



Moses Mill - Vernon

Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum

Vernon School
P.O. Box 83 - Vernon, Ontario
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Newsletter

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Our Fall season is once again upon us. Here in Eastern Ontario the aftermath of a wet miserable "Summer" with abundant hay crops, but hard to save, grain and corn crops that may never be harvested, a reminder of similar conditions in years gone by.

A note of interest - Andy Shields of Greely remembers well the terrible heat and humidity in the Spring of 1919, when farmers worked their fields early in the morning and late in the evening. They didn't finish cropping until July, horses died on the streets of Ottawa, and sows about to farrow were also hard hit. He remembers bathing mares heavy in foal with cold water to help them survive the terrible heat.

Unveiling of a plaque October 11, 1985. The Osgoode Township Historical Society, through the generosity of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, erected a Commemorative plaque on the Museum building, to commemorate two of our native sons.

Plaque Inscription - "Campbell Brothers' Mill" - On this site in 1871 two brothers Joseph Archibald and John Mungo Campbell built the first Vernon flour and sawmill in what was to become Vernon Village after a fire in 1872. Ellsworth, a millwright from Ogdensburg, rebuilt the mill. The resulting community contained a frame saw, grist, shingle and carding mills, house, store, stable, and creamery equipment shop, Creamers for cooking, and churns were also made. Hugh B. Cameron was one of the first millers. At peak times 20 to 30 men were employed in the mill.

Due to the uncertain weather the ceremonies were held indoors. In honour of the Scottish Ancestry of the Campbells the guests were piped in by Wes Alguire of the Ottawa Police Band, wearing the R.C.A.F. tartan, kilt and sash playing the appropriate tune "The Campbells are coming". Shirley Lowe, president of the Society welcomed all visitors and introduced the guests, relating how the Campbell families contributed much to the well being of our township in Industry, and Agriculture in the past, and in the present. Greetings from Township Councillor Fred Alexander acting on behalf of the Mayor. Isobel Lewis gave a summary of the history of Vernon and the Campbell Mills. Helen Hall Woods, granddaughter of John Mungo Campbell thanked Isobel and the Society for preserving this part of the Campbell Heritage.

Mina Campbell Folkard and Freda Campbell Turner, granddaughters of the Campbell brothers unveiled the plaque. Mina from Burlington, Ontario is a descendant of John Mungo. Freda of Ottawa is a descendant from Joseph Archibald Campbell. Hillary Mackie, granddaughter-in-law also attended.

A reception followed. Members of the Campbell Clan gathered around family photographs to reminisce and discuss incidents with relatives and visitors alike. Our thanks goes out to Lorne Craig whose Scottish roots run deep in the Ottawa Valley. He is noted for his knowledge and history of artifacts relating to that Agriculture industry of earlier times. It was at Lorne's suggestion that this project be undertaken. Research by Elizabeth Stuart and Isobel Lewis brought it to a most satisfying conclusion. Two Campbell Mill Account books have been donated to the Society, dated January 23, 1876 - Dec. 23, 1878 and March 1st, 1879 to May 20, 1893.

CAMPBELL BROTHERS AND OTHER OSGOODE CAMPBELLS

One hundred years ago there were two dozen Campbell names on the Osgoode Assessment Rolls. The Campbell Roots were in Perthshire, part of the immense Estate of Lord Brezdale, himself a Campbell.

John Campbell with his bride, Betsy McAlpin, and brother Archibald Campbell, with his bride, Ellen Campbell, came to Osgoode in 1833, and within

a year each couple had a son who was named Joseph after his paternal grandfather. Brother Hugh was with them but he drowned shortly after his arrival. A Joseph signed a Petition to Lord Breadalbane in 1836.

Other Campbell sons were born, and together they helped their parents clear the virgin forests near the Mountain Boundary between Vernon and Belmead. These Campbell children intermarried with members of the Thomas Campbell family of Belmead, the Duncan Campbell family of Dalmeny, and the Donald Campbell family of Kenmore. It is surmised that Ellen Campbell, above, was related to Robert Campbell of Springhill.

THE ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL FAMILY

Archibald and his 5 sons owned, at one time, most of the 600 acres in lots 41, 42, 43, in the 6th concession. This land was fertile but a great deal of it was low and wet and normal roads could not be built north or east of the area. The Castor ran through the land, and it was to be expected that this Campbell family would be well experienced in lumbering. John Mungo, as a young man, called himself a Lumberman. The NE corner of lot 40 had access to roads and it was here that 3 brothers decided to begin their operations.

Joseph Archibald (1834-1890) mar Sarah Manning, niece of Frank Pepper's wife.

Duncan Webster mar Isabella McDonald d/o James McDonald of Ormond.

Christiana mar Daniel Peter MacPhail s/o Archibald MacPhail of Belmead.

Archibald Jr. mar Jessie Campbell d/o Duncan Campbell and Janet Dow of Dalmeny and moved to the Kenmore area.

James Hugh left home when a young man.

John Mungo (1844-1894) mar Esther Jane Kennedy d/o David Kennedy, Blacksmith.

The name Mungo is that of an Irish missionary who visited the Breadalbane area about 800 A.D. The name Mungo Campbell appears frequently in Highland records.

THE CAMPBELL MILLS AND OTHER PROPERTIES

Duncan Webster Campbell withdrew from the lumbering operation leaving his two brothers, Jos Archibald and John Mungo, to continue a joint undertaking. Each of the brothers built a frame house on opposite sides of what was to be surveyed as Rideau street. John Mungo bought, as well, 2 lots south of the Mill sight.

The Will of Joseph A. indicates the extent of the holdings in 1890 and the legal difficulties that were bound to arise in settling the Estate when, 4 years later, John Mungo died. Both men were in the prime of life.

STEAM SAW MILL - plant and machinery - 2 large circular saws, edging and butting saws, 2 shingle saws, 1 surface planer and matcher.

STEAM GRIST MILL - 2 run of stone, belting and gear, watchman's indicator. FRAME BUILDING OF SAW BUILDING AND FRAME BUILDING OF GRIST MILL with about 3/4 acres of land in lots 1, 2, and 3 in Vernon.

HOUSE AND FRAME STORE AND STABLE on lot 1.

FRAME BUILDING USED AS A CARDING MILL and dwelling house.

DWELLING HOUSE on lot 14.

FRAME BARN On lot 41 con 5

100 acres of land E¹/₂ lot 42 con 6

3 HORSES NO CAMPBELL BROS MILLS - NO VERNON VILLAGE

When the Campbell Bros purchased the 2-acre sight for their lumbering operation, they could not have known that they would be the founding fathers of a prosperous village. The success and expansion of the operation attracted, not only the general labourer necessary in mill work, but, many with special interests and skills.

At the beginning of the operation in 1871, excluding the 2 farm families - Porteous and Pepper - a mere 7 other individuals were in the area. When the elder of the brothers died in 1890, the population had increased to 145.

POSTMASTER - Thomas Bow

HOUSE CARPENTER AND BARN BUILDER -

CARPENTER - Joseph Taylor

BRICKLAYER - Richard Bowen

PLASTERER and MASON - Edward Bowen

PAINTER - Bencener Freney

COOPER - Daniel Cook

SHOEMAKER - John Fair & Charles Gagnon

John Lora WEAVER - Jane Campbell

TAILOR - Joseph Robinson

DRESSMAKER - Nancy Campbell

MILLINER - Ellen McConnell

MERCHANT - James Fraser, Thomas Bow,

George Donaldson (cont.)

BLACKSMITH - John Howell, Thomas Howes, Wm. McInnis
 HOTEL KEEPER - Hugh Cameron
 SCHOOLTEACHER - for S. S. 20
 BAPTIST PASTOR - Hugh McQuarrie
 MILLER - John Mungo Campbell
 CARRIAGE MAKER - Peter Dalgleish

NOTES OF INTEREST The Historical Society set up a Display Booth at the Ottawa Exhibition and Metcalfe Fair. The raffle of the handmade quilt donated by Alice Craig was a great success. We collected \$375.00. Richard Martin of R. R. 3, Russell held the lucky ticket at the time of the draw,

The Historical Society acknowledged the assistance of the Ontario Government through Honourable Lily Munro, Minister of Citizenship and Culture on receiving a grant of \$1,098.13.

The Society acknowledges the assistance of the Township Council on receiving a grant of \$3,000.00.

Due to the high cost of postage etc., we regretfully raise our membership fee to \$5.00 starting January 1st, 1987. We will continue to accept the present rates until that time. We thank you for your support in the past, and continued support in the future.

St. John Cemetery Book is now available at the Museum building or through Michael Daley.

The annual meeting will be held in January 1987. We know there are interested people out there with the time and talents to be of assistance to the Society. "Please Come" and "get involved".

DO YOU REMEMBER? Two dinner tickets found by Harry Bekkers while demolishing Our Lady of the Visitation old Parish Hall had the following inscription:

<i>Dinner</i>	<i>Dinner</i>
<i>15 cts.</i>	<i>25 cts.</i>
<i>St. Mary's R.C. Church</i>	<i>St. Mary's R.C. Church</i>

JUST CURIOSITY by Margaret Robb

In researching history of a community with a magnificent past, a good present and we hope a bright future, many recall a quaint toy house and a few secrets have come to light.

In discussing this house with one who knows, there are a few left who do remember - he remarked, "Oh, but, you haven't mentioned the "kippies or pickeroos which were held in that house" and they were really something." He had attended some when this building was the home of a bachelor.

A kippy or pickeroo was a social evening for the young lads and no doubt some not so young in the community. An evening of cards and Grog, no doubt, and a midnight feast. While some were inside enjoying the fun others were out raiding the unsuspecting card-players' chicken coup, and later with the rest, enjoyed, as they thought, someone else's fowl.

In writing this up, the correct spelling is needed - now the problem -- what is the correct spelling of the two words? Dictionaries are of no use.

The event was common in the early days when chicken houses were raided by the wandering gypsies. They left their social time behind, we wonder if the words too. In speaking to the wife of one of the farmers of that time, she was asked - "did you ever hear these words or see them written?" "Seen them written"- "No"; heard them, yes, in no pleasant terms".

This was her story. Her husband, like all farmers in those days had a flock of fowl, hatched their eggs and in the fall, the roosters were put up for fattening and the pullets in another place for egg production. He had made a pet of one rooster which met him each morning with great prancing around.

One morning he came bursting into the house in a great rage. "Those "so and so" chicken house thieves raided my chicken house and took my pet rooster - and I don't know how many of my pullets.

GREELY - A Brief Glimpse into the Past

Thomas Greely lived in a little log shanty on lot 6 con 5 across the road from where the Greely All Saints Anglican Church now stands. This information was passed down from John Moran to Andy Shields. Very little more is known of this man or of what became of him.

As early as 1834 the Bytown and Prescott Stage Coach passed this way. Prior to this time, men by the names of Archie Campbell, Craig, Dompsey, Loney, Wilson, Kearas came into the Township via the Castor River and settled in the area north of Kenmore and east of Metcalfe. They

had a map showing a settlement in what is now the Uplands Airport area of Gloucester Township. These hardy Pioneers set out to find the Rideau River and Bytown in order to save themselves the long hard journey back to Cornwall for their supplies. Travelling west from their homes along what is now County Road 6, they arrived at Greg Creek (Middle Castor) where they came up against dense swamp. (later known as Snake Island). Back-tracking a bit, they then turned north and blazed a trail through the bush lands toward what is now known as Greely. Mr. James Kearns was the first man to fell a tree across what was later to be called Dunlap Creek. The group continued to the Gloucester boundary and there, bearing to the left, followed the height of land to Johnsons' Corner, then on to the highlands of the Township and on again to Hogs Back. This eliminated the long hard trek to Cornwall.

The 1851 road map of Osgoode and Gloucester Township shows this route from Greely north and west, and from Greely south and west, as the Stage Coach Route, later known as the 'Old Prescott Road'. My grandfather remembered the twice-daily Stage Coach passing their door on the old Prescott Road. On the sixth day of November 1874, an agreement between the landowners and the Osgoode Macadamized Road Company (it appeared to be newly formed) was made "to make a macadamized road from the South Gloucester Boundary across lots 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 and 9 in the fifth of the said Township till it intersects the government allowance for the road between the fifth and sixth concession, continuing along 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, intersecting the nine mile road between lot 15 and 16 in the 6th concession of the said Township at or near the public school house (Stone School)". The road was to be widened to 60 feet.

THE LANDOWNERS				
Patrick Fehan	North 1/4	lot 1	concession 5	
Mary McGrath	3/4	lot 1	concession 5	
Martha McGee		lot 2	concession 5	
William Stackpole	N. W. 1/4	lot 3	concession 5	
Terence Smith	N. E. 1/4	lot 3	concession 5	
William Lee	S. 1/2	lot 3	concession 5	
James Duncan		lot 4	concession 5	
Richard Stanley		lot 5	concession 5	
		lot 6	concession 5	
Thomas O'Connor	N. 1/2	lot 7	concession 5	
Edward O'Connor	S. 1/2	lot 7	concession 5	
John Kilfoyle	E. 1/2	lot 8	concession 5	
Michael Leonard	E. 1/2	lot 9	concession 5	
John Malone	W. 1/2	lot 11	concession 6	
Alexander Fanning	W. 1/2	lot 12	concession 6	
William Savage	W. 1/2	lot 13	concession 6	
William Sheppard	W. 1/2	lot 14	concession 6	
Patrick McDowel	N. W. 1/4	lot 15	concession 6	
Matthew McDowel	S. W. 1/4	lot 15	concession 6	
Alexander Thompson	E. 1/2	lot 15	concession 6	

SCHOOL The 1863 and 1879 Township Maps show a one-room school house on lot 6 con 5 at or near the location of the present school house in Greely. About the turn of the century a new one-room school was erected on the Richard Stanley property - lot 5 con 5. And like many other one-room schools, its door was closed like a book, ending the era of the one-room school house along with the Christmas Concerts, as we knew them, wood stoves and crooked stovepipes, leaving only memories of the past to be replaced by numerous yellow school buses and an endless number of class rooms under one roof. And technology beyond our wildest dreams.

CHURCH All Saints Anglican Church was built on the Richard Stanley property. The first Vestry Service was held on April 27, 1890.

CEMETERY The Cemetery grounds were also given off the Stanley property, and the remains from the earlier burying ground west of Metcalfe were moved here.

TANNERY The O'Connor Tannery was situated on the property of Mike and Margaret Quinn, lot 6 con 4, on the Old Prescott Road south of Shay's corner.

BLACKSMITH SHOP The Blacksmith Shop shown on the 1879 map was built just prior to that time by Thomas Ryan, Blacksmith. He blacksmithed at Greely in the summer, and in the logging camp in the winter. He died a young man age 43 leaving his widow with a young family. Mrs. Ryan operated the Toll Gate at Greely for some time; presumably the Toll Gate went into effect when the macadamized road was completed in January 1876. The fee was five cents for a single horse and buggy, ten cents for a team and express. Other operators at some time were Joe Leslie and Mr. and Mrs. Paddy Conlin.

The Blacksmith Shop was sold to a man by the name of Victor Bodore, and later to Frank Randall who operated it for many years. Randall's son Bob, after he returned from service overseas, worked the shop for a number of years. The Ottawa-Morrisburg Highway made a sharp turn as it approached this Blacksmith Shop, and there were car drivers who did not make the required turn and found themselves in the Blacksmith Shop. When the farming community turned its horses out to pasture and began using tractors and modern machinery, the Blacksmith Shop faded into the past, bypassed by Science and Technology.

ROSSITER'S INN In 1841 Henry Rossiter owned the west part of lot 5 con 5 and had cleared 40 acres. He kept horses for hire or gain. An early U.E. enterprising family were early settlers from the Morrisburg area who operated the first Inn at what is now Greely. Their operation was known as well as "A Place of Entertainment" and was both popular with some and unpopular with others. The name Rossiter (various spellings) appears on the 1851 Road Map at Greely and was possibly named for Adam and Sam, both active in Municipal affairs in that area circa 1850. The second Russell Agricultural Fair was held in Greely in 1860. The Directors of the County Agricultural Society, because of unfavourable conditions, chose Metcalfe as a permanent home.

COPY OF DEED lot 6 con 5 (in part)

Mrs. John (Elizabeth) Lee, widow, sold lot 6 to John and Robert Dunlap containing two hundred acres or there more or less, except a certain portion of land of the north west part of said lot, to the trustees of School Section number three by Deed dated the 16th June 1865.

CHEESE FACTORY Mr. Rodgers, cheesemaker, built the first cheese factory on land donated by the Dunlap family on lot 6 con 5 just about across from the present Post Office, about the year 1915. The land was to be returned to the Dunlap family if the venture fails. Eventually, the factory did burn down. An indenture dated June 28, 1937 states that Timothy Shields, Cheesemaker bought part of lot 5 in the fifth concession, also boiler, smoke stack, milk tester, and all cheese factory equipment now on said lands for the sum of \$2100.00 from Dave Stanley - where Ross Real Estate is now situated.

TELEPHONE The Metcalfe Rural Telephone came to Greely in 1910. The line travelled straight north of Metcalfe to the Town Line (Regional Rd 6) then west to Highway 31 and south to Greely where there was a "switch" in the Dunlap home (Post Office) and then the line continued up along the Prescott Road to the O'Callaghan farm. When the people on the Prescott Road "phoned out", the call went to Dunlops and they would have to flick the switch. The Dunlaps obtained free use of the phone for this service. The telephone poles were erected by Alan McCooeye. James Rolson canvassed for the phone and the fee was \$12.00 a year. (Road next issue for THE MERCHANTS.)