

YORK PIONEER AND PRESENT

BY E. A. JAMES

Article 8
YORK

Before the white man came the area between what is now Toronto and Lake Simcoe was described as Toronto—a Huron Indian word meaning the meeting place. The numerous Indian burying grounds and camp sites that have been discovered in this area are mute witnesses to the fact that what is now York was indeed "an Indian meeting place."

The white man changed the descriptive word into a proper noun and spelled it Toronto and on at least one old map Lake Simcoe is named Lake Toronto and the Humber River, Toronto River.

The English changed the name of Fort Rouille to Fort Toronto and it was by this name it was known when Lieut. Gov. Simcoe selected Toronto as the site of the new Capital of Upper Canada.

But he was not pleased with the name and when the Duke of York's Army was victorious against the French in Holland he used the victory as the occasion of changing the name of the capital of Upper Canada to York.

The proclamation which we here give in full calling for the change would indicate that Governor Simcoe wished to do honor to the Duke of York and perhaps at the same time please King George III.

PROCLAMATION

York Upper Canada, August 2th, 1793

His excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, having received information of the success of His Majesty's Arms under H. R. H. the Duke of York, by which Holland has been saved from the invasion of the French Armies and it appearing that the combined forces have been successful in dislodging their enemies from an entrenched camp supposed to be impregnable, from which the most important consequence may be expected and in which the arduous attempt H. R. H. the Duke of York and His Majesty's troops supported the National Glory and it is His Excellency's orders that on the raising of the Union Flag at 12 o'clock tomorrow, a Royal Salute of 21 guns is to be fired, to be answered by the shipping in the Harbor, in respect of His Royal Highness and in commemoration of the naming of this Harbor from His title York.

(Signed) E. B. LITTLEGALES

In 1817 York was given self-Government and upon the population reaching 9,000, it was on March 6th, 1834 incorporated as a City under the former name, Toronto.

Although for forty years the official name was York yet the usual term applied when referring to this new settlement was "Little York" or "Muddy York."

The first surveys at York, outside of the Capital were Yonge Street and Eglinton Avenue, which were the base lines for future surveys, and the first township outlined was the Township of Dublin but later the township name was changed first to Toronto and then to York in conformity with the Capital name.

The School in School Section No. 16, York West (now North York) situated on the Lansing Side Road is known as the "Dublin School" and as this locality was one of the first in York to be settled, I sometimes think the name of the Dublin School is a memory from the early days when the Township of York was known as the Township of Dublin.

When the survey of the townships between Lake Ontario and Lake Simcoe was completed an electoral district within the Home District was named York and Later Ontario, consisting of the townships of Etobicoke, York, Scarborough, Markham, Vaughan, King, Whitechurch, Gwillimbury East and Gwillimbury North.

The counties of Ontario, York and Peel were united for county purposes until 1853 when Ontario separated.

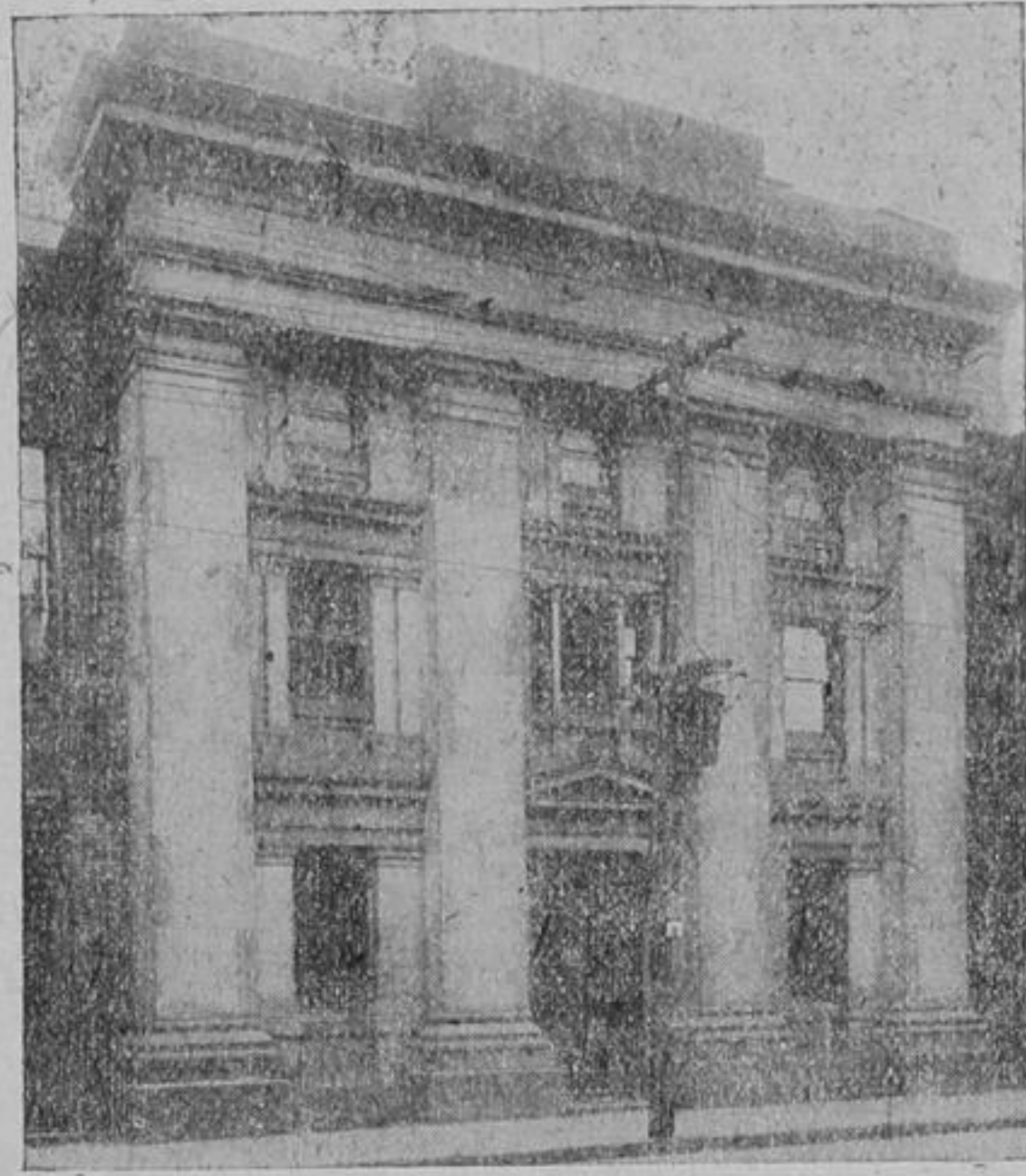
In 1856 the present County Buildings were constructed and have been continuously for seventy years the home of the County of York Offices and the meeting place of the County Council.

Until the opening of the present City Hall of Toronto on Sept. 18th 1899 which also serves as the Court House of Toronto and York, these buildings were also the Court House for the United Judicial District of Toronto and York.

On January 1st, 1867 Peel and York separated and H.S. Howland of Vaughan was elected Warden of York and the Municipalities within the county were the townships included in 1851 and the Township of Georgina and the Villages of Yorkville, Newmarket, Holland Landing and Aurora.

Next Week—WILLOWDALE.

N.B.—The writer welcomes comments, criticisms or corrections and he also hopes readers will forward descriptions of incidents connected with the County of York, of which they have particular knowledge.



County of York Municipal Buildings 57 Adelaide Street East, Toronto Built in 1855

King Township Council

King Township Council met at the Community Hall, Nobleton, on Saturday July 31st, 1926, members all present, receive in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The several communications received and noted.

The Treasurer was instructed to pay the following bills as presented and certified:—

Norman Robb, Maint. \$3.75; J.H. White, Gravel \$71.60; J. H. White, Cement \$17.50; J. H. White, Maint. \$24.75; Jas. Hopcroft, Gravel \$49.20; Jas. H. Bowes, Maint. \$154.20; M. J. Kehoe, Grant \$86.00; M. J. Kehoe, Maint. ½ to Albion \$41.70; Geo. Bowes, Gravel \$20.00; Lewis Mount, Bal. on account \$99.00; William Crawford, Bal. on account \$18.40; William Rose, Bk. bill \$12.60; Peter Huson, grant and opening pit \$119.20; Hylson Brydon, Gravel \$16.60; Joseph Ballard, Bk. bill \$10.15; Isaac Webster, Wire \$19.50; George Case, Gravel \$17.80; W. S. Murray, supplies for road \$19.76; Elwood Aitcheson, Gravel \$41.99; W. J. Hammit, Gravel \$11.60; Jas. E. Burns, Gravel and opening pit \$79.30; Canada Ingot Iron Co., Culvert \$84.00; Joseph Beatty, Grading \$9.00; D. J. Egan, Gravel \$6.50; D. J. Egan, Maint. \$91.85; Reuben Egan, Maint. \$161.95; W.E. Somerville, Maint. \$24.00; D.C. Mabee, Plank and Post \$33.00; Seeba Geer, Work in Pit and Fence \$81.85; J. Rainey, Snow and repairs to grader \$5.60; J. Rainey, Maint. \$70.30; Thos. Clark, Gravel \$38.00; Thos. Clark, Maint. \$17.00; J. Rainey, Maint. \$75.95; Colin Campbell, Snow and Dragging \$8.90; Dominion Road Machinery Co. Bal. on account \$10.80; Municipal World, Supplies \$2.65; Baines and David, Steel \$18.26; Baines and David, Freight \$1.01; Baines and David, Steel \$22.50; Jno. Malloy, Gravel \$30.40; Jno. Malloy, Maint. \$135.75; Jno. Malloy, Repairs to culvert \$9.75; J. D. McCallum, operating grader \$37.50; Enoch Seaton, Maint. \$184.90; Metallic Roofing Co., culvert \$56.32; W. E. Dale, Hardware supplies \$21.27; F. R. Dalahaye, repairs to crusher \$7.25; Albert Hill, Teaming \$8.00; Herman Kaake, Snow \$13.00; Jerome Campbell, Maint. \$61.45; Earl Cook, Maint. \$97.00; Norman MacMurchy, Moving grader and etc. \$10.40; Elgin Evans, Maint. \$171.00; Herman Kaake, Maint. \$113.90; R. S. McLean, gravel \$10.20; R. S. McLean, Maint. \$74.25; Lewis Mount, Operating grader and etc. \$43.90; H. Brydon, Maint. \$215.65; Jas. Hopcroft, Road construction \$478.25; Frank Hulse, Maint. \$153.50; Frank Davis, Construction \$385.55; Jacob Gould, Maint. \$30.20; J. P. Jefferson, Maint. \$52.30; W. Crawford, Maint. \$197.05; Wesley Proctor, Maint. \$109.15; Jesse Tatton, Maint. \$9.25; John A. Lynn, Maint. \$125.75; Fred Hodgins, Maint. \$55.00; John Sweezie, Maint. \$11.85; Basil Deacon, Maint. \$192.75; Robt. Long, Maint. \$19.40; Robt. Long, Maint. \$382.65; Thos. Hall, Gravel \$30.80; The Bateman and Wilkinson Co., Scrapers &c. \$39.00; Joseph Hodgins, Gravel ½ to E. G. \$66.00; Joseph Hodgins, Maint. \$121.70; T. F. Webster, Maint. \$11.30; Cecil Wray, Gravel \$8.00; Andrew Watson, Cleaning Pit \$6.80; Jno. Lynn, tile \$12.25; Henry Kerr, Maint. \$193.50; Harry Finch, Drawing Gravel \$17.00; Jas. Hopcroft, Maint. \$107.50; D. A. Rawlings, Maint. \$137.50; D. B. Davis, Cement, \$192.50; Jno. A. Lynn, Posts \$8.40; W. E. Hanlon, Gravel and pit \$107.00; Thos. Burrell, Snow \$3.50; Calvin Mitchell, Teaming \$63.60; Jno. Botham, Maint. \$43.50; Jno. A. Lynn, Maint. \$86.65; Jacob Gould, Maint. \$158.00; W. C. Davis, Maint. \$66.00; E. Cooney, Gravel \$25.00; Jno. A. Lynn, Construction \$293.55; Andrew Watson, Maint. \$111.25; Thos. Hodgins, Teaming ½ to E. G. \$6.00; W. Crawford, Construction \$48.90; Fred A. Bogart, Maint. \$21.75; Fred Graham, Gravel P.V.S. \$54.00; Schomberg Co., Cement P.V.S. \$37.50; Frank Brown, oil P.V.S. \$62.40; D. B. Davis, Cement P.V.S. \$30.00; Saml. McDevitt, Freight and Cartage P. V. S. \$16.00; Wm. Hollingshead, Work on sidewalk P.V. S. \$12.00; E. Hollingshead, Work P.V. S. \$39.00; Saml. Hollingshead, Work P.V. S. \$51.00; Mark Allen, Building Culverts \$200.00; Jas. Bryan, Work on culvert \$35.00; Wm. Pringle, Work in cemetery \$7.50; Schaefer and Co., Dynamite \$3.23; Mark Allen, Telephone account 70 cents; John Smith, Gravel \$23.60; Chris McGuire, Teaming \$51.95; Jacob Gould, Teaming \$63.20; John Smith, Maint. \$234.90; Herb Evans, Maint. \$99.80.

RESOLUTIONS

T. MacMurchy-Dugan:—That J. A. Farquhar be paid the sum of \$18.00 re services as constable.

Egan-Armstrong:—That the Treasurer be instructed to pay to Mark Allen the sum of \$100.00 on account re Shaw culvert.

T. MacMurchy-Egan:—That Chas. Ross be paid the sum of \$11.47 stamps transfers etc.

Duggan-T. MacMurchy:—That this Council grant to the village of Lloydtown the sum of \$100.00 for construction of cement sidewalks in said village.

Duggan-Armstrong:—That the treasurer is hereby authorized to pay Cecil Walker the sum of \$375.00, payment in full to July 31st 1926.

Egan-Armstrong:—That the treasurer be instructed to pay to Thos. Robins Treasurer of Tecumseh Twp. the sum of \$203.53, being one-half of repairs to Towaline between King and Tecumseh.

Egan-T. MacMurchy:—That this Council request the Good Roads Commission to supply King City with the necessary Parking signs.

Egan-Duggan:—That this Council instruct the clerk to prepare a By-Law re the issue of debentures for the building of a new school house at Section 16 King.

On motion council adjourned to meet at the Temperance Hall, Kettleby, on Saturday 28th August 1926, for the regular business and school petitions.

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