbed the other day by a visit from a peace officer from Brantford, having a warrant issued by a well known J.P. in the town, for the arrest of a young man residing here who, it appears, had struck a saucy boy a very slight brow across the face.*

The Peace Officer stopped at one of the principal hotels of the place and commenced to imbibe pretty freely in some of Scotland's well known 'forty rod', an article that needs to be tested to be right appreciated. Our Peace Officer, not being acquainted with the peculiar virtues of the above mentioned article, it soon began to tell on him and he found difficulty in keeping his equilibrium. During the time he was getting 'glorious' he made inquiries as to the whereabouts of a certain young man. A person having been pointed out as the one he was enquiring for, he made an arrest (who was not the person the warrant called for) of the young man, who willingly complied and started off for Brantford. They had not proceeded very far when by some mysterious power constable, prisoner, horse, sulky, documents and handcuffs made a somersault in the road.

Mr. Peace Officer soon left for parts unknown minus prisoner, handcuffs and various papers touching his calling which are now on exhibition at the 'Scotland House'. We advise the J.P.'s of Brantford when they send out any more of their officers, to send ones that are proof against Scotland's 'forty rod' and ones that are acquainted with the new style of turning somersaults which Mr. Peace Officer performed on the main street of Scotland.

Regular sessions of the Division Court were held in Foster's Hall at the turn of the century. His Honor, Judge Hardy, presided.

In the 1930's Constable Bill "two gun" Baker, an apparent officious and pretentious type, enforced local bylaws and road offenses in the Township. Baker lived on Whitney Street in Scotland. He wore a khaki uniform and appeared at local public gatherings and garden parties for traffic duty. The story is told that Baker attempted to arrest a local farm worker one summer evening on the streets of Scotland, being drunk in a public place. Baker, using his own private car got his man in the back seat on his back. His prisoner shouted "either I get out or my feet go through your roof". It was a soft cover top. Baker quickly sized up the futility of his task and let his man go. Bill moved to Brantford shortly thereafter.

By authority of Bylaw number 567 dated December 14th, 1945, Lloyd Vivian was appointed a constable for the Township of Oakland to perform duties set out in the Municipal Act. At that time and up until May 1972, enforcement embodied the Township bylaws, plus traffic offenses on the roads. After May of 1972, the enforcement mandate involved only the bylaws. All other offenses, including traffic, became the responsibility of the Ontario Provincial Police.

In 1957, Lloyd Vivian was succeeded by Herman D. Persall (1907-1981), son of David G. Persall (1866-1944) and Mary Eliza

"Minnie" Dunnett (1873-1954). Herman was a bachelor and a piano tuner by trade. Bylaw 711 made Herman a Bylaw Enforcement Officer followed by Bylaw 718 which appointed Herman a Township constable. Council terminated him for cause on May 12th 1972 but Herman responded with a counter action against the Township for wrongful dismissal. Herman lost the tort.

In May 1958, Council was forced to address the issue of its system of law enforcement. Nick Bonic of Hamilton had been ticketed by Constable Persall. He objected to Persall's tactics when he paid a \$15.00 fine in Magistrate's court for failing to heed a stop sign 1 1/2 miles east of Oakland. Reeve, Cecil Davis, stated "I commend his work - we have every intention of keeping him on". Bonic's objection was that "he had been approached at the stop sign by a person in civilian dress, standing near an unmarked two-tone car, who waved him down". Bonic insisted that law enforcement officials should be properly dressed in uniform when enforcing traffic laws. Constable Persall had been employed by Council on a retainer, plus a commission from fines imposed. Initially, he enforced anti-dumping laws. At the Council hearing concerning Bonic, Reeve Davis and Councillors Walter Burrage, Alvin Marr, together with Clerk H.E. Irwin saw no reason to terminate their employee's retainer contract simply on the basis of Mr. Bonic's complaint but the matter of a constable enforcing traffic laws while dressed in civilian clothes became a contentious issue that ultimately resulted in the O.P.P. assuming this responsibility. J. Jonkman succeeded Herman Persall as Bylaw Officer.

Scotland was officially declared a police village on April 12th, 1907 - By-law 254. Its population had by then reached the required figure to warrant its own policeman. The following local men, among others, were appointed Constables;

Fred Campbell -	1947
Ivan McIsaac -	1948
Ross Anguish -	1950
Vern Spiece -	1952
Lyle Sweers -	1954

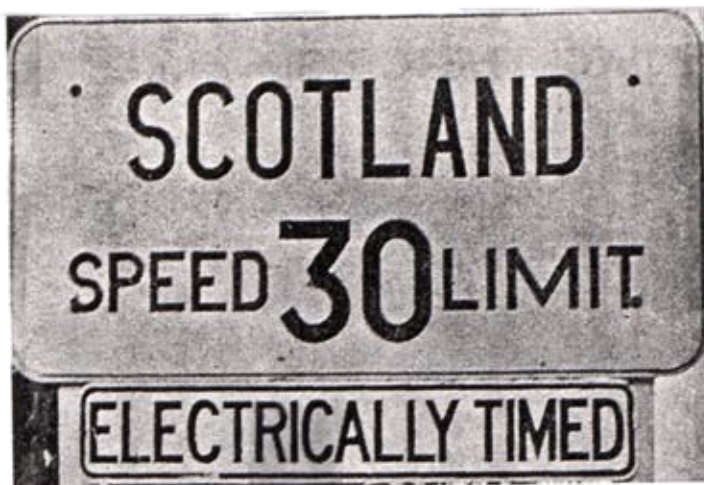
Lyle, a plumber by trade, received credit and praise for a heroic act by pulling truck driver Wm Hayes, his clothes and hair aflame, from his burning truck. The accident occurred on December 10, 1957, south of Brantford on the Cockshutt Road when Hayes missed a turn and his refrigerator truck, owned by Hume's, overturned.







Lyle Swears



Circa 1960

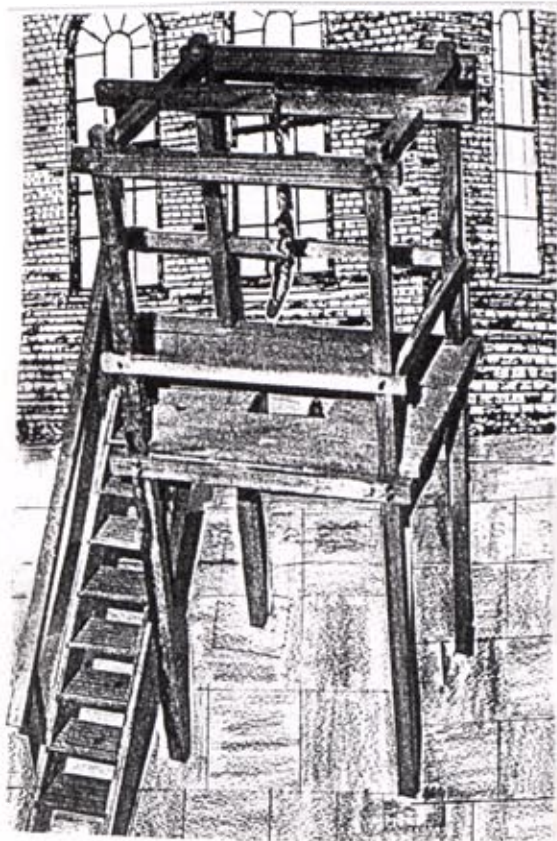
Lyle, the son of Robert "Bobby" and Mary Swears, lost his mother and older brother at a young age. Both were tragically killed at an L.E. & H. crossing accident, Wesbrook Crossing, south east of Oakland village on the morning of March 7th 1931. Mrs. Mary Swears and her son O'Clair lost their lives when their old touring car, with side curtains, and driven by O'Clair, was struck broadside and dragged down the tracks.



Brantford Expositor  
Oakland Street, Scotland December 10th 1959. The OPP check the scene after two professional gunmen robbed the bank of \$10,000.00 and made a clean get-away.

Sheriff Gordon D. Campbell, born and educated at East Oakland, came within a whisker of erecting the gallows at the County gaol.

Prior to the death penalty moratorium, the matter of arranging an execution lingered, with misgivings, in Gordon's mind. Whatever his moral belief, as Sheriff, he was bound by his Oath of Office to follow through, if the occasion arose. Indeed, the county gaol at Brantford had been the scene of at least one public hanging, notably the two negroes, John Moore and Robert Over, on June 7th 1859. "It's bad enough having a man waiting to be hanged. Everyone gets so tense" Gordon said after a close call, early in his mandate, when the gaol housed an inmate on 'death row' who got his reprieve only two days before the execution date.



For a rural farmer, self educated in legal matters and jurisprudence, to suddenly find himself the key figure in that most grisly of all callings in the justice system, a hanging, there were doubts and qualms which were difficult to contain but to waver would degrade the office he held.

Gordon David Campbell, born November 28th, 1893 attended school at SS#1 East Oakland, followed by further studies at Mount Pleasant Continuation School. He married Rosetta Mae Little on June 4th 1919.

They were the parents of: Dorothy Fern, b. Nov. 17, 1922; Anna Marian, b. Feb. 20, 1926; William David (Bill) b. Aug. 2, 1927; Gordon Malcolm, b. April 28, 1934.



1944 - Sheriff Campbell at his desk in the courthouse.

Gordon served as President of the Ontario Sheriff's Association; President of the Brantford Board of Trade; President of the Children's Aid Society of Brant County. He retired in 1964, then living in Brantford.



## 1874 - BY-LAW NO. 36

To provide for the prevention and punishment of certain outrages and offenses against public morality within the Township of Oakland.

Whereas the Legislature of the Province of Ontario has conferred upon the Municipal Corporations of Townships, cities, Towns and Incorporated Villages, power and authority to enact By-laws having for their object the prevention and punishment of offenses and outrages against public decency and morality, and it is found expedient and necessary to exercise such power with a view to the suppression, if possible, of some of these evils and vices within the said Township of Oakland.

Be it therefore enacted by the corporation of the said Township of Oakland

- 1st That no person or persons after the passing of the By-law, shall directly or indirectly sell or give any intoxicating drink of any kind whatever to any child apprentice or servant without the consent of the parents, master or legal protector thereof within the Township of Oakland
- 2nd That no person or persons after the passing hereof, shall post or put up any indecent placard, writing, or picture, nor write or print any indecent word or words, or make any indecent pictures or drawings of any kind, on any of the walls or fences, or any where in the streets highways, or other public places within the said Township.
- 3rd That no person or persons after the passing hereof, shall, indulge in or be guilty of the vice of drunkenness, profane swearing, obscene, blasphemous, or grossly insulting language, or other immorality or indecency within the Said Township.
- 4th That no person or persons after the passing hereof, shall be guilty of any improper or indecent exposure of his or their person or persons or of any other indecent exhibition or exhibitions within the Township of Oakland
- 5th That no person or persons after the passing hereof, shall be guilty in any manner of indecently exposing his or their, person or persons, in any water within view of any residence, street, public highway or thoroughfare, within the Said Township
- 6th That all or any person or persons whomsoever who shall disregard contravene or in any manner violate this By-law or be guilty of any or either of the offenses hereinbefore enumerated and set forth, and shall be convicted thereof before any one or more Justices of the peace of the County of Brant, upon the Oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness or witnesses, or upon view had of the offence by any Justice himself, shall pay a fine or penalty not exceeding Twenty dollars nor less than one dollar for each offence, in the discretion of the said Justice or Justices, together with the costs and charges attending the proceedings and conviction, and in default of the payment of said fine and costs, it shall be lawful for the Justice or Justices

before whom such conviction was had, to commit such offender or offenders to the common Gaol of the County of Brant, there to be imprisoned at hard labor for a term not exceeding Twenty-one days, in the discretion of such Justice

7th That all fines and penalties imposed and collected under the authority of this By-law shall be paid into the Treasury of the Said Township of Oakland and shall form and become part of the funds of the Municipality for the lawful use thereof

Passed in council this 23rd day of February AD1874

O.H. Lawrence  
Clerk

Smith, Beebe  
Reeve

\*\*\*\*\*

BYLAW NO. 95

To prohibit the sale of spirituous liquors in the Township of Oakland

Whereas the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario has passed an Act authorizing any local Municipal Council to pass a By-law prohibiting the sale of spirituous, fermented, or other manufactured liquor within such municipality Provided such bylaw is approved by a majority of the duly qualified voters thereof -

And Whereas a petition has been presented to the Council of the Township of Oakland asking the submission of such a Bylaw,

Therefore the Municipal Council of the corporation of the Township of Oakland hereby enacts

First that the sale by retail of spirituous, fermented or other manufactured liquors is and shall be prohibited, in Every tavern, inn or other house or place of public entertainment and the sale thereof is altogether prohibited in every shop or place other than a house of public entertainment,

Second that the votes of the Electors of the said Township of Oakland will be taken on the Bylaw by the Returning Officer hereinafter named on Tuesday the seventeenth day of February one Thousand Eight hundred and ninety-one, commencing at nine o'clock in the morning and continuing until five o'clock in the afternoon, at the Township Hall of Oakland Henry Key Returning Officer

Third that on the Thirteenth day of February AD 1891 at the clerks office in the said Township at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon, the Reeve shall appoint in writing signed by himself,

two persons to attend at the final summing up of the votes by the clerk, and one person to attend at the said Polling place on behalf of the persons interested in promoting the passing of this Bylaw and one person on behalf of the persons interested in opposing the passing of the same

Fourth That the Clerk of the said municipal council of the Township of Oakland shall attend at the Township Hall at the hour of Five o'clock in the afternoon on the Seventeenth day of February AD 1891 to sum up the number of votes given for and against this Bylaw.

Henry Key  
Clerk

Joseph McIntyre  
Reeve

Read a first and second time the 19th January, approved by the Electors the 17th February and read a third time and finally passed the 24th day of February AD 1891.

\*\*\*\*\*

BY-LAW NO. 251

To appoint an Officer to enforce the provisions of the Ontario Temperance Act 1916 within the Municipality of the Township of Oakland

The Municipal Council of the Township of Oakland enacts as follows

That A.E. Westbrook shall be and is hereby appointed an Officer whose duty it shall be to enforce within the Municipality of the Township of Oakland all the provisions of the Ontario Temperance Act 1916 as applicable to this township and authorized so to do under Section 120 of the said Act

That all sums of money necessary for the payment of such Officer for services performed and for any other expenses by him incurred in the enforcement of the Provisions of this Act the same shall be paid for out of the General Funds of this Township.

Passed in Council this 15th day of December 1916

Jas B. Scott  
Reeve

Percy M. Button  
Tp Clerk

(Note: Mr. Albert E. Westbrook (1872-1958), appointed Temperance Officer, married Clara Williams. They were the parents of four daughters. Albert was the son of Abe and Hannah Westbrook, farmers on lot 7 Concession I.)



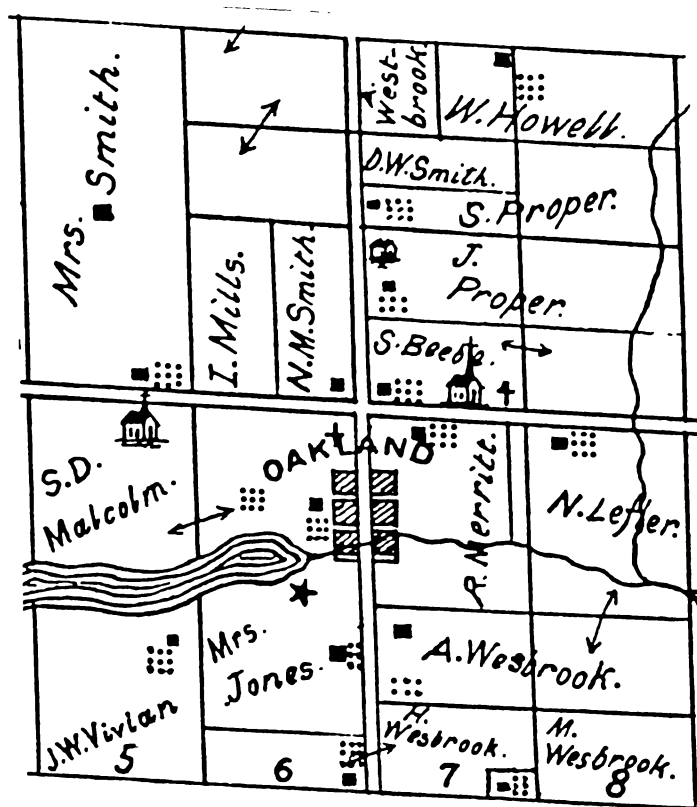
# CHAPTER 14

## Villages and Hamlets

### Oakland

Perth, later named Oakland, was surveyed for settlement in 1810. Its basic configuration has changed little over the years.

A map, drawn about 1867, shows the village and its periphery with the settled areas contained within lots 6 and 7 of concessions I and II. The village had a population of 250; daily mail delivery by stage from Brantford and Waterford; two churches; a post office; a grist mill; a foundry; a saw mill; three stores; two hotels; a Town Hall and other businesses and shops. The present day map of the village was registered in 1948. Its population in 1846 was 160. Another place called Oakland exists in Ontario, in Mersea Township near Leamington with a population in 1961 of 149.





Circa 1925  
Looking north to the village from the top  
of the hill, beyond MacKenzie Creek.



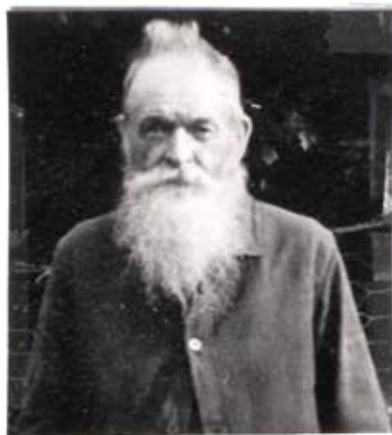
Circa 1915  
Oakland Street at Cummings - looking at Baldwins Store -  
Lewis Baldwin (1855-1935) is standing on the porch (left)  
and his son, Carman L. (1887-1926) is on the right - a  
white dog is seated on a box to the right of Carm and a  
vintage car in front with the Baldwin residence in the  
right of this picture. A fire in 1991 caused the house  
to be demolished.



Circa 1922

Looking west to the four corners - in the right foreground is the North Anders' residence - beyond is the old hotel located on the north-west corner - on the left is the Maitland Edy residence, located on the southeast corner built by Stephen Vivian (1827-1886) millwright. The Kitchen family (blacksmith) occupied the house before the Edys. Mrs. Kitchen sold ice cream cones from a booth in the front yard.

When the former picture was taken there were several old time residents still living in the community - Wm Creighton (1848-1925) and his wife Catharine Lefler (1856-1936), Joseph Roberts (1847-1941) and his second wife Edith and John A. Diamond (1846-1924). Mr. Diamond's wife, Jane Eddy, died in 1910.



Hugh Patterson



Margaret Patterson

Oakland dwellers at the turn of the century - they lived at the corner of Colborne and Church Streets - their granddaughter was Birdie Miller. Hugh died on April 6th 1938 in his 93rd year.



Circa 1901

Ern Davis coal dealer - a resident of Oakland at Colborne and Cummings Streets - he died in 1940.





Circa 1915  
Mill Road - residence and barn  
built by Chas Secord - later  
occupied by the McKean family  
then by Jack and Buelah  
Learmouth.



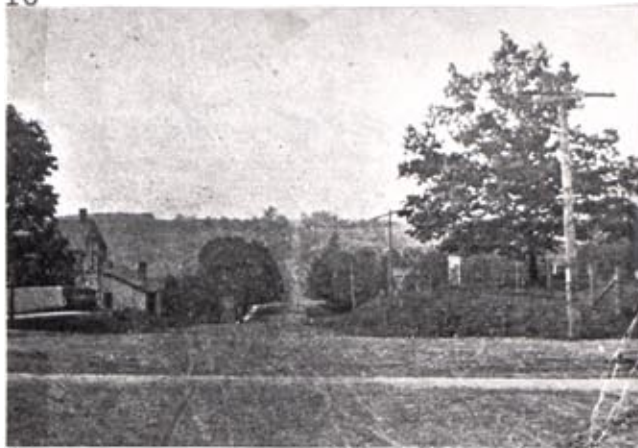
1900  
Stephen Vivian  
residence Oakland  
- later occupied  
by Maitland Edy.



Circa 1845  
Mill Road - residence of John Vivian (Vivyan) - later occupants  
were Cy and Velma Taylor, the Burrages, Lloyd and Helen Vivian who  
made major renovations (Lloyd is John Vivian's grandson) and, more  
recently, North (Jr.) and Verna (McEwan) Anders.



Circa 1910  
Hugh Patterson residence Oakland  
village - corner Colborne and  
Church streets - barely visible  
in the front yard is the wooden pump  
manufactured by Scotts of Maple  
Grove.



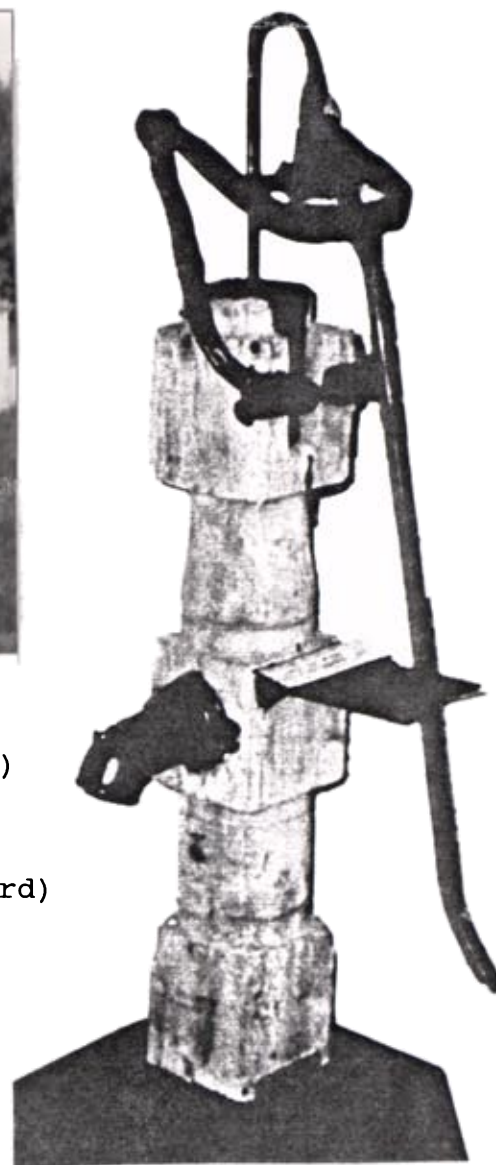
Four corners Oakland looking south  
over the hollow - barely visible on  
the right behind the oak tree is the  
Ed Smith house which had steps  
leading down to old #24 highway,  
across from the blacksmith shop on  
the left.



Circa 1930 Oakland

Sylvester Stratford 1856-1943	Harriett(Dunnett) Stratford 1864-1941	Eliza (Roberts) Dunnett 1842-1938
-------------------------------------	---	---

Mary (Theaker) Stratford 1871-1959	Cecelia (Stratford) Secord 1858-1952
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original village pump

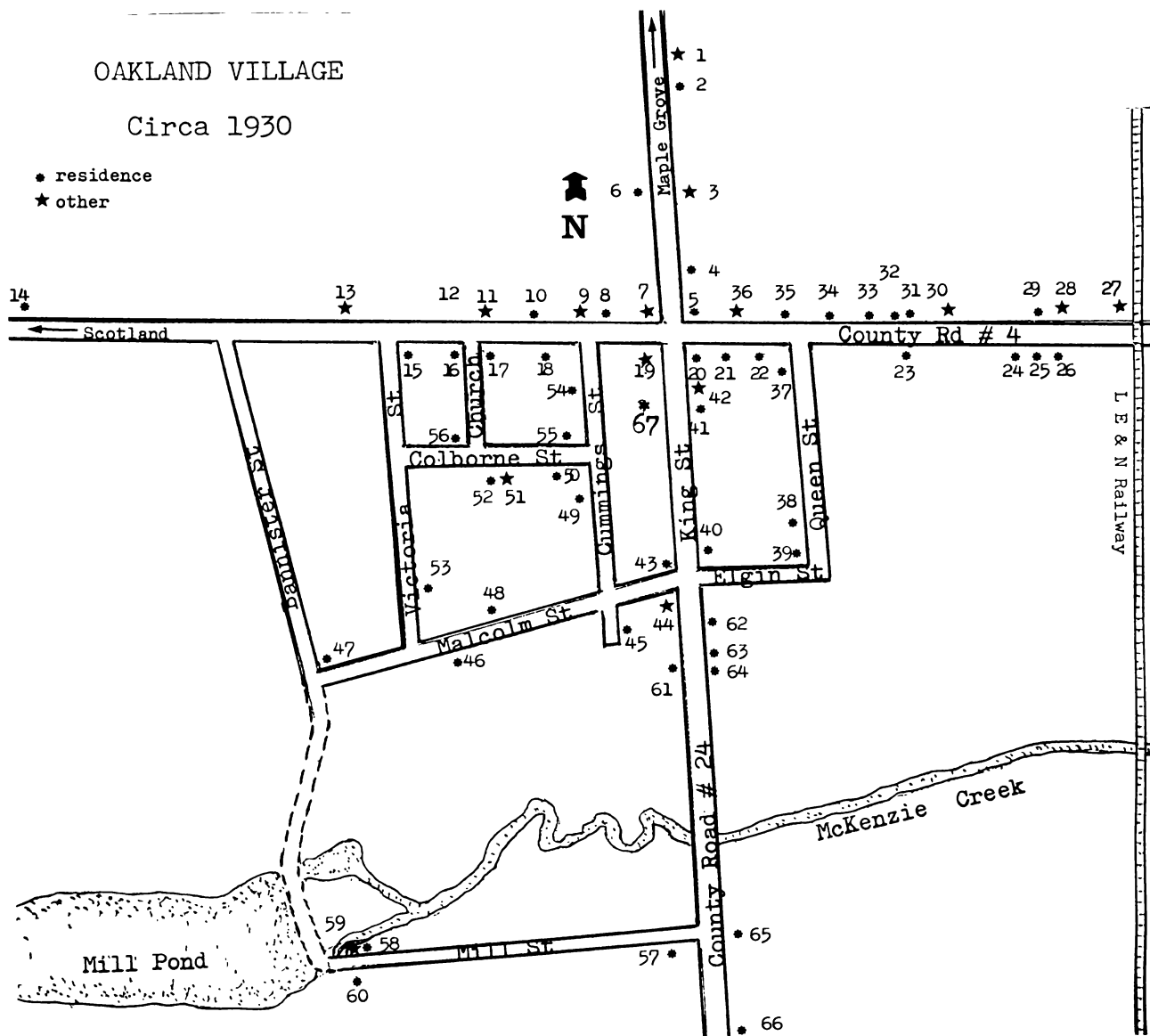




Circa 1905

On the left is Birdie Miller (1902-19 ) and Walter Hepburn (1902-1990), cousins.

Birdie Miller Scheckler lives in McMinnville, Oregon. Walter Hepburn operated a business college in Calgary. Much earlier he was employed as a teacher at O.U. Robinson Business College in Waterford. His mother, Clara, was a market gardener north of Oakland.





1. Oakland School SS#2
2. Mathias Grantham - farmer (1855-1938)
3. Harold Ramsay - garageman
4. Ellwood Anders - farmer (1892-1975)
5. North Anders (Sr) - implement dealer (1858-1937)
6. Sylvester Stratford - farmer (1856-1943)
7. Store and garage (former hotel) Walter Schaeffer (1906-1969) bought the property in 1938.
8. Lewis H. Baldwin (1855-1935)
9. Baldwins' General Store
10. Lloyd Vivian - miller
11. Oakland United Church
12. Vern Churchill (1899-1970) (house owned by Sylvester Stratford)
13. Town Hall (dilapidated)
14. Percy M. Button (1870-1957) - Twp Clerk
15. James Vivian (1863-1943) - retired
16. Floyd W. Andrews (1891-1966)
17. United Church parsonage (Rev. Hugh Wilson)
18. Art Johnson
19. Pioneer burial grounds
20. Maitland Edy (1880-1949) - insurance sales (originally the Stephen Vivian place)
21. Fred Allison
22. Mrs. Weaver-Clark (formerly Albert Lefler (1858-1927))
23. James H. Poole (1871-1929) - farmer (bought by Chas McIntyre)
24. Joseph Roberts (1847-1941) - retired farmer
25. C. Henry Westbrook (1877-1961) - retired farmer
26. Joe Montgomery (later Geo. Chandler)
27. L.E. & N. Station
28. Community Park
29. Merritt Crumback (1872-1953) - retired farmer
30. Oakland Cemetery
31. Cecilia Secord (1858-1952)
32. Jim Allan - owned by Ripley
33. James Ripley
34. Norm Thomas - section man T.H. & B., formerly occupied by the elderly Vanderberg couple.
35. Rowsell residence (a stone house) (later Hoyt Anders (1886- 1976))
36. Forester's Hall
37. (former Dunnett house) bought by Burrage
38. Mr. Cannell-Mrs. Mable Cannell (later owned by Mrs. Lloyd Bowen)
39. Geo. Campbell (1872-1943) -farmer
40. formerly Geo Ford (1854-1930) (bought by Harry Bowen)
41. Phillips residence - formerly Creighton residence - also occupied by the blacksmith
42. Blacksmith shop
43. Herb Young (1880-1953)
44. Post office - postmaster H. Howey
45. Mrs. Burton and her son George
46. Alice Dunningham (1889-1990)
47. Russell Rammage (1895-1988) - farmer
48. Wm H. Fleming (1853-1938) - retired
49. Dyson family (bought by Geo. Knox)
50. R. Swears (bought by Ralph Stratford)
51. Martin's Mohawk Museum - formerly the Montgomery residence (which burned)
52. Alf Martin - sectionman L.E. & N.
53. Stewart Macaulay - section foreman L.E. & N.
54. Geo Crumback (1873-1954) - retired farmer, formerly Paterson
55. Ern Davis - coal dealer
56. Charles King house (father of Mrs. Ern Davis)
57. McKeen residence - built by Chas Secord (bought by Jack Learmouth)
58. C. Payson Vivian (1876-1958) - miller
59. Vivian's gristmill
60. Walter J. Burrage (1891-1977) - farmer
61. Ross W. Murray (1905-1975), formerly the Asa Wheeler property (butcher and slaughter house operator)
62. Herb W. Dunnett (1870-1945) - farmer, formerly the Welby Almas property (butcher)
63. Albert Rock - laborer
64. Secords - originally the John Diamond house
65. Knox family
66. Alam Barnes (1867-1952)
67. Edward F. Smith (1869-1947)

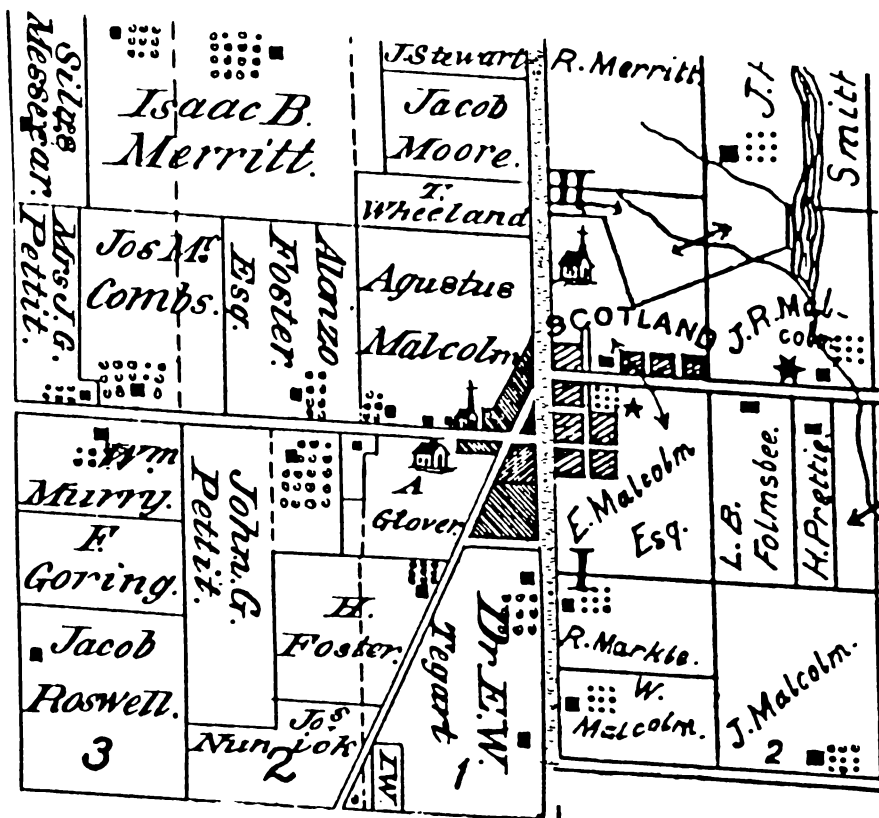
## Scotland

The first settler, Finlay Malcolm (1750-1829), arrived about 1802 to be followed by Philip Beemer. The village was surveyed and laid out much later by Finlay's son, Eliakim. Lots sold for \$50.00 each.

Finlay established his homestead at the brow of the hill as you enter the village from the east. A natural grove existed at the north of his property and across the road he planted a large orchard which extended down the hill to where the old woollen mill was located. The orchard was still producing in 1870.

The 1875 map on the right, showing Scotland village as it emerged within the confines of lot 1, Concessions I and II of Oakland Township and the westerly section in lot 1 of Concessions XIII and XIV of Burford Township, shows the land holders of that time in the periphery of the village. A map of the village itself was drawn up and registered in 1894. Scotland became a police village thirteen years later - April 12th, 1907.

The population of the village in 1846 is recorded as being 150. The village was named by Janet Graham, blind from the time she was a teenager.





Circa 1902

Looking south on Simcoe Street at Scotland - the photographer is standing just north of the main intersection - on the right is Markle's Store, a brick structure - on the left W.E. Hooker's General Store and the Post Office - note the sign on the west side of the building which says W.E. Hooker - beyond the store on the south east corner of the intersection is the Jackson House hotel which would later become a general store - in front of the building is the horse and carriage taxi service which operated for passengers and mail delivery to and from the T.H. & B. Station - in the Gore is the band shell used by the Scotland Brass Band - Walter Hooker operated the store and post office from 1901 to 1931 - the first pumper for the fire department was stored under the band shell - just to the south side of Markle's Store was an ice cream parlour.



Circa 1950

Oakland street at Scotland looking east - on the left the Masonic Hall with the Van Dusen block and the Royal Bank also visible.



Circa 1905

Looking west on Oakland Street Scotland, Ontario - at the top, straight ahead, is Markle's Store with an ice cream parlour on the south side of the building - the latter building burned and was replaced by a wooden structure that was occupied for years by Paul Urban, harness and shoe repairs, etc. - at the top on the left is the old hotel and below the hotel is Halliday's Hardware Store, proprietor Melvin Halliday - at the top on the right is Hooker's General Store and the Post office and below it is Van Dusen's Store which burned and was replaced by the Van Dusen Block, a brick structure. The Crown Bank was situated in the same area as did Foster's Hall and store, later the C.O.F. Hall.

The 1861 census lists the following people, among others, as being residents of the village:

Adair, Joseph, cooper  
 Bowman, G.W., blacksmith  
 Brown, William, constable  
 Bugby, Jabez, retired  
 COMMERCIAL HOUSE, J. Thatcher  
 proprietor  
 Corbin, Cornelius F.F., painter  
 Durham, A., teamster  
 Durham, J., retired  
 Eastman, John, welldigger  
 Elliott, Robert, retired  
 Flanagan, John, carpenter  
 Foster, Alonzo,  
 clerk Div. Court

Gould, Hamilton, retired  
 Gould, William, laborer  
 Groover, Jacob, cooper  
 Handy, Lewis, retired  
 Harkinson, William, laborer  
 Harp, Elijah, laborer  
 HAY, REV. WM., pastor  
 Congregational Church  
 Hickson, Henry, carpenter  
 Hooker, Albert, wagonmaker  
 Hunt, Cyrus, shoemaker  
 Lawrence, Thomas, blacksmith  
 Lindsay, James, brick layer and  
 plaster

GILLESPIE, ROBERT, tanner  
 Glover, Anthony, farmer  
 Glover, Francis, laborer  
 Glover, Robert, stone mason  
 Malcolm, E.G., druggist, &c.  
 Malcolm, Eddy, cooper  
 Malcolm, Eliakim, J.P.  
 Malcolm, George, merchant  
 Malcolm, Hugh, shoemaker  
 Malcolm, JR, grist mill prop., &  
 c.

MALCOLM, MARCUS, carding and  
 spinning, manufacturer of  
 all kinds of woolen goods,  
 custom work at all seasons.

Malcolm, Martin, shoemaker  
 Messecar, Charles, laborer  
 Moore, John, peddler  
 Moore, Paul, retired  
 Pettit, J.G., bailiff,  
 Div. Court

Phillips, George, wagonmaker  
 Phillips, Mrs., widow  
 PILKEY, P.J., prop. Scotland  
 House Hotel. 1st class  
 house

Pollard, A.T., tailor  
 Prouse, T.O., merchant  
 Reynolds, Wm., wagonmaker

Lyman, Henry, P.M. and merch't  
 Lloyd, James, retired  
 Macklin, John, M.D., & c.  
 Malcolm, Augustus, farmer  
 Riley, George, laborer  
 Robinson, Robert F.W.,  
 school teacher  
 Sagro, Adam, farmer  
 SCOTLAND HOUSE HOTEL,  
 P.J. Pilkey, prop  
 Scott, Robert, saddler  
 Scott & Son, saddlers  
 Smith, Hamilton, farmer  
 Smith, William, retired  
 Sullivan, Robert, blacksmith  
 Taylor, John, carriage maker  
 THATCHER, JONATHAN, prop.  
 Commercial House hotel,  
 first class  
 Tucker, Richard B., tinsmith  
 Vining, Rev. J.,  
 Baptist minister  
 Walker, Gideon, peddler  
 Walker, John, constable  
 Wheeland, James, farmer  
 Whitney, Charles,  
 cabinet maker  
 Whitney, Lewis, retired  
 Wolfe, William, laborer



Circa 1900

Looking south to the gore with the band stand in the foreground. The gore is situated between Talbot Street on the right and Simcoe Street on the left.





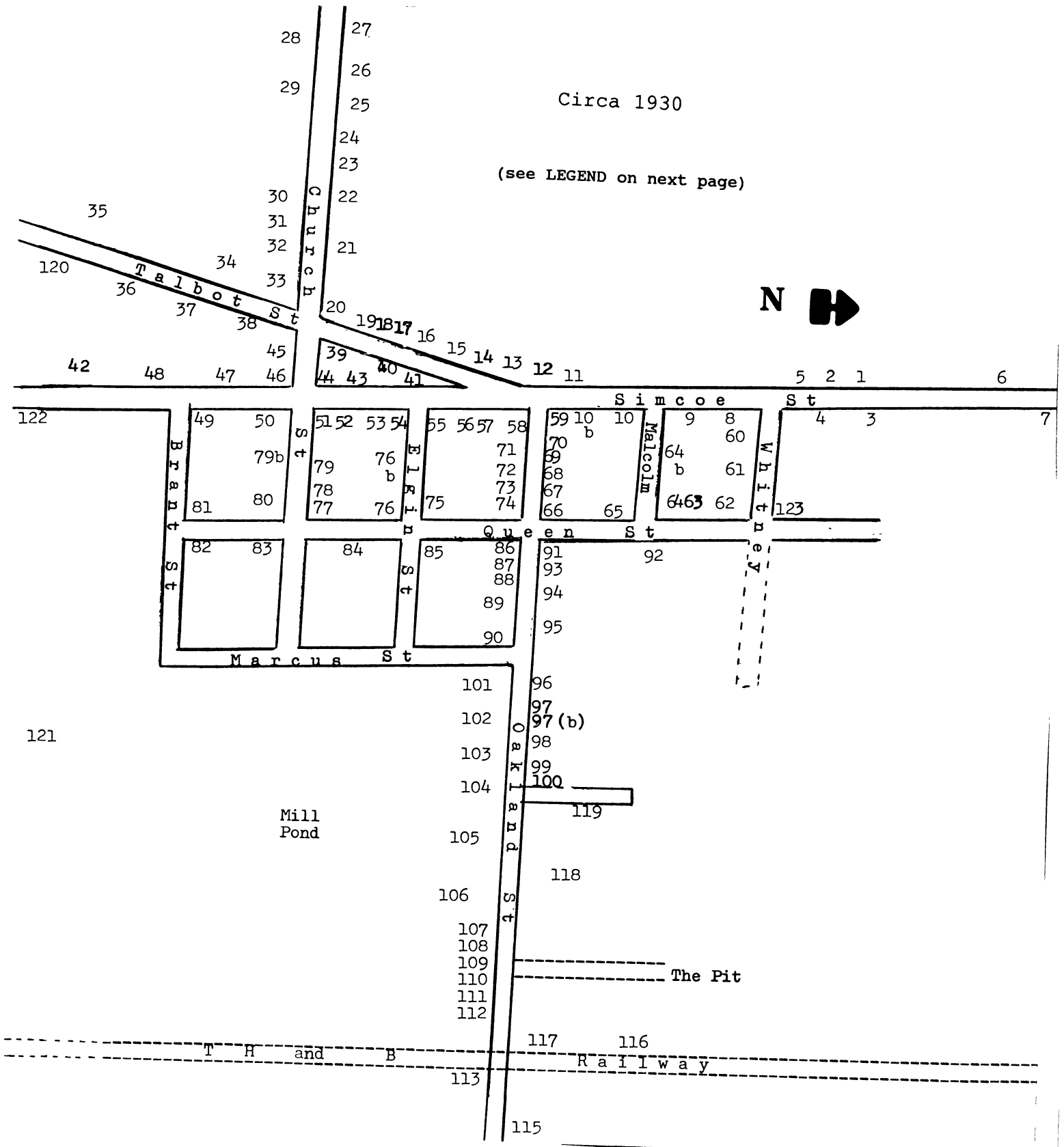
The "Garden Wall" home of Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Smith for many years and originally the home of Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874) -during the uprising of 1837 many rebels congregated at this property.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith lived in the Scotland locality all their lives, both being descendants of pioneer families. Mr. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Smith, was born on the family homestead northwest of the village and farmed there until coming to live at "The Garden Wall". His family was instrumental in the construction of the present Baptist Church.

Mrs. Smith's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nelles, lived at the Pond farm near Oakland, where the marriage took place on May 24, 1904. Rev. J. Bolton, who was pastor of the Congregational Church, officiated. Mrs. Smith's father was a deacon in that church for many years. Mrs. Smith's father died accidentally on September 6, 1904 when a gust of wind caused a large barn door to blow open, throwing him from the gang-way to the rocky ground below. The Smiths preserved this pioneer home as it was when the Malcolms owned it. The grounds were beautified, and antique furniture gave a picturesque setting to the low-ceilinged rooms. The rosewood mantelpiece over the fireplace in the living room was made from the wood of the first piano owned in the community.

Mr. Smith raised toy Manchester dogs and fancy fowl, and won many prizes with his entries at fall fairs and the Canadian National Exhibition.

Ardent gardeners, Mr. and Mrs. Smith planted trees, shrubs and flowers about the house and grounds, making a place of beauty of the spring that runs through the property. Truly, one of the treasures of Scotland village.



- 724 -

1.	Baptist Manse (Reverend Anderson)	53.	Bates	93.	Dr. Roy Crooks (veterinarian)
2.	Adrian Smith	54.	"White" Baptist Church	94.	Library & S.H. Campbell watch/ clock repairs
3.	Baptist Church	55.	Vivian Mitchell	95.	The Garden Wall - Culbert
4.	Schunk	56.	Store (Frank Smith)	96.	Vern Stuart (Stewart)
5.	Ed Clark	57.	Barn and garage	97.	Claude Hill
6.	Russ Shellington farm	58.	Myron Bates Hotel - converted to store	97b	John Hugh Malcolm
7.	Chester McCutcheon	59.	Thornes General Store & Post Office	98.	Bruce Harris
8.	Mrs. Gilbert Merritt	60.	Alan Beemer	99.	Mrs. Robt. McCutcheon
9.	Fred Brown	61.	Wingrove	100	Frank Beemer
10.	Mrs. Pettit	62.	Roy Wheeler	101	C.D. Hunter - Lumber supplies
10b	Merritt Smith	63.	Aspden	102	Hayward Malcolm
11.	Dr. John Anderson	64.	Mrs. Lemon	103	Reg. Vaughan - J.R. Spencer (duplex)
12.	Pete Chambers - pool room & barber	64b	Haggai Brown	104	Henry Brown
13.	Berry	65.	Katharine Smith & Wilfred Smith	105	Dilworth
14.	Charles Stewart	66.	J.C. Graves	106	John Hagerman
15.	Roy Wheeler (Meat Market)	67.	Van Dusen	107	Dave Holloway
16.	Alvin Kaufman	68.	Royal Bank - Mr. Moore - manager	108	Aquilla Davis
17.	Jack Silverthorne	69.	Van Dusen Block (Cecil Hiles	109	Jacobson
18.	Herbert Foster		Barber Shop in east end & Adrian Smith Dry Goods)	110	Mrs. Van Loon
19.	United Church Manse	70.	Masonic Hall	111	Hammond
20.	Elliot Epps	71.	Melvin Halliday (d.1930)	112	Wallace Shellington
21.	Mrs. Gary Malcolm	72.	Gus Smith - converted later to library	113	Earl Messecar (farmer)
22.	United Church	73.	Will Stuart	114	James Messecar (farmer)
23.	Emily Eadie	74.	Hendershott	115	Alf Eddy (farmer)
24.	Elmer Rachar	75.	Mrs. Ramsay	116	Maguire
25.	Andy Taylor	76.	Corbin	117	T.H. & B. Station
26.	Fred Smith (farmer)	76b	Mrs. Vanatter - Herb Malcolm	118	Fuller
27.	Medlars place	77.	Elgin Malcolm	119	Clifford King
28.	Lloyd Wilson	78.	Book Wheeler	120	Albert Malcolm
29.	Susie Wilson	79.	Noviss	121	John Malcolm
30.	Continuation and Public schools	79b	Richard Johnson - then Wes Clark	122	Scotland Cheese Factory
31.	Bert Laird	80.	Cecil Hiles	123	Gammon
32.	Harry Cooper	81.	Peter Chambers		
33.	Melvin Halliday	82.	Morley Wheeler		
34.	Tony Glover	83.	Dolly Malcolm		
35.	Hagerman	84.	Al Eddy, later Jack Smith		
36.	Bill Beemer	85.	Mrs. Sam Hunter & Mrs. Frank (Enid) Gundy (duplex)		
37.	Oscar Upper	86.	Ensley Graves (house)		
38.	Mel Savage (house & garage)	87.	Ensley Graves (garage)		
39.	Wilfred Malcolm	88.	Harry Slaght		
40.	Mrs. Robinson	89.	Mrs. Howson		
41.	Charlotte Hay	90.	Daisy & Laura Gundy		
42.	Clayton Barker	91.	McMartin		
43.	Leamon Malcolm	92.	Grist mill (operated by McMartin)		
44.	Mel Ramsay				
45.	John Shephard				
46.	Telephone Office (Mrs. Book)				
47.	Claude Mitchell				
48.	Fred Walker				
49.	Emery Woodley				
50.	John Silverthorn				
51.	Mrs. Vaughn (formerly funeral home)				
52.	Mrs. Atkinson				



Main intersection, looking north-east, 1954



Scotland - 1954

On the left, the unofficial village historian, Mrs. Wilson with g. daughter, Marsha Book.



The original Foster home.





Circa 1880  
Scotland residents - John  
and George Markle.



Circa 1925  
Scotland residents - Aquilla W.  
Davis (1864-1938) and his wife  
Phoebe J. (Van Every) Davis (1866-  
1951).



Circa 1890

On the left is a villager pumping his daily supply of water from the centrally located pump in front of the Jackson House. The identity of this elderly gentleman has not been established. He is using a wooden pail with a rope handle.





## East (Lower) Oakland

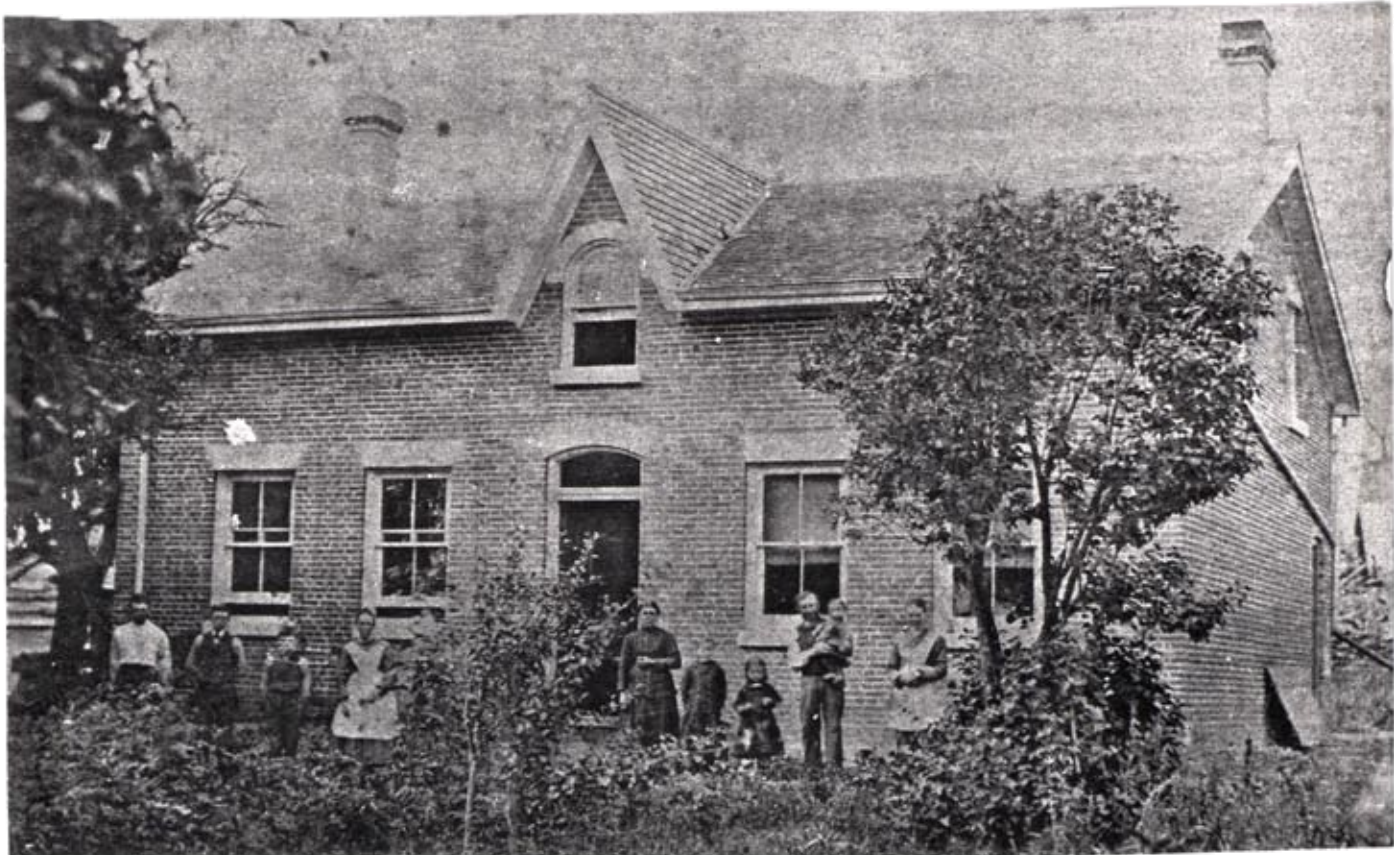
Located at lot 10 Concession I, the actual survey of the land in the periphery of this hamlet was carried out by Thomas Welch and his crew on December 20/21st, 1796. The dam that created the lower mill pond was constructed in 1813, resulting in more activity and limited settlement in the area once the water-powered grist mill, the sawmill, and the fulling mill were in operation.

East Oakland was better identified as a community of its own after a stone school house was built on lot 12 at the corner of the townline and the Cockshutt Road, in 1862. It replaced the log school house across the road in Townsend.

A sub-post office opened in 1909, operated by the Cunninghams who also built and operated a race track on their farm. The office remained open until 1915 when rural mail delivery superseded this small local outlet.

East of Lower Oakland, another hamlet, called Frogtown, emerged early in the 19th century. The Reverend Peter Fairchild built a small log sanctuary on his property about 1820, which was also a seasonal community school house until it burned some years later. Jake Allan ran a blacksmith shop and Frank Woodley opened a general store. All signs of a settlement here have long since disappeared.

Names associated with the area in earlier times were Burtch, Crumback, Cunningham, Edy, Eddy, Lefler, McAlister, McEwan, McIntyre, Fairchild, Sayles, Slight, Secord, Smith, Woodley, Wright and Stratford.



Circa 1875 - An early East Oakland residence - the Thomas McEwan residence, lot 10, east half, Concession II, later owned by Stan Mordue.

## Maple Grove

Before it was surveyed or named, this hamlet had at least one dweller in the person of W. Green. He was a squatter on lot 4 Concession III. Thomas Welch and his crew stayed with Mr. Green on December 16th, 1796, three days before they commenced their survey of the Township. Families that settled following the survey included Chapin, Fairchild, Westbrook, Smith, Thompson, Odell and Chatterson.

In the mid nineteenth century, Thomas Westbrook and his half brother Frederick built and operated the Red Tavern near the Maple Grove corner which became a stage stop. A log school house, known as Strobridge's School, stood beside the tavern. Later, in 1873, property was purchased from lot 7 Concession III for construction of a brick school house which remained in use until 1961 and was demolished.

Once the L.E.& N. line went through, in 1915, Maple Grove was designated a flag stop and a small shelter at the crossing accommodated waiting passengers. A Maple Grove passenger could travel one way to Brantford for twenty cents. Passenger service ceased in 1955.

Maple Grove, while sparsely settled with little business or industrial activity, developed a passionate community spirit and was able to retain its own identity, especially after the school was built in 1873. East of Maple Grove, at the next intersection, a place known by locals as Fidler Ann's Corner became a favourite place to visit and relax. At the intersection was a tavern and wayside stage stop which competed with the Red Tavern, a mile to the west, for local business. Miss Ann Odell, daughter of W.H. Odell, established a reputation as a violin player of note, which explains the unusual name given the corner. In the early 30's this area was the first in the township to see tobacco being grown - green gold.

