



Some history of Philippsville in pictures. (from top left) barrel factory, Murray Stevens and "Tony the Bear", Philippsville to-day, dedication of the James Philips plaque, Bob Taylor's store, turn of the century Philippsville, Haskins' mill and cheese box factory.

James Philips

We should include in this history something about our founder. Mr. Philips was a man deeply interested in his community and very patriotic. He was a staunch Reformer in politics, although he did let his political fervor go too far at times. He became involved in two historical events in this area, which was then called "The Johnstown District". He became very involved in the 1834 election when Ogle Gowan, conservative, was trying to unseat Matthew Howard, reformer, in the Legislature. The trouble resolved into the "Beverley Riots" (Delta) - the worst election scandal in Upper Canada.

Because of the active part he took in the Reformer camp, much of Gowan's antipathy was directed against Philips. Rioters attacked his property and much damage was done. Far more serious was the fact that he was charged with the murder of a man who was killed in the riot. However, he was acquitted.

Mr. Philips was Vice-Pres. of the "Johnstown District Reformers" Committee of vigilance and management. He was far from satisfied with the results of the Rebellion of 1837. With some other reformers he went to the U.S. and joined the Hunter's Club, a group who felt they should try to free Canada from

dominance. On November 10, 1838, he was with an invading force of this club that made a raid on Prescott. He was killed in the "Battle of the Windmill" near Prescott on November 13. He was buried in a grave near the windmill with several other dead.

On September 20, 1975, a very impressive service was held in Philippsville. Our local municipality joined with the Ontario Heritage Foundation and the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation and unveiled and dedicated an historical plaque to commemorate James Philips, 1800-1838.

It was a memorable occasion with many dignitaries present. Reeve F. Lake chaired the meeting, Tom Cossitt, M.P., James Auld, M.P.P. for Leeds, and Mr. A.C. Casselman, Warden of the United Counties were present and spoke. Mrs. Frank Ryan presented the Heritage Foundation and Lieut. Col. F.C.L. Wyght, Ottawa, an historian, gave the historical background of our founder, James Philips.

Mabel Davison

The Leeds Lantern would like to thank Mrs. Mabel Davison for a job well done. Mrs. Davison wrote all the text for the Focus on Philippsville.

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