

THE VILLAGE OF GREENOCK (continued)

In the early 1900's there were three hotels in operation, then one was converted into a residence, one burned down in 1924 and the story of the other one seems to have disappeared in the annals of history.

Two early churches were the Presbyterian on the Hawthorne farm built in 1865. and the Methodist church built on the Cunningham property at the top of the hill. Some of the early settlers were buried in the adjoining cemetery. The first school was built in 1855.

A Mr. McFadden built a frame blacksmith shop in 1853 in the village on the north side of the road. It was sold to William Grundy in 1861, then sold to Jacob Koller who in turn sold it to Martin Massel in 1898. In 1907, Mr. Massel built a new cement shop, which he operated until about 1928, when he retired to Kitchener. The shop was later owned by Edward Kraemer. Around the year 1861, a Mr. Burroughs had a blacksmith shop on the north west corner. This was sold to Jacob Koller who later bought the Grundy shop.

Around the year 1855, a Mr. Black started a small woodworking shop west of the village corner. Later a large building was erected beside the Grundy blacksmith shop in 1861. The lower part of the building was a woodworking and wagon shop with a dwelling upstairs. Mr. Mosack owned it around 1880 and by 1885 George Ernewein bought it. The next owner in 1930 was Alex. Kraemer, then Jacob Kraemer.

In the early days, there were two stores, J.B. Ritchie's General Store and a building on the south west side of the village corner was run by William Latimer. It was closed about 1922 and was later used as a dwelling and then razed when the roadway was changed. Later on, the Hawthorne Hotel, on the south east corner, was turned into a store and dwelling. On a board across the front of the store, you can still make out a sign "Wm. Diamond Cheap Store for Cash". Several other people operated the store, then in 1908 it was bought by Hilton Hawthorne. He later retired, selling the store to Gordon Esplan, who in turn sold it a few years later to Magnus Rettinger, who sold it in 1952 to Charles Nolan of London.