

HISTORY OF MONETVILLE

Monetville...a rural community 130 families...a beautiful country town!

The townships of Martland, Falconer, Haddo and Loudon were united to create Monetville. The original founder was Cyrille Monette from whom Monetville received its name. Mr. Monette had heard from an Indian guide called "Michel Maringoue" that there was beautiful land in the region of Nipissing. So in 1894, Cyrille Monette, Antoine Gauthier, Joseph Guerin and Louis Guy under the direction of their guide, finally reached this west section of Lake Nipissing. Here they found beautiful lakes and forests and, most important of all, pieces of land already cleared by the fire of 1850. What an ideal spot to start a settlement!

The next spring, on April 15th, 1895, Cyrille Monette, his wife Odile and two of their children, (Victoria and Philius), Moise Guerin Sr. and his family were the first settlers. They travelled across Lake Nipissing from Sturgeon Falls on the ice! In the months to follow the rest of Mr. Monette's family and more settlers started drifting in. Here is a list of the first settlers of the Monetville region:

1895 to 1900

Cyrille Monette	1895
Louis Guy	1895
Moise Guerin Sr.	1895
Damase Beaudoin	1895
Antoine Gauthier	1895
Charles Gauthier	1895
Joseph Guerin	1895
Anselme Monette	1895
Joseph Monette	1895
Napoleon Monette	1895
Adelard Trudeau	1897
Emile Beaulieu	1897
Joseph Audebec	1898
Joseph Laviolette	1898
John Croteau	1898
Cyril Simon	1898

A second group of settlers came in a few years later:

Azarie Chartrand	1905
Noe Page	1905
Modeste Viau	1905
Andrew Klein	1905
Jean-Baptiste de Champlain	1905

Since the number of families in Monetville was increasing, Mr. Monette opened a general store and post office in his house. A school was also needed for the settling families. In 1898, an old shack was converted into a temporary school. Later a proper school was built at Chartrand Corner.

When Mr. Monette first came here, he realized that there was enough free land to start two parishes. His dream was to have a parish in Monetville, where the Zoo used to be and a second one closer to the French River.

In 1905, settlers started coming in from Rutter. They were settling down on Wolf Creek where Noelville is now. This was not as Mr. Monette had wished. A dispute started between the MASON-COSBY settlers and the MARTLAND settlers, over a proper site for a church.