

FORD MOYNES

# on the MAIN STREET

Nov. 27/69



It is always interesting to receive letters regarding historical matters from readers of this column. Following is an interesting example, a letter from W. C. Tinkess, 67 Neywash St., Orillia, and we feel sure that it will arouse the interest of many readers:

"Your recent article in the "Post" about the Lindsay cemeteries was a sample of striking coincidence. I had been formulating my thoughts and intended writing to you about this very subject, but had hesitated knowing that very few others are interested in the subject of cemeteries.

I knew Lindsay fairly well. Up along the Verulam road, east of town, south of the "Murco" or Murphy farms, there is an old burial ground . . . or what is left of it. If my memory is correct it is located on the south-west

corner of the highway and what would be Durham Street east.

Twenty-five years ago, the highway was simply a plain narrow gravelled concession line, and the so-called "street" was a mere grass trail. At that time the location was a copse, well over-grown with brush. But there were still to be found lovely tall polished granite stones, in addition to the older type of flat slabs.

About a year and a half ago I was over that way and purposely stopped. A house has been built just to the immediate west of the site, which is still heavily brush. And a few of the stones are still to be seen.

I wonder if this is one of the cemeteries to which you referred to in your column? I bear in mind that this eastern approach to Lindsay, was

the main one many years ago.

If there are **STILL** burials located in the old site, then I do believe that the Cemetery Division of the Dept. of Health, Ontario, are interested for recording and survey. And if there are, these remaining markers should be removed to save them from vandalism and desecration. I hate to see these situations. These early Lindsay residents (any remains still buried) should be preserved by removal to Riverside or at least the site cleaned).

Incidentally, the old Roman Catholic burial place on the Connell farm beside the Scugog River on the Walden Ranch is regrettable. Only two or three stones are existent after these years, the ground is ploughed for crops so grave sites are now lost. Thirty years ago it was different. This site was worthy to be preserved some how for the very earliest Ops pioneers. Even now, before it gets too cold, it is worth a drive and a short walk. It is — and has been — a beautiful site beside the river."

Sincerely,  
W. C. Tinkess.