

First Sidney Records Dated 1790

The first records of Sidney Township are dated May 5, 1790. For a number of years municipal meetings were held in homes and schools. The Baldwin Act of 1850 set up the present form of local government.

A bylaw was passed to raise money to build a township hall. Plans and specifications were prepared at a cost of one pound five shillings. The tender price of three hundred pounds was accepted.

On December 21, 1852 the building was received from the contractor and the first council meeting was held.

In 1856 the Grand Trunk Railway, now the Canadian National Railway, was built across the

township. In 1858 the form of currency expressed in township records changed from pounds, shillings and pence, to dollars and cents.

In the following years considerable progress took place. Permission was granted to Sidney Agricultural Society to hold an exhibition and use the township hall. A petition for a license to operate a steam ferry from Sidney to Prince Edward County was granted subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. Council was petitioned to remove the loose stones off the main roads between Belleville and Trenton.

The Miller Bros. plant at Glen Miller suffered heavy loss by

fire. A road overseer was appointed. A grant was given to Belleville Hospital. Township funds were deposited in the Frankford Branch of the Molson's Bank.

A local option bylaw was passed to prohibit the sale of liquor in Sidney Township. A request was received from Hastings county council to send a delegation to the Good Roads Association, Toronto.

In 1920, Frankford, up until this time part of Sidney township, became an incorporated village.

In 1922 Dr. McMullen, Frankford, was appointed medical health officer for the township. He carried on in this capacity until he retired in 1960.

In 1927 the township entered into an agreement with the Hydro Electric Power commission for rural power.

In 1929 a start was made on the airport which now is The Canadian Forces Base. In 1939 The Bata Shoe Company of Canada Ltd. located in the township.

In 1943 the township hall was destroyed by fire.

A bylaw was passed in 1947 to establish a water area adjoining the city of Belleville.

1949 - Fire agreement with Belleville. 1952 - Fire agreement with Frankford. 1954 - Fire agreement with Trenton.

1954 - A bylaw regulating the use of building and location on lot. 1959 - Belleville annexed a portion of the township taking three-quarters of a million dollars assessment. 1961 - part of the township became part of the Bay of Quinte High School district and the other part of the township a part of Stirling-Rawdon High School District.

1962 - The Bata sewage project was undertaken.

A fire pumper and equipment were purchased at a cost of eighteen thousand dollars. It is housed and managed by Batawa Fire Department and is called the Sidney Township Fire department. 1963 - Trenton annexed a portion of the township taking one quarter million dollars of assessment. 1965 - purchased a crawler tractor for the garbage disposal area. 1966 - A bylaw authorizing a two-year term for members of council and elected Boards. 1966 - The Tender of Wieger De Jong construction, Stirling was accepted to construct the new centennial hall and municipal offices for the sum of \$70,589.76. The first meeting in the new council chamber was held Sept. 23. Open house for this building was held on October 29th.

The official opening on June 17th, 1967, was a permanent commemoration of the centennial of confederation in Canada. Construction was made possible through the co-operation of the province of Ontario and the Government of Canada. During my term of office, Sidney Township has increased in population from 5,600 to over 7,300. The assessment has increased about two million dollars. The tax roll has gone from less than 1/4 million dollars to over 1/2 million dollars.

We have many fine homes and commercial buildings which are a credit to our township. We have recently paved two miles of road on the Fourth Concession, from our new Centennial Hall to the Thurlow Boundary. This is the first

paved road in our township. With present day traffic the need for permanent top roads is very necessary.

Looking at the many achievements over the last hundred years, guided by men who have given freely of their time and experience, we can be very happy to be Canadians and look forward to the next hundred years of forging ahead with progress. Sidney will possibly become a large urban centre, with Belleville and Trenton as the suburbs. The Bay of Quinte and the Trent River will become highly developed resort areas.

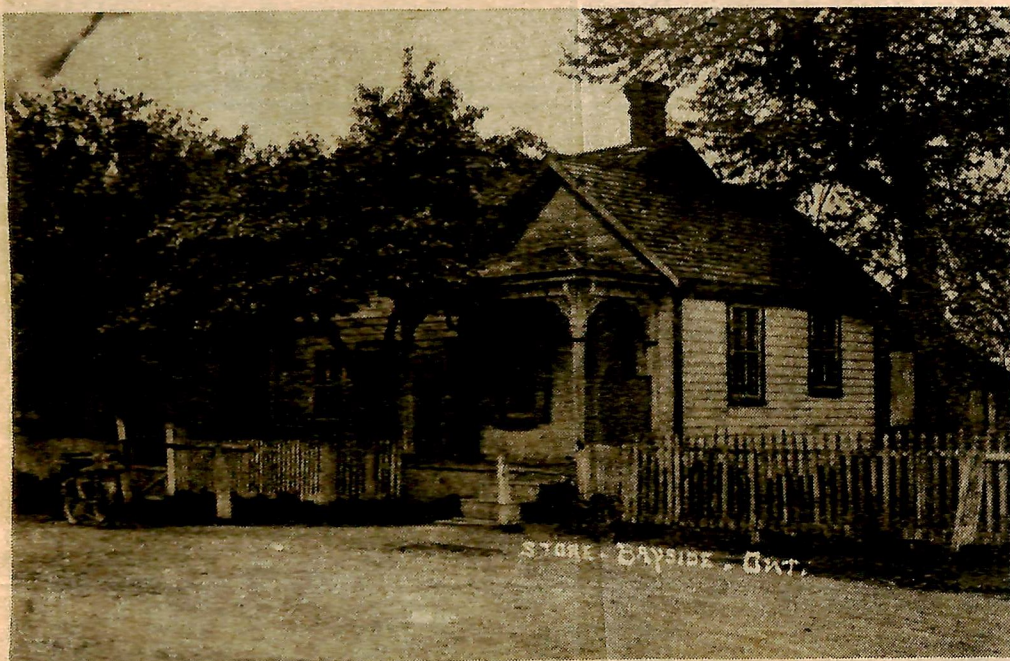
We have the Canadian Forces Base and the Oak Hills Flying Club airport within our boundaries.

We are looking forward to the new Loyalist Campus of the college of applied arts and technology to locate in Sidney Township.

by Ernest J. Kells, Reeve and V. B. Harder, Clerk-Treasurer.



BAYSIDE SCHOOL 1910



BAYSIDE POST OFFICE



White's Church



Compiled By: - Mrs. L. Masten.