

### Henry Ruttan | 1792-1871

**Born:** 1792 Adolphustown Township  
Upper Canada

**Died:** 1871, Cobourg, Ontario.

**Career:** farmer, inventor [e.g. he held 7 patents for heating and ventilation equipment], survey contractor, merchant, distiller, public servant

**Public Service:**

1812 Lieutenant in militia later Captain

1814 Severely wounded at Battle of Lundy's Lane  
[returned to active service before the war was over]

1818 Justice of the Peace for Newcastle District

1820-1824 elected to the House of Representatives

1827-1857 Sheriff for Newcastle District

1836-1840 Elected to the House of Representatives –  
influential in starting the Trent Canal, Speaker of the  
House for a month - Conservative



### Zaccheus Burnham | 1777-1857

**Born:** 1777 in Dunbarton,  
New Hampshire

**Died:** Feb 25, 1857 in Cobourg,  
Canada West

**Career:** Farmer, distiller, miller, public  
servant, survey contractor and  
businessman, involved in many varied projects –  
canals and railways etc

**Public Service:**

1801 Private in the militia, Captain in militia in  
1812-14. Eventually became Colonel in 1837.

1811 Appointed road commissioner for  
Newcastle District

1813 The first of many appointments to be a Justice  
of the Peace

1815-1851 Treasurer of Newcastle District

1816-1820 House of Assembly representative

1824-1828 House of Assembly representative

1831-1841 Legislative Council

1839 Judge of the Newcastle District Court

**Committees:** Newcastle District Emigrant Relief  
Society, Children's Friend Society, Society for  
Promotion of Christian Knowledge.



### Archibald MacDonald | 1787-1872

**Born:** about 1787 in Perthshire Scotland

**Died:** 1872 in Hamilton Township

**Public Service:**

1813 Captain [earlier fought in  
Napoleonic Wars.] Eventually a Colonel  
in 1825 Northumberland Militia

1827 Justice of the Peace for  
Newcastle District

1830-1834 Member of the House of Assembly for  
Northumberland - Conservative



### Sidney Smith | 1823-1889

**Born:** 1823 in Port Hope **Died:** 1889 in Cobourg

**Career:** Studied law, practised in Cobourg

**Public Service:**

1853 Councillor for Hamilton Township and Cobourg [still combined at this time in history]

1854-1857 Elected to Legislative Assembly

1858-1862 Elected to Legislative Assembly and named post master general in cabinet of Sir John A.  
MacDonald and Georges-Etienne Cartier. Also a member of the Board of Railway Commissioners.

1858 Introduced the Upper Canada Juror's Act.

1859 Smith's most notable accomplishment while in office occurred in 1859 when he concluded arrangements with  
the United States, Britain, France, Belgium, and Prussia for mail services to Canada and the United States.

In July 1859 a government party including John A. Macdonald, was caught in the disabled vessel *Ploughboy* while  
travelling to Sault Ste. Marie. Sidney Smith's "fearless behaviour and effective services, the admiration of all on  
board" were recorded by a fellow passenger as having helped save the ship "from wreck on the dangerous shores of  
Lake Huron".

By 1860, he gained abolition of Sunday labour in the Post Offices of Canada West. This year Sidney also had the  
honour of hosting the Prince of Wales overnight in his home when the Prince officially opened Victoria Hall.



### David McGregor Rogers 1772-1824

**Born:** 1772 Vermont

**Died:** 1824 Haldimand Township

**Career:** farmer,  
public servant

**Public Service:**

1795-1796 Member of the  
House of Assembly for  
Prince Edward County

1798 Opposed a bill that would allow slaves to be  
brought in with immigrants

1799 Registrar of Northumberland County

1800-1816 House of Assembly for Northumberland

1802 Clerk for the District of Newcastle Court of  
Quarter Sessions and Clerk of the peace for  
Newcastle District plus registrar for Newcastle  
District Surrogate Court

1812 Major of "Special Service" to the  
Northumberland Militia

1813-1821 Justice of the Peace for Newcastle District

1814 Commissioner to arrest persons suspected of  
high treason Newcastle District

1815 Judge for District Court and Surrogate Court  
for Newcastle District. He was appointed deputy  
superintendent of locations, charged with settling  
ex-soldiers.

1817 Alien Act commissioner

1818 Commissioner of Inquiry into  
Forfeited Lands

1819 Member of the reconstituted Land Board

1820-1824 Member of the House of Assembly for  
Northumberland

A stickler for good parliamentary procedure Rogers  
is quoted as saying "Rules once formed should be  
*cautiously disposed of and strictly adhered to.*"



Closest thing to an image of  
David McGregor Rogers is a photo  
of his son James G. Rogers

### Dr. John Gilchrist | 1792-1859

**Born:** 1792 in New Hampshire, USA

**Died:** 1859 in Port Hope

**Career:** physician, farmer,  
merchant, miller

**Public Service:**

1822 Militia Surgeon

1835 Justice of the Peace

1833 Coroner for Newcastle district

1834-1836 Member of House of Assembly -  
Reformer.

