

3. The post office was originally the Good Templar's Hall.
4. The cheese factory, across from the church, is now a private home.
5. Hotels, which once housed the rowdy loggers and raftsmen, are now stores and studios of renowned artists.
6. Robertson's General Store now contains a variety of shops and businesses, including a restaurant and gift shop.

Our display contains some photos of the village. Two are of buildings that are no longer present. One is the Rochester mill, which was located along the Madawaska River. The second is a picture of John Forrest's blacksmith shop, which was moved out of the village years ago.

The main part of the display honours our founder, Mrs. Jessie Blane. She was born Jessie Fraser in a log cabin in Bagot Township in 1863. In 1906 she married John Blane, a progressive community-minded farmer of McNab Township. In 1911, Jessie was instrumental in organizing the Burnstown W. I and became its first president. I'm proud to say this was the first branch in our district. Jessie died in 1943. On display there is a photo of Jessie Blane, with her husband John.



You may also be wondering the significance of the quilt which was used as a backdrop to this display. This is a log cabin quilt. It was made by our founder, Jessie Fraser, before she married John Blaine. The quilt is now about 120 years old. It has withstood the test of time well. The material used for the back of the quilt has an intricate design.

Mrs. Jessie Blaine and others from the Burnstown branch were instrumental in organizing other branches in the district. Jessie was, therefore, a founder of the Renfrew South District W. I. and became its first president. The first District annual occurred in 1914 in the Good Templars Hall at Burnstown.

The remainder of the display contains books that have been written on our little village.

1. 'Burnstown Remembered' was written by Mrs. Margaret Robertson, a WI member for over 70 years. She was in her 90's at the time.
2. 'A Boy From Burnstown' was written by Rev. George Richardson about 5 years ago. He grew up near Spruce Hedge and gives his life story.
3. A book was written on Burnstown United Church about 5 years ago to celebrate the congregation's 150th anniversary.
4. A Historical Tour of Burnstown was written for last year's FWIO Convention. It contains photos of Burnstown's buildings with their history.