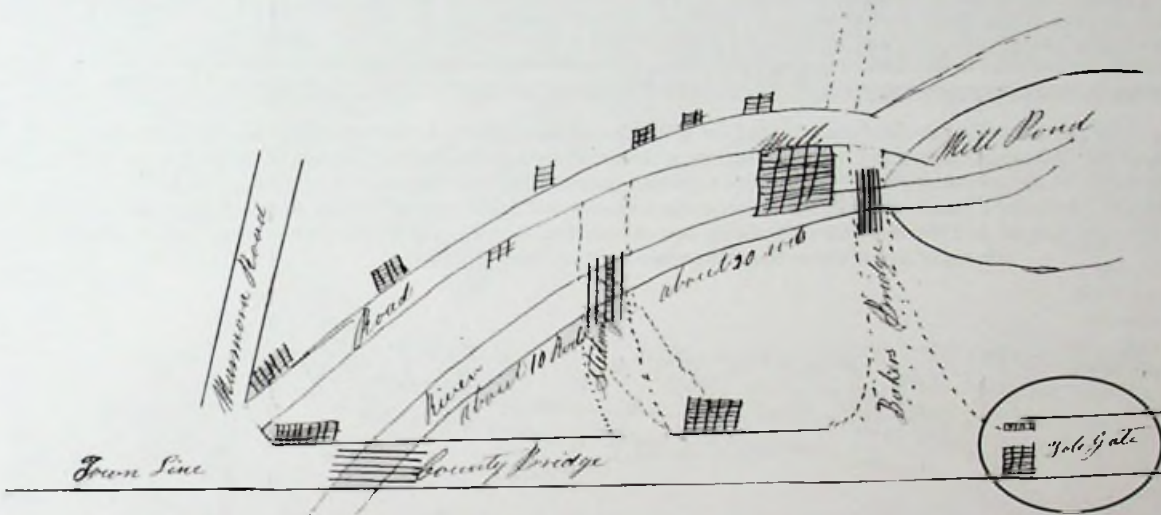


## STIRLING HISTORY IN MAPS

by Lewis Zandbergen

A wealth of historical information can be found in maps. Goad's Insurance Maps are a fantastic resource for anyone interested in local history. On these pages you'll discover Stirling's original layout, the site of Stirling-Rawdon's Toll Gate and businesses which used to occupy buildings along Front and Mill Streets. Why was Church Street named Church

Street? Stirling's Town Hall has moved many times through the years; discover its original location and subsequent sites in earlier times. Businesses you've often read about such as Milne and Clute and McGee and Lagrow are shown as are the original site of the library, post office and telephone exchange. Lodge rooms, grocery stores and banks are also shown.



This rather crude map dates to 1856. It shows Stirling streets laid out roughly in their present configuration as well as seven buildings which it is believed were business establishments. Two mill buildings are also shown. An interesting and little known fact is that the municipality had a toll gate (circled) just about where Front Street East and James Street intersect. The James Street bridge was called Bakers Bridge while the middle bridge was called Steedmans Bridge. The Front Street Bridge was known simply as the "County Bridge."



This is a small part of the 1890 (revised 1896) edition of the Stirling Goad's map. Highlights include the site of the original town hall on the corner of Victoria and Mill Streets and the site of a Baptist Church on Church Street right across from Annis Street and the mills clustered around the creek just west of James Street. Also interesting to note are the number of streets which for one reason or another were never developed. Albert, Robert (off John) and Rear streets.