

The Rasseau-Nipissing Road -

Designed to encourage settlement in what is now the Parry Sound District, the Rasseau-Nipissing Rd. was authorized by the government in 1864. A survey was completed the following year, and construction began in 1866. Commencing at Cameron Bay at the north end of Lake Rasseau, it ran 67 miles northward terminating at Nipissing, then a tiny settlement.

However, it was soon found that what is now known as Rasseau Bay, was a better connecting point for travellers by lake and road.

By 1873, the road was open for winter traffic, and 2 years later was considered negotiable by wheeled vehicles.

The stage carried the mail and passengers and as many as 30-40 teams would set out loaded with freight, or families going to settle in the Territory along the Nipissing Rd.

If the road was extremely muddy, as it often was, the male passengers were obliged to walk up the hills, and some declared they walked the whole distance!

It took four days going up with the loads of freight of about 1500 lbs., and 3 days to return. One of the stopping places was the Humphrey Hotel at Ashdown Corner.

Until 1886 when the railway reached Callander, travel was heavy on the Nipissing Road.