

## History of Early "Goshen Corners"

PAPER ON "GOSHEN CORNERS "

Written by Minnie Carswell Peever....April 14. 1959.

In the early 1860's Goshen Corners consisted of ;  
four dwelling houses....a blacksmith shop..and a Hall.

This Hall was built by the Sons of Temperance which was a very active Lodge for many years.

The land was donated by a Mr. John Mc Gregor who owned the farm on the Corner West.. In order to get a DEED for the Hall Property a small sum of money had to be paid. Mr David Carswell, owner of the property across the road on the east side paid the sum of Twenty -five cents (\$. 25).

This Hall was used for the meetings of the Sons of Temperance---- a Sunday School-----Prayer Meetings-----Social Evenings and Political meetings. In later years the Society called the Sons of Temperance disbanded.

In 1914 the Goshen Women's Institute was organized and in 1924 the Goshen W.I. bought this Hall from the Sons of Temperance for the sum of Forty Dollars. (\$40.00.)

One of the dwelling houses was owned by a Mr \_\_\_\_\_ Nesbitt, who was a weaver by trade. Many yards of wool goods and many good wool blankets were woven in that little square log house.

Another log home was owned by David Carswell Sr. who later moved to a property on the Sixth Line --in 1976 owned by Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ Nesbitt., who came from Nepean Township. ~~It~~ This Home had a small grocery and dry goods store as well as a POST OFFICE Known as CARSWELL P.O. The mail had to be brought from Renfrew P.O. until it could be put off at MAYHEW STATION on the C.P.R. railway. The only means of conveyance at that time was by horse and sleigh in winter and horse and buggy in summer. Sometimes when roads were impassable, the Postmaster had to walk this distance of some five miles--carrying the mail-bag on his back. This had to be done until the Ottawa Lumber King----J.R. BOOTH in 1890 built a railway through the settlement--to his timber limits in Algonquin Park --known as the Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway--when Goshen Station came into being. This was later linked with the Canada Atlantic Railway and became part of the GRAND TRUNK in 1914 which in 1923 became the C.N.R.

About \_\_\_\_\_ Rural Mail came into being ---with mail boxes at end of each farm lane ---Carswell P.O. disappeared and a Rural Mail Courier brought the mail from RENFREW to become Rural Route #1.

Another building on the Corner was a BLACKSMITH SHOP operated by James Campbell who made the Lock and a very large KEY for the STORE and POST OFFICE DOOR. Mr and Mrs John E. Miller who until March 1974 lived in the Carswell P.O. home.--selling then to Mr and Mrs Arthur Byberg who renovated it completely.