

This cemetery is almost lost in time and neglect

13—The Canadian Champion, Friday, July 1, 1994

In accordance with The Cemeteries Act, the Town of Milton is responsible for maintaining abandoned cemeteries in a safe condition. In addition to this, we also attempt to keep the grass cut where applicable.

I recently received a letter from a former Campbellville resident, Emma Tennant, who now lives in Wasaga Beach. Ms Tennant requested my assistance concerning some items, one of which was the deplorable condition of the Hopkinson's Corners Cemetery. She has a sister buried in this cemetery.

This cemetery is located at a point directly opposite where the southern portion of the First Line of Nassagaweya meets the Third Side Road.

Thomas Hopkinson, who settled this land in 1840, sold a quarter-acre lot to the trustees of the Methodist Church in 1864. The cemetery was established beside the small church that was subsequently built. Many people in the area attended this church. Children also attended a log schoolhouse located just west of where the rail line is now.

This was one of six Methodist churches located in Nassagaweya then. There were two circuit preachers of note making rounds. Charles Laking lived on his family farm on the east side of the Milborough Town Line, just north of the Campbellville Side Road. In later years this farm was owned by John and Alma King.

Around Campbellville

with GERRY BROOKS

Doctor John McArthur returned from missionary work in Japan in 1899 to assume duties there, and with other Methodist churches in the vicinity, including Moffat. Doctor McArthur was born in a small built-up frame home on the northeast corner of the Guelph Line and Derry Road. He later settled on a farm on the First Line just south of Moffat, where the Rigo family now resides.

In 1911 CP Rail purchased the old frame church and sold it to the Mays family, who then placed it on their farm, located on the east side of the First Line north of the Fifth Side Road. There it stands today, on land now owned by Carol and Doug Elliott. This building has been well maintained and is presently used as a workshop.

Among others buried in this cemetery is Henry Watson, a Nassagaweya pioneer who settled Lot One, Concession One, in 1839. Mr. Watson has many descendants living in Nassagaweya today who have played a prominent role in our history. Mr. Watson purchased a



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Local residents Beatrice Woolsey and Jim Watson have relatives buried in the Pioneer Cemetery on No. 3 Sideroad. The cemetery's rundown state is a concern in the community.

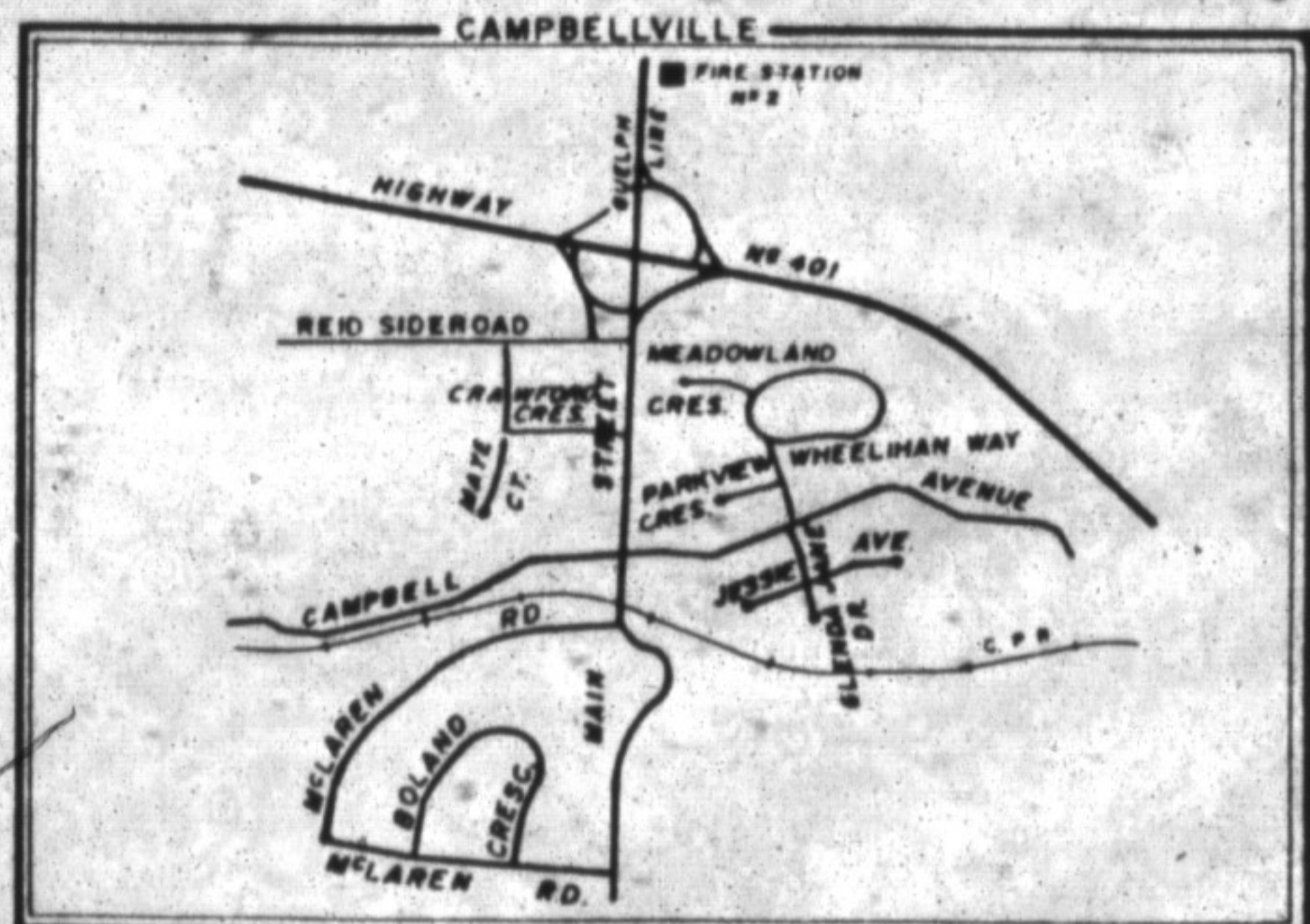
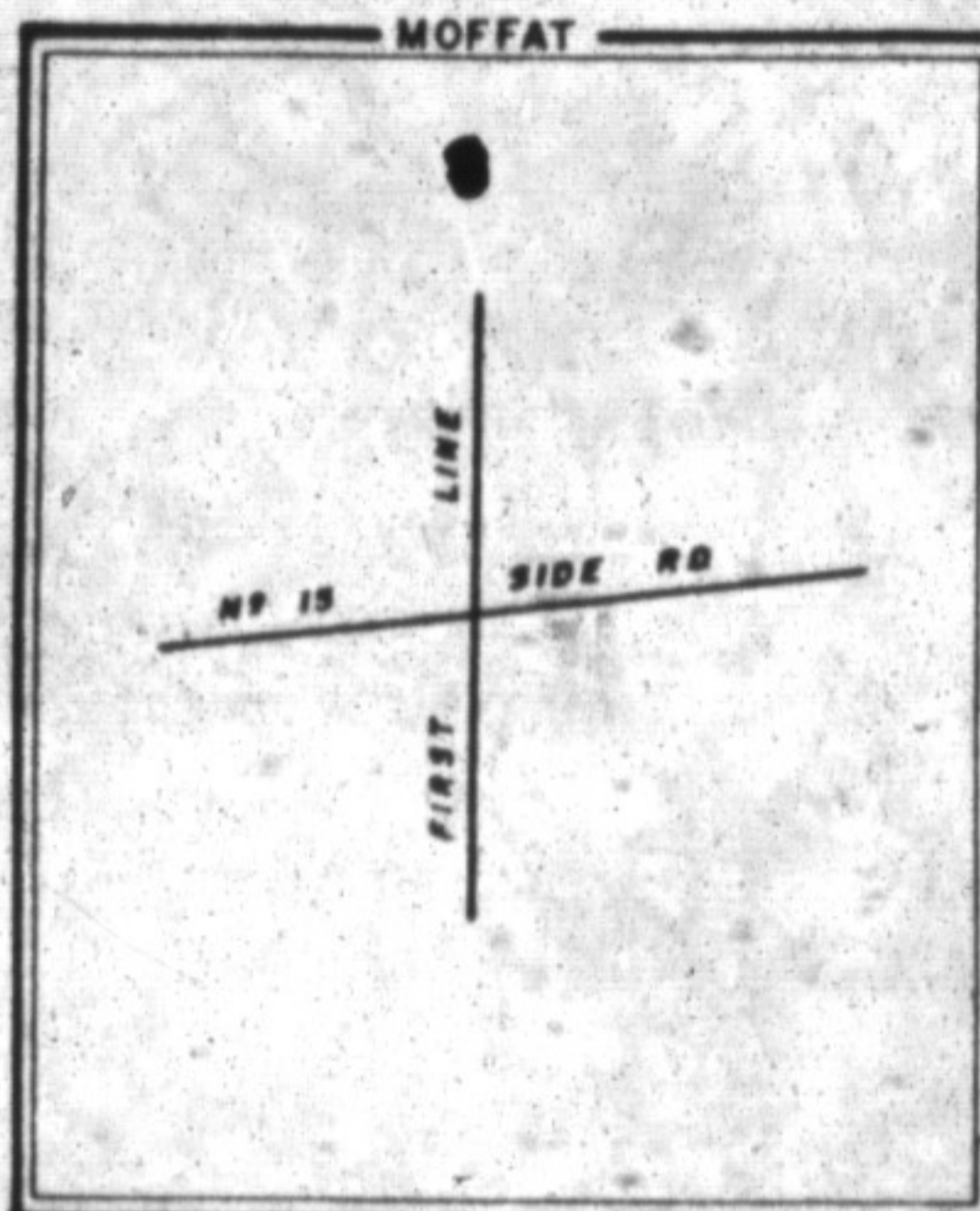
one-acre lot immediately adjacent to the church property in 1864. There are also members of both the Haines and the Hopkinson families buried there. Early burials consisted mainly of infants from the parish.

I have held discussions with the Local Architectural Council Advisory Committee, members of the Campbellville Historical Society, descendants and Town of Milton staff, who are all supportive of suit-

ably identifying, rehabilitating and preserving this historic site.

Editor's note: Mr. Brooks is a Ward 3 (Nassagaweya) town councillor with an interest in area history and architecture.

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