

In 1850, Robert Gomersall built a tannery [No.11] on the site of the first sawmill, and by the time the *Directory of 1858* was published, the settlement's name had changed to Rosebank and included a cooper, John Glover [No. 3], who made barrels, a new gristmill [No. 16], another sawmill built by Abial Marshall [No. 6], and a brewery [No. 9] .

[A photo of B&O locomotive at Brockville circa 1865] In 1865, the Brockville and Ottawa railway that had ended at Almonte continued construction and ran rails past Rosebank towards Renfrew and beyond. Passengers and freight were now able to move quickly. The road that had previously carried the horse teams that hauled all the produce and lumber North and South was suddenly quiet. And Snedden's stopping place, now known as the "Rosebank Hotel" soon ceased operation. [Photo] Indeed, the elegant brick house built by Abial Marshall opposite the stopping place as a hotel became the family's home instead.

The Snedden family also moved into their old hotel, and the stone house on the river became a cheese factory. [Photo of stock certificate] The Rosebank Dairying Company operated there until about 1932, when a new site was established at the north end of the bridge. James Cox ran a cheese factory there for 10 years. [Photo of men and wagons at the factory] was then taken over by a farmer's cooperative "The Rosebank Cheese and Butter Company," which operated until 1954, when Producers Dairy opened in Almonte. In 1957, the structure was converted to a dance hall but burned down two years later.

[Photo of station and rails] A small frame structure known as Snedden's Station was erected at the railway crossing east of the hamlet. The station was a flag stop—someone would flag down the train by standing on the line waving a red lantern and [photo of wagon and bags] then load on their milk cans or bags of flour from the mill. This would happen repeatedly along the line, hence the term "milk run."

[Photo featuring hotel, perhaps with arrow to indicate] Fenlon's Hotel was built at the north end of the bridge by James Fenlon a native of Ireland. [Bring up map again] Just past the hotel [No. 4] was Coxford's cobbler shop [No. 5], operated by James Coxford, who had been previously employed at the tannery. He and his wife Mary had 18 children, and the shop operated for 50 years.

Further along the north shore was Abial Marshall's saw mill [No. 6], which had become a large operation by the 1870s. According to the 1871 census it used 15,000 logs to produce 1, 500,000 board feet of lumber. Sawdust from the mill reached all the way to the bridge-- no environmental legislation in those days!

The most impressive structure in the village was Peter McDougall's woolen mill [No. 10], built on the site of the first sawmill. [Photos of woolen mill] It was three stories high, and its eastern wall was on the island so that the structure spanned a narrow channel of fast-moving water and was powered by a waterwheel underneath. [Photo of McDougall] McDougall moved his business to Rosebank in 1873, and by 1880 his mill employed 25 people and manufactured about 100,000 yards of tweed a year. [Photo of brick house] McDougall also built an impressive brick home on the banks of the river just past the Bridge. The mill was sold to Peter Campbell in 1906 and operated until 1919 when Campbell moved the business to Almonte. [Photo of baseball team] Campbell donated the woolen material for these uniforms for the Bennie's Corners baseball team, one of which can be seen at the Mississippi Valley