

Churchill United closes chapter

When Churchill United Church closes its doors for the last time at the end of June, a chapter in the life of the Churchill community will close with it.

The decision to amalgamate with the Acton Church comes after 130 years of services in the white frame pioneer church on Churchill Road just outside of town.

Earliest written records state: "On Feb. 4, 1838, a Congregational Church was formed by the Rev. H. Denny in the school house situated on Jacob Swackhamer's farm in Esopus, consisting of the following persons: Mr. Jacob Swackhamer, Mr. William Swackhamer, Mr. John Gibbons, Mr. Peter Masalos, Mrs. Hannah Swackhamer, Mrs. Sarah Swackhamer, Mrs. Mary Swackhamer, Mrs. Susan Harris, Mrs. Mary Denny, Mrs. Nancy Ann Gibbons, Mrs. Mary McCutcheon."

The Swackhamer family, so active in the founding of the church, were United Empire Loyalists. Jacob was General Brock's orderly during his campaign in Upper Canada in the war of 1812, and the farm lot settled on in 1821, was a veteran's grant for military service.

Soon after the organization, plans for building the present church began.

At a meeting on August 30, 1839, it was resolved that: "Jacob Swackhamer, John Smith, and Peter Masalos be Trustees for the meeting house." The bond for the deed to the land was to be held by Jacob Swackhamer and one pound was to be paid to Jacob Snyder for the purchase of the land.

The first church service to be held in the "Meeting House" as it was called, was probably in 1841. However, the church building was not actually completed until 1843. The first anniversary was celebrated on January 17, 1844.

Much of the actual construction was done by early members of the congregation. The heavy timbers (8" by 8") and the firm foundation, have needed little alteration to this day.

Rev. Hiram Denny served as pastor for the first 16 years. He was followed by Rev. Joseph Unsworth who remained for 22 years from 1854 to 1876, the longest term of any in the history of the church. His son, Rev. Joseph Unsworth Jr. preached his first sermon at Churchill in 1883 before leaving for the west coast.

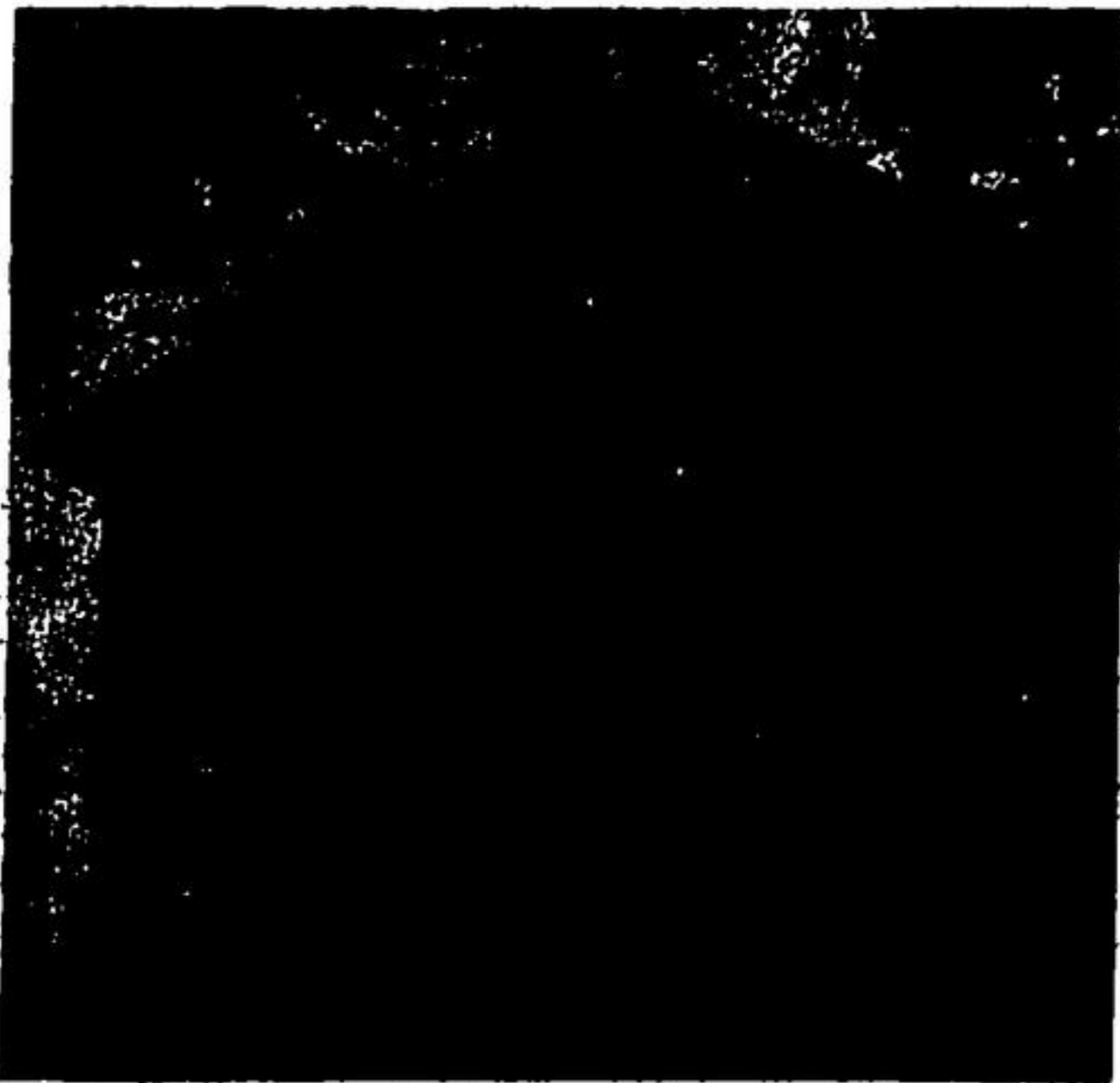
Just three years after organization, Churchill was the birthplace of the Upper Canada Missionary Society (Congregational) in 1841.

The survival of the early church was not easy. The Missionary Superintendent Report, dated Feb. 24, 1862, stated "Our congregation was small. Collections \$2.06. The thinness of the congregation in those parts is somewhat attributed to the good sleighing, which came later than usual, obliging the farmers to double their diligence, working early and late to fulfil their contracts in wood."

For about 13 years from 1884 to 1897, the church formed a joint charge with Greenlaw Church in Caledon. Ministers of Acton's Baptist Church supplied services for about 10 years when a local pastor could not be retained.

Rev. Henry Caldwell was the first to serve the church after Union in 1926. At this time, Churchill joined with churches in Glen Williams and Limhouse to form a pastoral charge.

Women began to take an active part in 1867 when the records state: "The female members should constitute a committee towards fixing the lining and



trimming the pulpit." In 1894, a Visitation Committee was set up with Mrs. Christopher Swackhamer as President. A regular Ladies' Auxilliary was established in 1903.

In 1877, the choir was organized by Mr. H. Gibbons who continued as leader for 45 years.

For the Churchill community, the building has been the centre of social activity for well over a century. Many of the founding families lie buried in the cemetery across the road.

Among the area's oldest citizens, Smith Griffin, R.R. 2, in his 99th year, has been a life-long member of the congregation.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Freeman R.R. 2, Acton are proud of being

Y's Men's auction called "best ever"

Nearly \$800 was raised in one afternoon for the Y's Men's community work, when their annual auction sale turned out to be "the best ever."

The town had been blitzed for contributions and the community centre was filled with articles for sale Saturday afternoon - clothing, dishes, candy, irons, used furniture, books, lamps, chairs, rugs, lawn mowers, desks etc.

Auctioneers: Ray Hindley, Jack Holmes, Frank Hotch and Chris Schouten worked their way around the arena rattling off bids and selling everything with a swoop of the cane.

Y's Monettes assisted the Y's Men, acting as clerks and taking money. The Y's Monettes cleared \$207 at the rummage tables, while the auction brought in well over \$500. Between \$750 and \$800 is expected altogether.



COMPARISON SHOPPING in the women's used hats department at the Y's Men's auction of eager buyers and the sale Saturday was the most successful to date. (Staff Photo)

Council rescinds motions on mall

(Continued from Page 1)

He thought Mr. Drinkwater's remarks were derogatory to businessmen in town. He urged councillors to compare major food outlets in Acton with those in larger places. In his opinion they compared favorably.

Mayor Doby observed, "It is unfortunate we are a small town. The theatre is closed. Until we can supply sufficient attractions, people will continue to go where attractions are."

Councillor Tyler felt that if mall proposal didn't do anything else it got the merchants together for one night.

The resolve fell the development showed council should explore off-street parking more thoroughly.

Councillor Drinkwater disagreed. "The parking problem is being pushed at us," he said. "Businessmen state there is a lack of off-street parking but it's far from the truth. Any Friday or Saturday you can find lots of parking in the business section. But what's the sense of providing parking if it's not going to be used?"

He said he had specifically looked at the problem on the weekend and found spaces available for parking.

Reeve Hinton said Mr. Drinkwater's conclusions were wrong. He suggested he tried it just before Easter or Mother's Day, or some equally busy weekend.

Dputy-revee Frank Oaker agreed that Mr. Drinkwater was partly right. People blame the parking because they won't walk to shop. "If two blocks are crowded the other parking spaces are not used."

Mayor Doby agreed that people won't walk to shop and it is ridiculous to blame parking for problems downtown.

Reeve Hinton said there was more competitive shopping here and that councillors would have to know all the facts before they passed judgement. He suggested that several private parking lots

be donated new goods from merchants were also auctioned off. Attendance was good and the bidding was brisk.

in town, including the Legion would like to get unauthorized cars out of their lots. "Leave it in the hands of No. 2 committee to find parking spaces," urged the deputy-revee. "If they don't spend any money, injected clerk-administrator Jack McGeechie.

Mr. Hinton suggested that No. 2 committee proceed with plans to utilize the Presbyterian church parking lot. He said it is the next wise step to solve the parking problem. "If they won't walk from the post office why would they walk from the Presbyterian church?" asked Mr. Tyler.

"This is where we differ," said the reeve. "I am speaking for the ratepayers."

Councillor Drinkwater said his opinions were based on an actual survey of parking in Acton and the clerk corroborated Mr. Drinkwater's findings.

He said that the parking situation had been surveyed for two solid weeks.

The discussion concluded with the mayor saying that it was his own personal survey that people buy cars and give no thought to where they will park them.

Ladder to disaster cited in O.P.P. report

The policing week of May 19 to May 25, was, although 10 complaints were recorded in the occurrence book for the Acton O.P.P., a week of peace and quiet. The majority of the occurrences dealt with reports of lost and found property.

Traffic statistics compiled during 224 duty hours and 818 miles patrolled. In the Acton cruiser, saw four persons issued traffic citations while 17 others received warnings for less serious offences.

There was no court on May 28 due to the holiday. As well as being a quiet week generally, it was also a week in which no accidents occurred.

However, despite this accident free week and four others which have occurred this year, our statistics show that we are running one month ahead of last

year. So far this year the Acton O.P.P. has investigated 40 accidents that occurred in town. This total was not reached until late June 1967.

The man who habitually passes on a hill, or ignores Stop signs, or thinks that swinging wig-wags apply only to the traffic behind him rapidly uses up his 'free chances in the gamble. One day he will have to pay!

Unsafe acts lead eventually to near-misses which finally end up as an accident. The good driver tries his utmost to keep off any part of this broad-based ladder to disaster.

Withdraw amendment

A proposed amendment to the Official Plan for the Town of Acton on properties owned by J. Ridley, J. Goy and J. McGladrey on Guelph St. has been withdrawn following written advice from the Community Planning Branch of the Department of Municipal Affairs.

Council was asked to have the properties rezoned M1 industrial from the present R3 residential. They agreed and the case came up in front of the Ontario Municipal Board at the last hearing in Acton. The board reserved decision.

Correspondence from the Community Planning Branch advised council the properties had little adverse effect as they were zoned now and suggested they be left R3 with a non-conforming M1 use. Council agreed.

"It's unfortunate the advice is so late," said Mayor Doby. "To change the decision now will seriously affect the individuals involved."

"This particular amendment cost the town \$1,500," charged Councillor Drinkwater, a figure denied by the reeve.

Councillor Tyler said the situation had changed since the hearing. "One guy changed his mind and another moved away and has sold his property."

The clerk explained the complicated situation to Councillor Perry who was the only one opposed to having the amendment withdrawn from the official plan and the by-law rescinded.

Flowers of Hope canvass raises \$794.84 in Acton

The "Flowers of Hope" campaign total this year in Acton is \$794.84, and the rural route returns are not all in yet. General convener Mrs. Jessie Price and assistant Mrs. Marg Louitell are "very pleased" with the results.

"It is expected the money will be used to provide residential care for the mentally retarded.

There were 57 canvassers who went door-to-door in Acton asking for the donation, on behalf of the Acton branch of the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded.

Capitans and canvassers: Mrs. Freda Buckman, captain, Miss Anne McMillan, Miss Linda Gordon, Mrs. Lynda Easing, Arlonice Mahat, Pat Wheeler, Harriet Helwig, Alice Wakle, Mrs. Van Dam.

Mrs. Betty Dunn, captain, Mrs. Marg Louitell, captain, Mrs. Fleischer, Mrs. Lucy Synott,

also had changed since the hearing. "One guy changed his mind and another moved away and has sold his property."

The clerk explained the complicated situation to Councillor Perry who was the only one opposed to having the amendment withdrawn from the official plan and the by-law rescinded.

Mrs. Lena Mason, captain, Mrs. C. Landborough, Mrs. Est. Breare, Mary Allan.

Mrs. Julie Conroy, captain, Mrs. E. R. New, Mrs. Alvin Livermore, Mrs. E. McCulloch, Mrs. M. Pope, Mrs. Florence Rocher, Mrs. Helen Loughlan, Mrs. Barbara Trotter, Beryl Benoit.

Mrs. Bill Spielvogel, captain, Mrs. Dora Coles, Miss Judy Doby, Mrs. Faye Pink, Mrs. Peggy Delbrun, Mrs. Lois Gordon, Mrs. Laura McEachern, Mrs. Inez Luly, captain, Mrs. S. Collett, Mrs. Dagle,

Mrs. Doris Townlay, captain, Ena Gibson, Joan Tyers, Madeline Manes, Beryl Diggins, Margaret McNab, Eldene McGilloway, Phyllis Patrick.

TABLE TOP GREATLY REDUCED

36" x 60" SHEETS ONLY 39¢ SQ. FT.

30" x 48" SHEETS Reg. Price 55¢ sq. ft.

USE FOR Counters, Vanities, Table Tops, Window Sills, Door Facings, Furniture and Walls.

Available in either Glossy Finish or Furniture Finish in Various Colors and Patterns.

This Stock Includes Discontinued Lines or Slight Imperfections all at this Special Low Price

DON'T DELAY -- BUY NOW WE DELIVER

LAKEVIEW DISCOUNT CENTRE

Main St. N. Acton 852-1190

mall...

(Continued from Page 1)

of Commerce had any alternative plan, and he replied special promotions with a small carnival and other events were already under consideration. Closing off a side street had also been discussed by the Chamber "but that just isn't a mall."

When he added the Chamber was considering making a house-to-house survey on consumers' shopping habits and wants, several promptly volunteered to help.

Ted Tyler Jr., who first brought a detailed mall plan before council, concluded philosophically, "We've got the merchants together and we can't help but benefit."

At 9:35 p.m. Bert Hinton made a motion to change the discussion from the mall to off-street parking and everyone who spoke agreed on the need.

After the meeting ended, a couple of parking enthusiasts were last seen walking off behind Mill St. stores, peering off parking spaces.

the Presbyterian Church, Aldo Braida's survey of possible locations, some stores which provided their own parking lots. "Council is prepared to take anything seriously that has public support... council has to have a demand." He agreed parking was needed badly.

Chamber committee studying parking includes president Paul Nielson, Dave Manes and John Conoglio.

More questions asked: Should businesses provide the parking themselves? Isn't there enough parking space in the blocks near the main street? Won't the highway by-pass affect business? How about angle parking on one-way streets on Willow and John?

And: how come the Legion parking lot is always full of shoppers' cars when I want to go in there?

Summarised Mr. Nielson, "We can live with the mall or without it, but we MUST have off-street parking."

After the meeting ended, a couple of parking enthusiasts were last seen walking off behind Mill St. stores, peering off parking spaces.

Going Camping?

LET US LOOK AFTER YOUR TRAILER REQUIREMENTS

CAMP IN STYLE

WITH A TRAIL-BLAZER

THE ALL-NEW CAMPER

Featuring

- VIVA TEX TENT
- SOLID STEEL TOW BAR
- NEW SAFETY CATCH DOOR
- LEAF SPRINGS
- FULLY WIRED
- 500-LB WEIGHT

CAMPER SLEEPS 6 PERSONS

\$475.00 Complete with Mattresses and Spare Wheel

EASY PAYMENTS TERMS CAN BE ARRANGED

BP COIN CAR WASH

341 Queen St. Acton 853-2114

RED & WHITE Price Busters

Maple Leaf - Mild-Cured Smoked PICNICS 42¢ lb.

Canada - Grade 'A' - 2 1/4 to 3-lb. Average Chickens 35¢ lb.

Maple Leaf - S.P. - Cryovac Halves Cottage Rolls 59¢ lb.

Aylmer - Fancy - 48-oz. Tins TOMATO JUICE SAVE 10¢ 29¢

FOR MORE SAVINGS - CHECK OUR 2-PAGE HANDBILL

Bayer Aspirins 59¢ Bil. of 100

G.E. Lamp BULBS Pkg. of 2 39¢ 40-60-100 watt

Best Buy! Save 14¢ - Ballet TISSUE 6 79¢

White Swan - Save 14¢ - Pkg. 360's Facial Tissue 2:55¢

Clover Leaf or Maple Leaf - Sockeye - 1/2 Tin SALMON 58¢

Sunspun - Canadian CHEESE SLICES 2 8-oz. PKGS. 59¢

Crisp - Solid Heads - No. 1 - Iceberg LETTUCE 2:39¢

Red & White - Evaporated MILK 6 99¢ 16-oz. Tall Tins