



**Two Stores in Oakville, Ontario**  
The J & A Beatty Store and the William Creighton Store

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last updated 2021-03-19.

In order to keep this story manageable, I am going to refer to known family relationships without giving sources. I do have those sources and intend to cover them in a separate paper.

James Beatty was a Protestant Irishman born in 1792 in County Tyrone, Ireland. He came to Toronto (then called "muddy York") in 1830 with a number of family members. James married Ann McKowen in 1832. He started a business "British Woolen Warehouse" there shortly after his arrival. Somewhat later he opened an additional store in Oakville. I have spent a lot of time researching the Oakville store hoping to learn more about James and his family and in the process I found out about another store there. The purpose of this paper is to describe the history of those two stores in Oakville.



Figure 1. J and A Beatty Store, Oakville 2021 - Photo by Anne Choate Little

The Town of Oakville designated the first store a heritage property in 1991.<sup>[1]</sup> Its current address is 215 Lakeshore Road East in Oakville. That section of Lakeshore was originally called Colborne Street but I will use the modern name in this paper. The store is listed in the 1857 Canada Directory as "Beatty, J. & A., general dealers".<sup>[2]</sup> It is named as "J + A Beatty" in James Beatty's will written in 1858.<sup>[3]</sup> The initials stand for "James and Archibald", where Archibald Beatty is James' nephew and later partner in the store. Of course, it was only called that after Archibald became a partner. For the purposes of this paper, I will refer to it throughout as the "Beatty store", even though its ownership changed several times. [Figure 1](#) shows a modern photograph of the store.

Before that store existed, in 1833 James Beatty bought some land in Halton County presumably to add another outlet to his Toronto store.<sup>[4]</sup> The land was on Dundas Street close to the corner of the "7th Line". Dundas Street was originally a military road linking York to the town of Dundas, Ontario. In 1833 it was the main road linking York to the western hinterlands of Ontario. The 7th Line was an early survey road that ran south from Dundas Street about 4 miles to the new settlement of Oakville being built on Lake Ontario by William Chisholm. Within Oakville it went by various names at different times. The modern name is Trafalgar Road for its whole length and I will use that name in this paper. As far as I know, James Beatty never used the land on Dundas Street for a store or any other business purpose. I think that probably by the time he was ready to open a new store Oakville had made so much progress, it was a more attractive location than Dundas Street.

Hence, in 1835, when James felt he was in a position to open another outlet, he bought the store in Oakville that I call the Beatty store. The purchase is interesting and sheds some light on the construction of the store. The first purchase was two back-to-back lots bought from William Butts for 400 pounds.<sup>[5]</sup> This price was a very high markup from the price of 60 pounds Butts paid the original developer William Chisholm in 1833.<sup>[6]</sup> This clearly indicates the purchase included some substantial building or buildings added by Butts even though none are mentioned. The second purchase, a narrow strip of land 32 feet wide running the whole length of the side adjacent to the first purchase was bought directly from Chisholm.<sup>[7]</sup> The price of 77 pounds was similarly marked up considering the tiny size of the land included. The designated heritage store actually spans the land of both purchases. Both purchase documents were signed at the same time with Chisholm even witnessing Butts purchase. Considered together, it seems most likely that Butts and Chisholm contracted with James Beatty to build a store to his specification. Butts probably committed to the erection, while Chisholm (who owned a sawmill) provided the lumber. This explains why James Beatty was able to buy an existing store spanning land owned by two different people.

I know that James bought the store in 1835, but I am pretty sure he himself stayed in Toronto and continued to run his store there. He would have appointed someone to manage the store for him, but I have no clear proof who that person was.

James may have overextended himself with the purchase of the store, or other financial difficulties may have arisen because in January 1836 he ran an ad in the Christian Guardian newspaper.<sup>[8]</sup> In the ad he says he is retiring and offers all stock in his Toronto store "at and

under first cost, for Ready Money". He may have sold some of his goods, but he still had the store listed in an 1837 directory (which may have been compiled in 1836).<sup>[9]</sup>

The year 1837 was a time of tumult and later rebellion in Canada. For some time the financial situation had been worsening, then on March 10, 1837 banks in New York City started the "Panic of 1837" by suspending payments in hard cash (that is coins).<sup>[10]</sup> In those days, paper money was issued by the banks without a government guarantee, so it was worthless if the bank failed. The American crisis had dire consequences in Canada and the Bank of Upper Canada followed suit about July 1837. The resulting recession caused investors from Britain to withdraw money from the colony and the scarcity of money caused further serious problems, especially for merchants like James Beatty.

In September of 1837, a shipment to James Beatty was seized by the Collector of Customs after 60 pounds weight of copper coins were found packed in the center of it. Because of James' "very respectable character", the coins were seized, but no further action was taken.<sup>[11]</sup> Although James was not charged with a crime, it seems most likely that the shortage of coins in Upper Canada had driven him to try to smuggle in some (probably American) coins.

William Creighton was James Beatty's first cousin related through James' mother Ann Creighton. The earliest record I have for William gives an estimated birth date of 1812.<sup>[12]</sup> So he was about 20 years younger than James, and probably looked up to him more like an uncle than a cousin. Since James was in serious financial trouble by 1837, he probably wrote to William early in that year asking for help. He also would have outlined the opportunity to buy property in Canada at rock bottom prices for hard cash. For whatever reason, William was convinced. William arrived in New York on May 23, 1837 and he probably arrived in Canada shortly thereafter.<sup>[12]</sup> The arrival is confirmed by the 1842 census which says he has been in the province 4 years.<sup>[13]</sup> The first reliable record I have found of him in Canada is a land purchase a little west of Oakville in East Flamborough dated August 14, 1838.<sup>[14]</sup> That record lists him as a merchant in Oakville, so he has probably taken over James' store there. It may be that James was unable to pay the first manager and he had left by that time.

The financial crunch came to James Beatty in March 1839. He was forced to give up his possessions to his creditors led by shipping magnate Joseph Masson and his company. In the transfer,<sup>[15]</sup> all his property in Trafalgar and Oakville was sold by James for a token payment of 10 shillings subject to a trust agreement. The transfer refers to the agreement between James and his creditors but the agreement itself is not in the land records and I have not found it elsewhere. There is no mention of a court case and it seems that it was all worked out between James and his creditors. I don't know how amicable it was, but all his creditors would have realized the impossible financial position that James and a lot of other merchants were in.

On October 7, 1839 William Creighton bought his own store in Oakville which I will call the Creighton store to distinguish it from the Beatty store.<sup>[16]</sup> William only paid 19 pounds for the store as compared to the 477 pounds James paid four years earlier to have one built. The Creighton store was on a smaller lot but it was nevertheless a complete operational store at a rock bottom price which again reflects the severe financial situation. It was across the street and a block down the road from the Beatty store. The Creighton store also survives today and it was designated a

heritage property in 1993.<sup>[17]</sup> The modern address is 184-186 Lakeshore Road. The photo on the title page shows the Creighton store circa 1897.<sup>[18]</sup> Figure 2 shows a modern photograph of the same store.



Figure 2. William Creighton Store, Oakville 2021 - Photo by Anne Choate Little

An important thing to note about the purchase is that it was witnessed by William Hall who had recently moved from Toronto to Oakville.<sup>[16]</sup> He is James Beatty's nephew and therefore William

Creighton's first cousin once removed. William Hall was listed as a "gentleman" which presumably meant he was unemployed. He was probably in Oakville to work in one of the two family stores. As we shall see, William Hall later became a business partner of William Creighton when they both moved back to Toronto.

On June 26, 1840, William Creighton's brother Samuel (another first cousin of James Beatty) arrived in New York and probably came directly to Canada.<sup>[19]</sup> Samuel went to live in Toronto, but he brought with him Archibald Beatty, James Beatty's nephew and future partner in the store. He was only 11 at the time, and no doubt was there to apprentice as a clerk for William Creighton. Archibald would spend the rest of his life in Oakville as a clerk and later a merchant. Archibald was the son of James' brother Joseph Beatty who remained in Ireland with the rest of his family.

On August 29, 1840 William Creighton received the patent (original deed) on 50 acres of lot 9 in the third concession south of Dundas Street.<sup>[20]</sup> The circumstances leading to this patent are unusual. There is a note in the Trafalgar township papers purporting to sell this lot to William Creighton on December 21, 1835.<sup>[21]</sup> It is signed by a William Cronkrite and witnessed by Rob K. Chisholm. I doubt the validity of the note for the following reasons:

- As previously stated, all my research, which includes the passenger list and census mentioned above, says William Creighton did not arrive in Canada before 1837.
- The witness Robert Kerr Chisholm (son of William Chisholm) was only 16 at the time.<sup>[22]</sup> He would have been unusually young for a witness and his signature may not even have been legally binding.
- In the 1838 census of Trafalgar, James Beatty was assessed for the Beatty store in Oakville plus the 50 acre lot in question, but no residents are listed.<sup>[23]</sup>
- In the 1839 census of Trafalgar, James Beatty was not assessed for the Beatty store, but was again assessed for the 50 acre lot in question.<sup>[24]</sup>

I suggest it was in fact James Beatty who bought this lot from William Cronkrite in 1835, but he could not register the sale because the Crown patent had not yet been granted. When James became insolvent in 1839, the land should have gone to his creditors. Instead a backdated note transferring the land to James' cousin William Creighton was drawn up and witnessed, probably in 1839 or 40. I cannot say for sure that anything illegal occurred, but it is suspicious.

On September 4, 1840, James Beatty's creditors sold his Oakville property including the Beatty store in two separate transactions. They sold a small part of the land west of the store which had "two dwelling houses" to John L. Biggar for 255 pounds.<sup>[25]</sup> The remaining larger part of the land including the store they sold to William Creighton for 320 pounds on the same day.<sup>[26]</sup> The total price was about 100 pounds higher than James paid to have it built in 1835. There is no mention of any inventory, so I assume that had been sold off earlier.

William Creighton needed more staff to run both stores, so he looked to family member James Hall, another nephew of James Beatty and the brother of William Hall. James Hall seems to have come to Oakville about this time, although documentary evidence only shows up a couple of years later. A land transfer in 1842 lists James Hall of Oakville as a warehouseman and clerk.<sup>[27]</sup>

So now I have William Creighton and William Hall as merchants and Archibald Beatty and James Hall as staff. William Creighton probably continued to run the Creighton store, and William Hall ran the Beatty store. Since Archibald was the apprentice, he probably stayed with William Creighton. That would leave James Hall working for his brother William which made sense because the Beatty store had enough land to include a large warehouse, and James was listed as a warehouseman. James Beatty himself is nowhere to be seen. It would have been bad optics for him to resume operation of the store himself so soon after his default. He probably stayed in Toronto while things cooled down.

Recall that the 1842 census of Trafalgar showed William Creighton in Oakville.<sup>[13]</sup> He was listed as a married man 30-59 born Ireland. He had living with him a boy aged 14-17 born in Ireland, presumably Archibald Beatty. He also had an unmarried woman aged 14-44 born England, possibly a housekeeper/servant. And he owned 50 acres of land with 8 cultivated, presumably the lot he was granted a patent on near Oakville. As far as I know William was unmarried, so the "married man" listing is probably a mistake.

Things continued this way for several years, and then I find a land document in September 1845 where William Creighton of Toronto (rather than Oakville), merchant, gave a mortgage to Thomas Lloyd of Oakville.<sup>[28]</sup> And in 1846 I find another document with the partnership of Creighton and Hall of Toronto, merchants, loaning money.<sup>[29]</sup> That document was signed by William Creighton and William Hall and also witnessed by James Hall of Toronto. This shows William Creighton and the two Halls left Oakville, probably sometime in 1845.

What happened next is somewhat in doubt. James Beatty appeared in a directory of Toronto published in 1843,<sup>[30]</sup> but was listed as a "gentleman" which probably meant unemployed. In a directory for 1846 James was not listed as living in Toronto.<sup>[31]</sup> In a directory for 1850, James was living on Sherbourne Street in Toronto.<sup>[32]</sup> Also James gave his address as Toronto in a number of land records over this period. Although he was missing from the 1846 Toronto directory, he was in Oakville for the 1851 census.<sup>[33]</sup> My best guess is that James moved to Oakville around the time William Creighton moved back to Toronto, but that he commuted fairly often between the two. In any case, William Creighton sold the Beatty store back to James in February 1847,<sup>[34]</sup> although James may have taken possession earlier based on a verbal agreement.

As an aside, I have to mention something I find unusual about the land transfer between James Beatty's creditors and William Creighton.<sup>[26]</sup> Dated September 4, 1840, it was not registered until March 17, 1847. That is a delay of about 6 1/2 years between purchase and registration. In those days, the grantee or buyer was responsible for the registration. In other land transactions William Creighton was always businesslike and registered his purchases reasonably soon after they occurred. In fact, all his purchases listed below as sources, except this one, were registered within a month of the purchase. I suspect that William did not consider this a business transaction, but rather a transaction in trust for his respected older cousin. He may even have given the deed to James Beatty in 1840 but James did not register it until he purchased the store back from William in 1847.

An obvious question that comes to mind about this situation is "why two stores?" It would seem to be more efficient for the cousins to get together and just operate one store. One store would

also require fewer people. I think the answer probably lies in James' determination to get his store back, and in a strategy they worked out to do so. The cousins could not form a partnership while James was in the middle of his insolvency problems. So instead, William bought a very cheap store and set up as a reputable businessman. He was then able to use his own good credit rating to order in goods that would allow both stores to operate. Once James had reestablished his own credit in Oakville well enough to operate without help, William would give up the Creighton store. But after a few years William (and the Halls) were anxious to go to Toronto. They finally left around 1845. William did not sell the Creighton store immediately, possibly because it would have cut James off from his suppliers. Instead, William arranged for someone else to operate it under the same conditions for another couple of years. Although I have no proof they used this strategy, it is a plausible explanation that is consistent with all the facts as I know them.

Continuing the story, James Beatty had an older brother Joseph who was the father of Archibald. Joseph had stayed in Ireland when Archibald emigrated. The Irish Potato Famine, that began in 1845, was devastating and didn't end until 1852.<sup>[35]</sup> Joseph Beatty decided he had had enough in 1850. He arrived in New York on May 10, 1850 and probably went to Canada right away.<sup>[36]</sup> With him were his wife Matilda and all his children except Archibald who was already in Canada. There were also three Creightons with him, including John Alexander, age 16, who was William Creighton's nephew. According to John Alexander Creighton's obituary,<sup>[37]</sup> he went directly to Toronto to work for William Creighton.

As for the 1851 census, Joseph Beatty and family (except Archibald) were living near Drumquin a few miles up the Trafalgar road from Oakville.<sup>[38]</sup> As I previously mentioned, James Beatty was in Oakville in 1851.<sup>[33]</sup> He was listed as a merchant, and he had his whole family living with him, except his oldest son William Henry who was probably in school in Toronto. Archibald Beatty was also living with James and was listed as a clerk and a family member.

I cannot find William Creighton in the 1851 Oakville census, and the Toronto census does not survive. I assume he is in Toronto as indicated by land records previously cited. But, on the same page of the Oakville census as James and Archibald Beatty, I find David Arnott, merchant. David may have operated or leased the Creighton store when William Creighton left for Toronto. Later Arnott purchased the store and the land purchase was interesting in that it was not directly from William Creighton to David Arnott. Creighton first sold the store in March 1853 for 54 pounds to Addison Bowron,<sup>[39]</sup> a property speculator from Hamilton. Then in December of the same year, Bowron sold it to Arnott for 250 pounds,<sup>[40]</sup> almost a 500% markup. But Bowron accepted half cash and half by way of mortgage.<sup>[41]</sup> Creighton probably needed cash for his new business in Toronto so he sold his store. Arnott couldn't raise the money when Creighton needed it, so Bowron made a bundle.

I cannot be sure of the exact date, but I am sure that James Beatty left Oakville shortly after the 1851 census and Archibald took over running the store. James also probably made Archibald a full partner and changed the name of the store to "J & A Beatty" at the same time.

James Beatty was living in Toronto when he made his will in 1858,<sup>[3]</sup> although he didn't die until 1865. In the will, he mentioned the store "J + A Beatty" in Oakville and directed it to be sold after



his death. He said "I declare it to be my wish that if my Nephew Archibald Beatty shall be desirous of continuing the business at Oakville, on his own account, my trustees after causing a fair valuation to be made of the stock shall offer it to him at the amount at which it is valued before offering it to anyone else". But this eventuality never came to pass as we will see.

Archibald next appears in the 1861 census of Oakville.<sup>[42]</sup> The ancestry.ca transcription includes some information from a schedule not shown on their census image. It says that he was operating a "General Store" with a real estate value of \$2000 and personal property of \$4000. These amounts are probably the total values for the store rather than Archibald's share. Archibald has his brother Joseph Beatty aged 17 working for him in the store. Joseph would later become a merchant in his own store.

"Jas Beatty" appears in the 1861 census of Toronto living on William (now Simcoe) Street.<sup>[43]</sup> This is the same address given in his will.

Archibald Beatty died December 12, 1862 and the death was probably unexpected in that he was only 28 and had not made a will.<sup>[44]</sup> He was, of course, still running the J & A Beatty store in Oakville when he died. I don't have clear cut evidence, but I assume James bought out Archibald's share of the store from his father and heir after Archibald died. I do know that about two months after Archibald's death, James Beatty sold the store to William Walsh,<sup>[45]</sup> a shoemaker in Oakville. The price was \$825 which seems quite low (a little over 200 pounds - the pound was then valued at about \$4). The land included in the sale was about one fifth of an acre, probably because over the years James had already sold off much of the original large lot containing the store. Even so, the price still seems low for an operating store and may reflect James' eagerness for a quick sale.

And so the J & A Beatty store passed out of Beatty hands.

In summary, in 1835 James Beatty bought the Beatty store which was most likely purpose-built to his specification. He had a continuing association with the store until he finally sold it in 1863, two years before he died. He went through some difficult times, and had to give up legal title to the store for a while, but he persisted and was able to keep the store until it was no longer of use to him. Strong family ties, especially with his younger cousin William Creighton helped him through the hard times. Although James Beatty seems to have had effective control of the store for almost all of this period of 28 years, he himself only lived in Oakville for about 6 years or so, preferring to have other family members run the store for him. The longest serving of these was James' nephew Archibald Beatty who lived and worked in Oakville from the time he came to Canada until he died, a period of about 22 years.

Originally William Creighton came to Oakville to help his older cousin James Beatty. When James became insolvent, he lost the Beatty store in Oakville. But James was determined to get it back, so he and his cousin William worked hard to do just that. Along the way William Creighton purchased and operated the Creighton store and at the same time helped his cousin to carry on. When James' business finally started to recover, William moved on to Toronto and a little later sold the Creighton store.

That's my story of the two stores in Oakville. I hope it clarifies the history and ownership of the Beatty store and the Creighton store. I will continue to research this family because I still have many questions about the family and whether they are related to me. In future, I intend to write a paper on the families involved in the both stores. Hopefully, by that time, the story will include some members of my own family too.

### **Acknowledgments**

I would like to acknowledge the work of several people who helped to create this paper. Brian Latham of Yellowknife encouraged me to write this paper in the first place. He also proofread my drafts finding many errors and gave suggestions for improvements. Linda Corupe U. E., an accomplished Canadian genealogist, did a lot of the research of sources in Ontario that were not easily accessible to me. George Chisholm, president of the Oakville Historical Society, read my draft of this paper and gave some helpful suggestions. He also provided the photo of the Creighton store on the title page. Anne Choate Little of the Trafalgar Township Historical Society provided the colour photos of the two stores.

## Endnotes:

[1] Town of Oakville, *Bylaw 1991-73*, enacted April 22, 1991, Designation of 215 Lakeshore Road East; "Ontario Heritage Act Register", online database, *Ontario Heritage Trust* (<https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/en/oha/details/file?id=7072> : accessed 21Dec2020), PDF document.

Note:

The bylaw incorrectly identified the owner of the store as "James Beatty, Esq., M.P. for Toronto and proprietor of the Daily Leader". This name actually refers to James Beaty Sr. See *wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Beaty\\_Sr.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Beaty_Sr.)). The James Beatty who is subject of this paper is clearly the owner of the store as the many sources and family connections cited confirm.

[2] *The Canada Directory, 1857*, John Lovell, Montreal, page 477; database image, *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/3789/images/40403\\_106367-00242](https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/3789/images/40403_106367-00242) : accessed 28Jan2021). image 243.

Abstract:

Beatty, J. & A., general dealers.

[3] "York County Surrogate Court Estate Files", Archives of Ontario, RG 22-305, will of James Beatty, dated 1858, died 1865; Archives of Ontario, microfilm MS 638, Reel 73.

[4] Land records, Halton County, vol. H, 1833, instrument 632, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199386> : accessed 18Dec2020), film 8199386, image 373-4.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 25Nov1833; Registered: 10Feb1834; Grantor: Amassa Wilcox, Etobicoke, innkeeper and wife Desdemona Wilcox; Grantee: James Beatty, York, merchant; Consideration: 150 pounds; Land: Trafalgar, Halton, 50 acres, north westerly 1/4 lot 13 con 1 south of Dundas Street; Witnesses: William Warren Baldwin, York, esquire and Robert Baldwin Sullivan, York, esquire.

[5] Land records, Halton County, vol. I, 1835, instrument 541, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199208> : accessed 18Dec2020), film 8199208, image 341-2.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 21Aug1835; Registered: 27Aug1835; Grantor: William Butts, Oakville, gentleman; Grantee: James Beatty, Toronto, merchant; Consideration: 400 pounds; Land: Oakville, Halton, 1/2 acre, lots A and D Block 7; Witnesses: Edward Barrow Palmer, Oakville, conveyancer and William Chisholm, Nelson, esquire.

[6] Land records, Halton County, vol. H, 1833, instrument 449, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199386> : accessed 18Dec2020), film 8199386, image 250-1.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 10Sep1833; Registered: 12Sep1833; Grantor: William Chisholm, Nelson, esquire; Grantee: William Butts, Trafalgar, gentleman; Consideration: 60 pounds; Land: Oakville, Halton, 1/2 acre, lots A and D Block 7; Witnesses: Justus W Williams, Oakville, merchant and Merrick Thomas, Oakville, yeoman.

[7] Land records, Halton County, vol. I, 1835, instrument 542, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199208> : accessed 18Dec2020), film 8199208, image 342-3.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 24Aug1835; Registered: 27Aug1835; Grantor: William Chisholm, Nelson, esquire; Grantee: James Beatty, Toronto, merchant; Consideration: 77 pounds; Land: Oakville, Halton, 1/8 acre, part of lots B and E Block 7; Witnesses: Merrick Thomas, Oakville, yeoman and Edward Barrow Palmer, Oakville, conveyancer.

[8] Advertisement for James Beatty, *Christian Guardian*, issue 20 January 1836, page 4, column 3; Archives of Ontario reference N088.

Extract:

"JAMES BEATTY being determined to retire from business in this City, has now the pleasure of returning his best thanks to those who kindly patronized his establishment, and begs leave to inform them that he purposes disposing of his present extensive Stock of DRY GOODS, at and under first cost, for Ready Money." ... "J. B. having determined to close his business as soon as possible, respectfully requests those persons who are indebted to him, to call and pay their respective accounts, with the least possible delay."

[9] "Part I", *The City of Toronto and the Home District commercial directory ... for 1837*, Toronto, George Walton, 1837, page 4 entry for James Beatty; PDF document, *Toronto Public Library*, (<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMD-706129&R=DC-706129> : accessed 29Feb2015).

Abstract:

Beatty James, British Woolen Warehouse, 177 King-st.

[10] "Panic of 1837", *Wikipedia.org* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panic\\_of\\_1837](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panic_of_1837) : 23Dec2020).

[11] Petition of James Beatty, 04Oct1837, *State submissions to the Executive Council of Upper Canada*, identifier 205134, RG 1 E 3, petition B47; browsable images, *Canadiana Heritage* ([http://heritage.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.lac\\_reel\\_c1189/47](http://heritage.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.lac_reel_c1189/47) : accessed 02Jun2017), image 47; Library and Archives Canada, film C-1189.

[12] "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957", online database, *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/7488/images/NYM237\\_33-0650](https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/7488/images/NYM237_33-0650) : accessed 31Jan2021), ship Garrick, image 10, Wm Crayton 23May1837; US National Archives, Microfilm M237, 1820-1897, Line 27, List Number 348.

Abstract:

line: 39; name: Wm Crayton; age: 25; sex: male; occupation: merchant; nationality: Ireland; destination: United States.

[13] Census of Canada West, 1842, Halton County, Trafalgar Township, William Creighton; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSV5-B7RZ-4> : 26Dec2020) film 8130409, image 10-11.

Abstract:

houses inhabited: 1; head: William Creighton; owner: William Creighton; occupation: Merchant; natives of England: 1; natives of Ireland: 2; years in province: 4; males 14-17 single: 1; males 30-59 married: 1; females 14-44 single: 1; church of england members: 3; persons in trade or commerce: 1; acres occupied: 50; acres cultivated: 8; horses: 1; stores selling liquor: 1.

[14] Land records, Halton County, vol. L, 1838, instrument 317, William Creighton; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199206> : accessed 02Mar2015), film 8199206, image 226-7.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 14Aug1838; Registered: 15Aug1838; Grantor: John Erwin, East Flamborough, builder; Grantee: William Creighton, Oakville, merchant; Consideration: 800 pounds; Land: township of East Flamborough, 1) part of southwest corner of lot 1, concession BF, about 3 acres: 2) part of lot 2, concession BF, about 42 acres; 3) south easterly part of lot 1, concession 2, about 50 acres; Witnesses: R O Reilly, Hamilton, esq and Rutherford Muttieberry, Hamilton, gent.

[15] Land records, Halton County, vol. M, 1840, instrument 690, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199205> : accessed 18Dec2020), film 8199205, image 487-8.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 20Mar1839; Registered: 30Sep1840; Grantor: James Beatty, Toronto, merchant; Grantee: Joseph Masson, Montreal, merchant and John Armstrong, Toronto, esquire and James Trotter, Toronto, gentleman and other creditors; Consideration: 10 shillings; Land: Trafalgar, Halton, 50 acres, northwesterly 1/4 of lot 13 con 1 South of Dundas Street; And Oakville, 1/2 acre, lots A and D, block 7; And Oakville, 1/8 acre, part of lots B and E, block 7; And Oakville, lots 5, 4 and 7, block 73; And Oakville, lot 9, block 73; Witnesses: William Conway Keele, Toronto, attorney and William Hall, Toronto, clerk and H R F Keele.

[16] Land records, Halton County, vol. M, 1839, instrument 126, William Creighton; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199205> : accessed 21Dec2020), film 8199205, image 126.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 07Oct1839; Registered: 17Oct1839; Grantor: George Jeffery, Oakville, shoemaker; Grantee: William Creighton, Oakville, merchant; Consideration: 19 Pounds; Land: Oakville, Halton, 1/15 acre, part of lot B block 10; Witnesses: John Terry, Oakville, watchmaker and William Hall, Oakville, gentleman.

[17] Town of Oakville, *Bylaw 1993-49*, enacted May 26 1993, Designation of 184-186 Lakeshore Road East; "Ontario Heritage Act Register", online database, *Ontario Heritage Trust* (<https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/en/oha/details/file?id=7054> : accessed 21Dec2020), PDF document.

Note:

The bylaw states that William Creighton never operated the Creighton store, but instead leased it out and managed the Beatty store instead. I do not have definitive proof, but my research suggests that William operated his own store and left the operation of the Beatty store to James Beatty and his other relatives.

[18] "GENERAL STORE OF W. JOYCE", earlier owned by William Creighton, photograph; from J. E. Cummins, *Beautiful Oakville* (Oakville, published by author, 1897), pages unnumbered, about page 130; book available for download from *Oakville Historical Society* (<https://www.oakvillehistory.org/beautiful-oakville---1897.html> : accessed 04Feb2021).

[19] "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957", online database, *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/7488/images/NYM237\\_42-0526](https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/7488/images/NYM237_42-0526) : accessed 10Dec2020), ship North America, image 3, Samuel Creighton, 26Jun1840; US National Archives, Microfilm M237, 1820-1897, Line 12, List Number, 429. Abstract:

Samuel Creighton, 34, Wheelwright, England, America;  
Archabald Beattie, 11, Wheelwright, England, America.

[20] Land records, Halton County, Trafalgar township, abstract index, vol. B, lot 9, con 3 south of Dundas Street, Patent to William Creighton; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199185> : accessed 18Dec2020), film 8199185, image 408.

[21] Land records, Halton County, Trafalgar township, township papers, lot 9, con 3 south of Dundas Street, page 870, William Creighton; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008347051> : accessed 18Dec2020), film 8347051, image 408.

Extract:

"I William Cronkrite have this day sold and transferred to William Creighton one half of the Tract of Land assigned to me from John Marshall being the South Easterly Quarter of Lot Number nine in the third Concession South Dundas Street Containing Fifty acres. dated this twenty first day of December 1835 Wm Cronkrite Witness Rob K Chisholm".

[22] "Robert Kerr Chisholm", *Wikipedia.org* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_Kerr\\_Chisholm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Kerr_Chisholm) : 13Jul2020).

[23] 1838 Census and Assessment - Trafalgar Township, Gore District, Upper Canada, James Beatty; Library and Archives Canada, Film M-7748.

Abstract:

Page: 14; Line 10; Head: James Beatty; Acres cultivated: 1/2; Location: Oakville.

Page: 14; Line 11; Head: James Beatty; Acres uncultivated: 40; Acres cultivated: 10; Location: E 1/4 lot 9 con 3.

[24] 1839 Census and Assessment - Trafalgar Township, Gore District, Upper Canada, James Beatty; Library and Archives Canada, Film M-7748.

Abstract:

Page: ca 15; Line: 6; Head: James Beatty; location: lot 9 con 3 SDS; acres uncultivated: 20; acres cultivated: 30; framed house under 2 stories: 1; framed or brick over 2 stories: 1.

Page: ca 15; Line: 7; Head: James Beatty; location: lot 13 con 1 SDS; acres uncultivated: 30; acres cultivated: 20; ratable property: 38 pounds; males over 16: 1; females under 16: 3; females over 16: 1; total in family: 5; no denomination: 5.

[25] Land records, Halton County, vol. N, 1842, instrument 488, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199204> : accessed 21Dec2014), film 8199204, image 333-4.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 04Sep1840; Registered: 23Jun1842; Grantor: John Armstrong, Toronto, Esquire and James Trotter, Toronto, Gentleman Trustees of the estate and effects of James Beatty, Toronto, Merchant and said James Beatty and wife Ann Beatty; Grantee: John L Biggar, Oakville, esquire; Consideration: 255 pounds and 10 shillings; Land: Oakville, part of Lot D, block 7 together with two dwelling houses; Witnesses: Andrew Wilson, Toronto, gentleman and Robert Darling.

[26] Land records, Halton County, Trafalgar township, vol. A, 1847, instrument 20, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199183> : accessed 26Dec2020), film 8199183, image 27.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 04Sep1840; Registered: 17Mar1847; Grantor: John Armstrong, Toronto, Esquire and James Trotter, Toronto, Gentleman Trustees of the estate and effects of James Beatty, Toronto, Merchant; Grantee: William Creighton, Oakville, merchant; Consideration: 320 pounds; Land: Oakville, parts of lots A, B, D and E Block 7; Witnesses: Andrew Wilson, Toronto, Esquire and Alexander Drayer, Toronto, Esquire.

[27] Land records, City of Toronto, Midway, vol. 1, 1841, instrument 22470, James Hall; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008636326> : accessed 10Sep2020), film 8636326, image 36.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 24Dec1842; Registered: 10Apr1844; Grantor: Joseph Dixon, Toronto, gent and wife Elizabeth

Dixon; Grantee: James Hall, Oakville, warehouseman and clerk(sic); Consideration: 200 pounds; Land: part of lot 5 concession 1 from the bay; Witnesses: Samuel Creighton, Toronto, yeoman and James Beatty.

[28] Land records, Halton County, vol. P, 1845, instrument 234, William Creighton; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199203> : accessed 01Jun2015), film 8199203, image 150-1.

Abstract:

Type: mortgage; Dated: 09Sep1845; Registered: 30Sep1845; Grantor: Thomas Lloyd, Oakville, Yeoman, and wife Jane Lloyd; Grantee: William Creighton, Toronto, Merchant; Consideration: 111 pounds; Land: 100 acres, south 1/2 lot 8 con 2 south of Dundas Street, Trafalgar, Halton; Witnesses: Thomas S Harris, Trafalgar, Yeoman and John Hatton, Trafalgar, Yeoman.

[29] Land records, Halton County, vol. Q, 1846, instrument 220, William Creighton; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199202> : accessed 25Dec2020), film 8199202, image 152-3.

Abstract:

Type: mortgage; Dated: 18Jul1846; Registered: 22Jul1846; Grantor: Levens Newsom, Toronto, Mechanic and wife Jessy Newsom; Grantee: Creighton + Hall, Toronto, merchants (signed William Creighton and William Hall); Consideration: 220 pounds; Land: Trafalgar, Halton, 50 acres, southwesterly 1/4 of lot 11 con 1 South of Dundas Street; Witnesses: James Hall, Toronto, gentleman and Henry Ross, Toronto, clerk.

[30] Francis Lewis, *The Toronto directory and street guide, for 1843-4*, (Toronto, J & W Roswell, 1843), page 21 entry for Jas Beattie; PDF document, *Toronto Public Library*, (<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMDC-1607301&R=DC-1607301> : accessed 28Feb2015).

Abstract:

Beattie Jas., gentleman, William Street

[31] "Toronto City Directory", *Brown's Toronto City and Home District Directory 1846-7*, (Toronto, George Brown, 1846), page 4-5 entry for Beatty & Marsh; PDF document, *Toronto Public Library*, (<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMDC-541681&R=DC-541681> : accessed 15Oct2012).

Note:

James Beatty is not listed, only the following which is likely not James Beatty even though he has a brother-in-law named Marsh

Abstract:

Beatty & Marsh, whole. & retail grocers, 120 King-st east

[32] "City of Toronto" section, *Rowse's city of Toronto and county of York directory for 1850-1*, (Henry Rowse, Toronto, 1850), page 8 entry for James Beatty; PDF document, *Toronto Public Library*, (<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMDC-1643688&R=DC-1643688> : accessed 28Feb2015).

Abstract:

Beatty James, gentleman, Sherborne, off Queen-street east

[33] 1851 Census of Canada West, Halton County, Trafalgar Township, Page (handwritten) 20, Line 1, Jas Beatty; database image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/1061/images/e095-e002352442> : accessed 01Feb2021), image 39; Library and Archives Canada, Roll C-11726

Abstract:

Page 20; Line: 1; Name: Jas Beatty; Gender: Male; Age Next Birthday: 45; Birthplace: Ireland; Profession, Trade, or Occupation: Merchant; Religion: Church of England

Family: Anne Beatty, 36, Ireland; Elizabeth Beatty, 14, Canada; Jane Beatty, 12, Canada; Anne Beatty, 10, Canada; Ellenor Beatty, 7, Canada; Joseph W Beatty, 5, Canada; Dianah M Beatty, 3, Canada; Archibald Beatty, 22, Canada

[34] Land records, Halton County, Oakville, vol. A, 1851, instrument 29, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199187> : accessed 18Dec2020), film 8199187, image 28.

Abstract:

Type: Bargain and Sale; Dated: 20Feb1847; Registered: 19Feb1851; Grantor: William Creighton, Toronto, Merchant; Grantee: James Beatty of Toronto, Merchant; Consideration: 365 pounds; Land: parts of lots A, B, D, E in Block 7 Town of Oakville; Witnesses: Samuel Creighton, Toronto, Turner and Archibald Beatty, Toronto, Clerk and Salesman.

[35] "Irish Potato Famine", *History* (<https://www.history.com/topics/immigration/irish-potato-famine> : accessed 07Jun2019).

[36] "New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957", online database, *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/7488/images/NYM237\\_87-0597](https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/7488/images/NYM237_87-0597) : accessed 22Nov2020), ship Albert Gallatin, image 3, Joseph Beatty, 10May1850; US National Archives, Microfilm M237, 1820-1897, Line 5; List Number 319.

Abstract:

Joseph Beatty, 45, Farmer; Matilda Beatty, 40; Elisa Beatty, 42; William Beatty, 18; James Beatty, 14; Mary Beatty, 11; Joseph Beatty, 9; Bella Beatty, 6; Matilda Beatty, 4; John Creighton, 16; William Creighton, 14; Matilda Creighton, 20

[37] "Jno. A. Creighton Passes Away.", *The Brussels Post* newspaper issue dated 28Mar1901 Page 8 Column 3; database images, *Huron County* (<https://pubdocs.huroncounty.ca/weblink/3/doc/395957/Page1.aspx> : accessed 16Dec2020)

Extract:

"Mr. Creighton was a native of Co. Tyrone, Ireland, first seeing the light of day on Oct. 17, 1834, and when 12 years old crossed the Atlantic and located at Toronto. Here he spent several years in the dry goods business of his uncle, Wm. Creighton, after which he removed to Fergus where he entered into the same line on his own behalf".

[38] 1851 Census of Canada West, Halton County, Trafalgar Township, Page (handwritten) 1, Line 42, Joseph Beatty; database image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/1061/images/e095-e002352404> : accessed 01Feb2021), image 39; Library and Archives Canada, Roll C-11726.

Abstract:

Name: Joseph Beatty; Gender: Male; Age Next Birthday: 51; Birthplace: Ireland; Profession, Trade, or Occupation: Farmer; Religion: P. Methodist.

Family: Malilda Beatty, 44, Ireland; Eliza Jane Beatty, 20, Ireland; William Beatty, 17, Ireland; James Beatty, 15, Ireland; Mary A Beatty, 12, Ireland; Joseph Beatty, 9, Ireland; Isabella Beatty, 7, Ireland; Matilda Beatty, 5, Ireland.

[39] Land records, Halton County, Oakville, vol. A, 1857, instrument 480, William Creighton; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199187> : accessed 21Nov2014), film 8199187, image 244.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 30Mar1853; Registered: 25Aug1857; Grantor: William Creighton, Toronto, merchant and wife Margaret Creighton; Grantee: Addison Bowron, Hamilton, tinsmith; Consideration: 54 pounds; Land: 1/15 acre, Oakville, part of lot B, block 10; Witnesses: John Creighton, Toronto, gentleman and John Alexr Creighton.

[40] Land records, Halton County, Oakville, vol. A, 1854, instrument 166, Addison Bowron; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199187> : accessed 21Nov2014), film 8199187, image 103-4.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 20Dec1853; Registered: 18Jan1854; Grantor: Addison Bowron, Hamilton, tinsmith and wife Hannah Bowron; Grantee: David Arnott, Oakville, merchant; Consideration: 250 pounds; Land: 1/15 acre, Oakville, part of lot B, block 10; Witnesses: Richard Young Wadworth, Hamilton, gentleman and O Springer.

[41] Land records, Halton County, Oakville, vol. A, 1854, instrument 184, Addison Bowron; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199187> : accessed 21Nov2014), film 8199187, image 113.

Abstract:

Type: mortgage; Dated: 20Dec1853; Registered: 20Mar1854; Grantor: David Arnott, Oakville, merchant; Grantee: Addison Bowron, Hamilton, tinsmith; Consideration: 125 pounds; Land: 1/15 acre, Oakville, part of lot B, block 10; Witnesses: Richard Young Wadworth, Hamilton, gentleman and O Springer.

[42] 1861 Census of Canada West, Halton County, Oakville, Page 28, Line 33, Archibald Beatty; database image, *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/1570/images/4391935\\_00400](https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/1570/images/4391935_00400) : accessed 01Feb2021), image 442; Library and Archives Canada, Roll C-1031.

Abstract:

Name: Archibald Beatty; Gender: Male; Age: 28; Birth Place: Ireland; Occupation: Merchant; Religion: Church of England; Quantity of Land Attached: 18(sic); Name of Business: General Store; Capital Invested: Real Estate \$2000 Personal 4000

[43] 1861 Census of Canada West, York County, Toronto, Page 55, Line 1, Jas Beatty; database image, *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/1570/images/004391543\\_00129](https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/1570/images/004391543_00129) : accessed 01Feb2021), image 59; Library and Archives Canada, Roll C-1108-1109.

Abstract:

Name: Jas Beatty; Gender: Male; Age: 56; Birth Place: Ireland; Religion: Church of England

[44] "Halton County Surrogate Court Records", vol. A, page 354, Instrument 214 , estate of Archibald Beatty, died 12Dec1862; microfilm, Archives of Ontario, GS 1, Reel 540

Extract:

"letters of administration of all and singular, the personal estate and effects rights and credits of Archibald Beatty late of the Town of Oakville in the County of Halton Merchant deceased who died on or about the twelfth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty two at the Township of Trafalgar intestate and had at the time of his death a fixed place of

abode at the Town of Oakville in the said County of Halton were granted by Her Majesty's Surrogate Court of the County of Halton to Joseph Beatty of the Township of Trafalgar in the County of Halton Esquire the father of the said intestate"

[45] Land records, Halton County, Oakville, vol. A, 1863, instrument 946, James Beatty; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/008199187> : accessed 31Dec2020), film 8199187, image 467.

Abstract:

Type: bargain and sale; Dated: 18Feb1863; Registered: 27Feb1863; Grantor: James Beatty, Toronto, esquire(sic) and wife Anne Beatty; Grantee: William Walsh, Oakville, shoemaker; Consideration: \$825; Land: Oakville, 9360 square feet, part of lots A, B, D and E; Witnessed: William Henry Beatty, Toronto, esquire and Robt K Chisholm.