

# STEAMBOATS ON LAKE SCUGOG

The Anglo Saxon steamer launched in 1867, was built to accommodate the growing shipping business between Lindsay and Port Perry.

In 1840, Peter Perry bought 40 acres of land, including this waterfront. Perry then persuaded five businessmen to build lumber mills on the water's edge, and also convinced two grain buyers, Thomas Cotton and James Rowe, to finance the building of the first steamboat in the Kawarthas here on this lakeshore.

Built by Hugh Chisolm, the Woodman was launched in 1851. It was used to pull log booms down to the mills, and three times a week it ran from Port Perry to Lindsay stopping at Port Hoover, Washburn Island, and Caesarea.

As many as 50 different side paddlewheelers plied the waters of Lake Scugog carrying trade and bringing sightseers. Most were built here or at the north end of the lake in Port Hoover. The biggest boat to sail Lake Scugog was the Crandella in 1891, owned by George Crandell, proprietor of one of the largest steamboat companies in Ontario.

Steamboat traffic peaked in 1875, and by 1910 only a handful of steamboats remained. In 1930, the last remaining Scugog steamboat, the Cora, was hauled ashore.

 TOWNSHIP OF  
**Scugog**



**WOODMAN, 1850**

Length 110' Beam 30'  
Gross Tons 108

**OGEMAH, 1853**

Length 85' Beam 15'  
Gross Tons - 72

**SCUGOG, 1859**

Length 100' Beam 14'  
Gross Tons - 49

**LADY IDA, 1861**

Length 54' Beam 25'  
Gross Tons - 28

**VICTORIA, 1867**

Length 94' Beam 15'  
Gross Tons - 191

**COMMODORE, 1867**

Length 96' Beam 17'  
Gross Tons - 175

**ANGLO SAXON, 1868**

Length 72' Beam 18'  
Gross Tons - 69

**ONTARIO, 1868**

Length 58' Beam 16'  
Gross Tons - 39

**MAPLE LEAF, 1874**

Length 54' Beam 25'  
Gross Tons - 58

**STRANGER, 1880**

Length 60' Beam 13'  
Gross Tons - 28

**MARY LOUISE, 1883**

Length 43' Beam 8'  
Gross Tons - 10

**ESTURIAN, 1884**

Length 96' Beam 18'  
Gross Tons - 118

**EXPRESS, 1887**

Length 40' Beam 7'  
Gross Tons - 4

**CRANDELLA, 1891**

Length 122' Beam 20'  
Gross Tons - 266

**COMET, 1895**

Length 45' Beam 9'  
Gross Tons - 22

**CORA, 1902**

Length 55' Beam 10'  
Gross Tons - 23'



Steamer Anglo-Saxon

## DAILY TRIPS

BETWEEN PORT PERRY & LINDSAY!

ON and after the 1st of July, 1868, and until the close of navigation, the new and fast-sailing Steamer "Anglo-Saxon" will leave her wharf, at Port Perry, every day, (Sundays excepted), at 7 o'clock, A.M., for Lindsay,

Calling at Port Hoover and Caesarea! Returning will leave Lindsay every day, (Sundays excepted), at 3 o'clock, P. M., for Port Perry, calling at the above intermediate ports.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS, BUSINESS MEN AND TOURISTS, As well as the public generally, will find this a most pleasant route, affording a fine view of the delightful scenery around Scugog Lake.

From Oshawa and Whitby to Port Perry, there are two daily lines of Stages, and one daily line of Stages between Port Perry, Manilla, Cannington and Beaverton.

The steamer connects at Lindsay with the PORT HOPE & LINDSAY RAILWAY and the steamers plying on the Lakes north of Lindsay, for Fenelon Falls, Bobcaygeon, and Bridgewater.

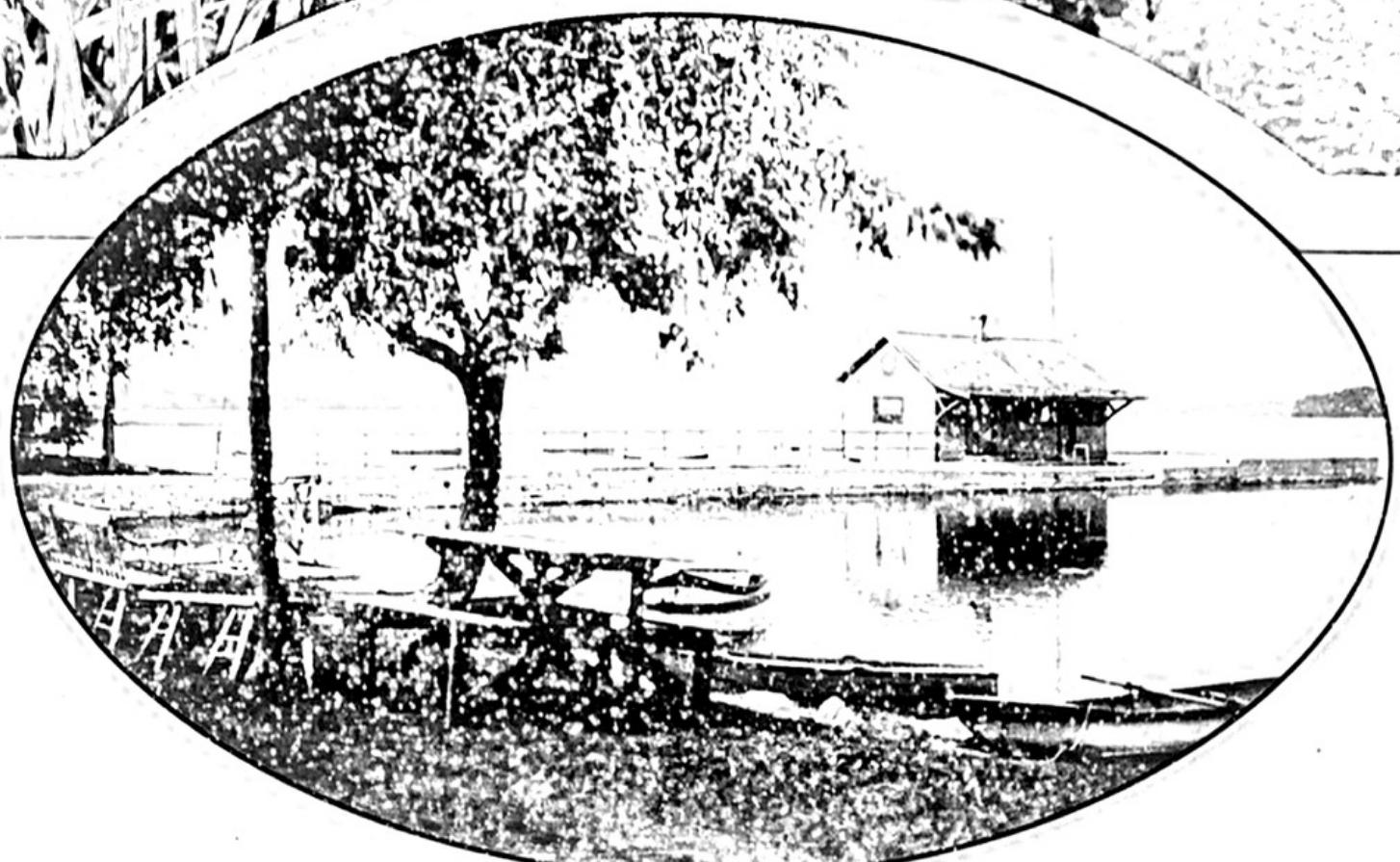
## F A R E :

Between Port Perry and Lindsay....\$1.00.  
Return Tickets..... 1.50.  
Excursion Parties, 13 or upwards,  
Half Fare..... 50.

The Anglo-Saxon has been specially fitted up for the comfort and convenience of Passengers

T. OAKLEY,  
Captain.

Port Perry 30th June, 1868.



Dockhouse at the end of the Port Perry wharf was used as a change room for swimmers during the early 1900s.

Lake Scugog is often referred to as a 'man-made lake' due to the fact it was created in 1829 after a dam was built across the Scugog River at Lindsay, causing the water to rise in the Lake Scugog basin between six and eight feet.

The name "Scugog" comes from an Ojibwe word meaning "marshy waters". Prior to the flooding, the area was primarily wetland with a narrow river winding its way through thick wild rice and cranberries stands harvested by the native Mississaugas.

Lake Scugog is part of the Kawartha Lakes water system. It flows north to the Scugog River which feeds Sturgeon Lake and the rest of the Trent-Severn Waterway. From Lake Scugog you can go anywhere in the world by water.

The lake is 23.55 kilometres long, 5.8 kilometres at its widest, with a total shoreline of 172 kilometres. Its watershed covers 533.7 square kilometres, has a surface area of 63.5 square kilometres with an average depth of 1.4 metres and a maximum depth of 7.6 metres. Depth, area and volume are artificially maintained to this



## LAKE SCUGOG



Photograph of artist Tom Thomson (Group of Seven) overlooking Lake Scugog. Scugog was an inspiration for many of his paintings.

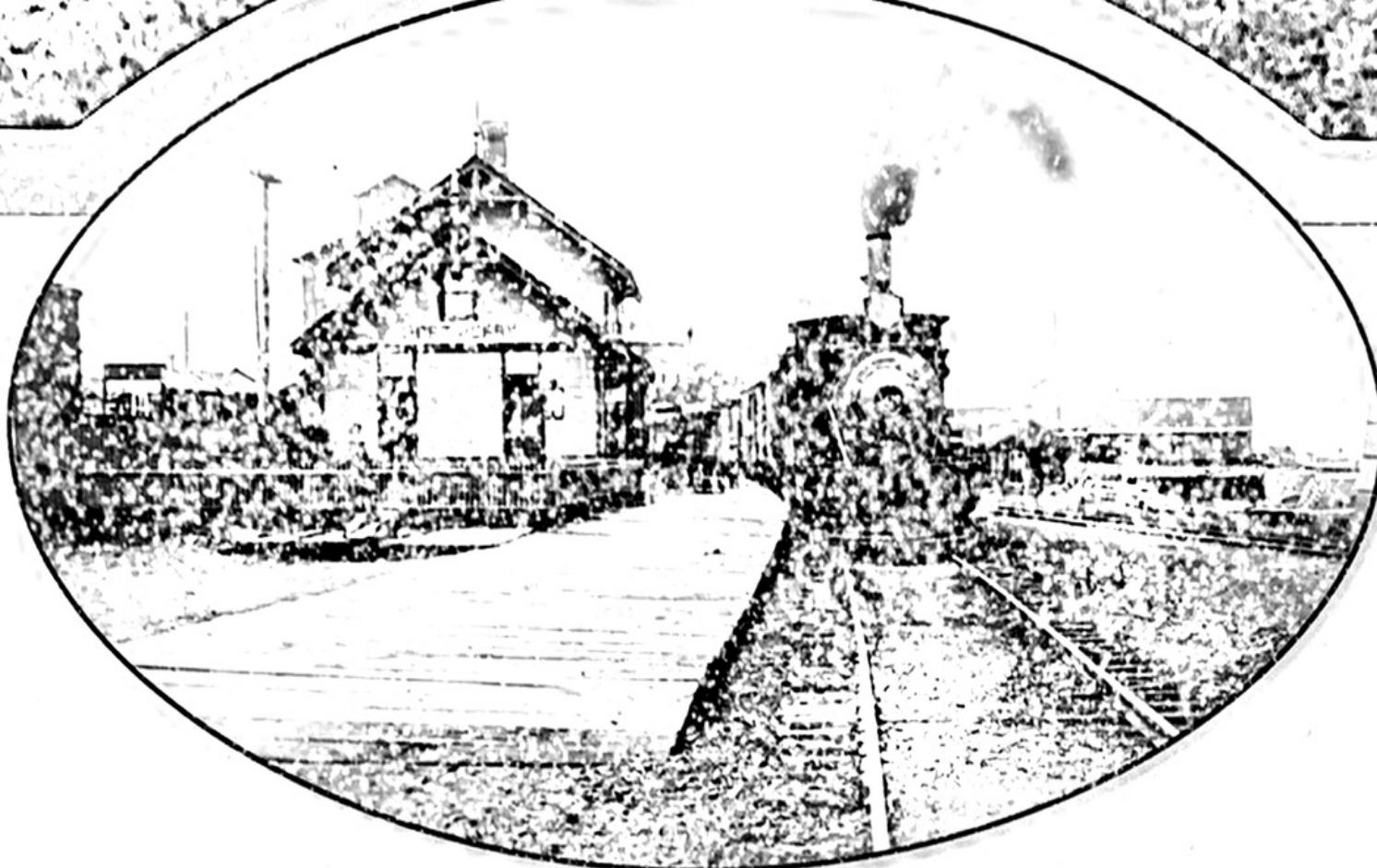
day through the Lindsay Dam.

Lake Scugog is a warm water lake home to an array of fish, including an abundance of largemouth bass, walleye, crappie, muskie, perch, carp, catfish, rock bass, smallmouth bass and minnows. There is also a robust ice fishing season from

January 1 to March 1, making this a renowned fishing location in southern Ontario.



A fine catch of fish from Lake Scugog c.1910.



*Train arriving from Lindsay to the Port Perry Railway Station, approx. 1912.*

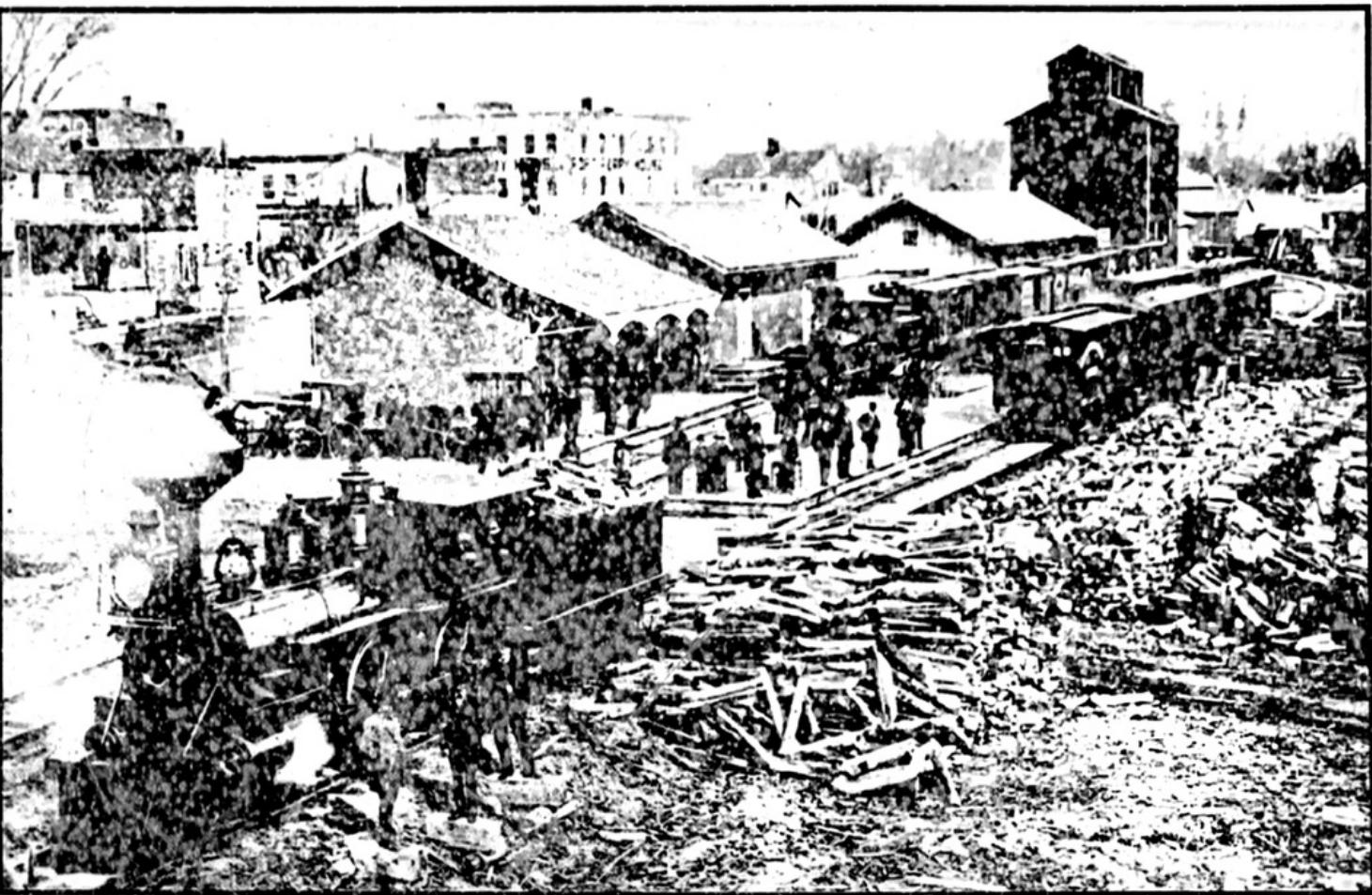
The Port Whitby and Port Perry Railway (PW&PP) was a former railway running north from Whitby to Port Perry, a distance of about 30 kilometres. It was built to connect local grain and logging interests with the railway mainlines on the shores of Lake Ontario. It was later extended northeast to Lindsay, becoming the WPP&L Railway.

The inaugural locomotive of the PW & PP Railway line was called the "Scugog" which rolled into the lakefront at Port Perry, for the first time on November 23, 1871. The railway continued to run from Whitby to Port Perry for 68 years with the last train being in 1939. The railway era came to an end in July 1941 when all the railway tracks were torn up to feed wartime steel production.

Passenger trains made two regular runs each day costing 70 cents and took about one hour. In addition, freight trains were making three or four trips a day, picking up lumber shipped to Port Perry's lakefront from Fenelon Falls and Bobcaygeon by steamboat.

In spite of early hopes, the railway was never very successful or profitable, as the original engineering was

## THE PORT WHITBY AND PORT PERRY RAILWAY



*The G. T. R. Train Station, Port Perry, approx. 1880. The station was ideally located on Lake Scugog, a connection with the Trent-Severn Waterway.*

considered sub-par and reliability was poor from the start. Engines sank in marshy areas, and the hills of the Oak Ridges Moraine, gave the railway its nickname, because it was "Nip n' Tuck" whether or not it could make its way up the grade when loaded.

The main station is still visible having moved from its original position in Palmer Park across to the nearby intersection at Queen and Water Streets.



*The morning after the fire in downtown Port Perry, 1884. The Grain Elevator can be seen in the background, having survived the devastation.*

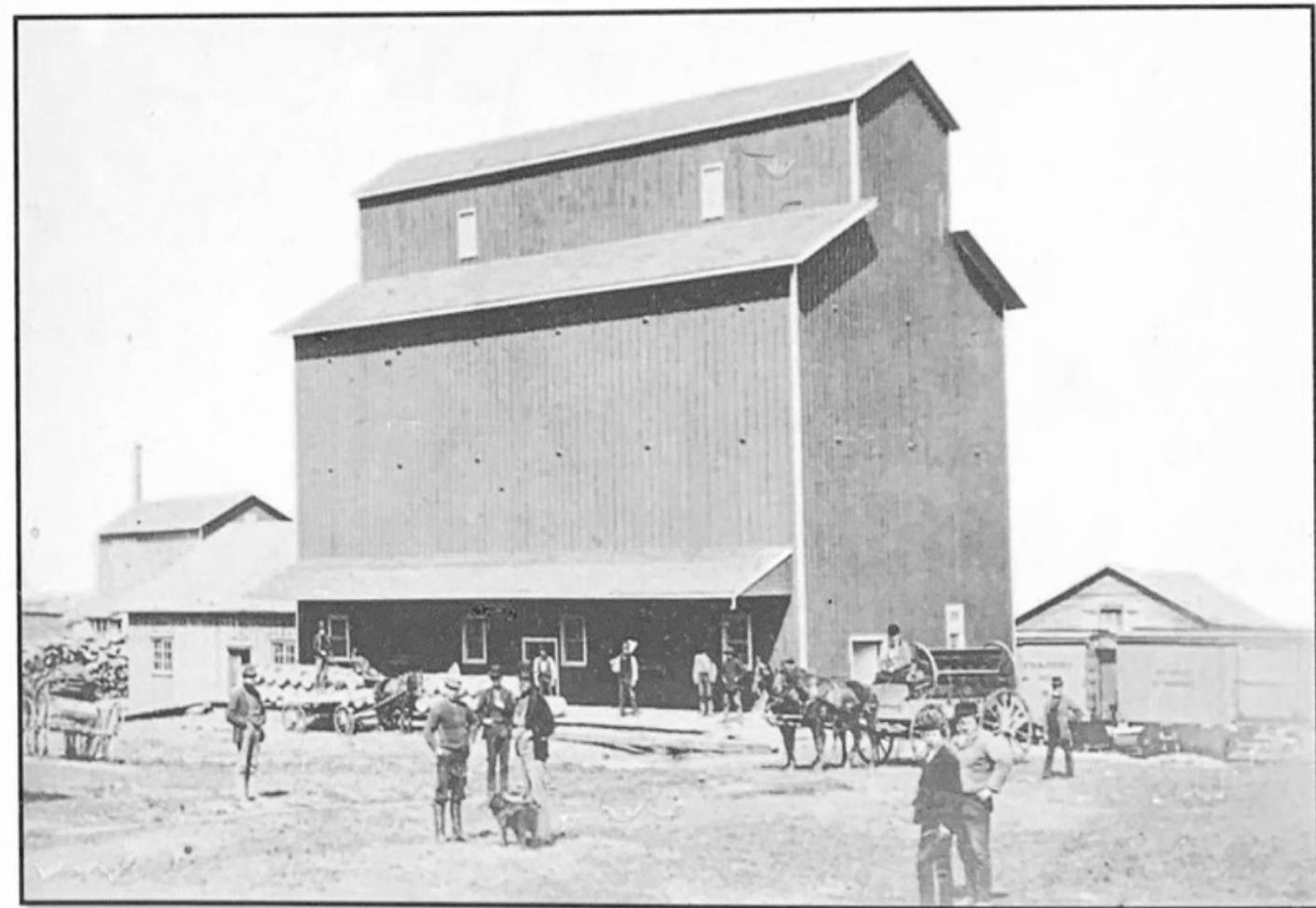
The Grain Elevator was built in 1874 by influential grain merchant George Currie, on the waterfront at the foot of Queen Street. Like the hundreds or even thousands that once dotted Canada's prairie landscape, it was used as a storehouse for grain. At 71 feet in height, this elevator, like most in eastern Canada, was shorter but more rectangular in plan than those in the west.

This historic building's significant features are its stone foundation measuring 24 inches thick, a frame constructed of huge pine beams, an exterior covered with 2 inch x 8 inch lumber to a height of 26 feet which was originally painted rusty red, and a cupola height of 13 feet. The mill contained 18 large bins which could hold over 2,000 bushels of grain each.

The mill has had eight owners in its history. The last owner of the elevator, to operate it as a mill, was Maple Leaf Mills (Master Feeds) from 1962 until closing in 1979.

The elevator has escaped destruction from fire on many occasions, the most miraculous of these came in 1883 and

## THE PORT PERRY GRAIN ELEVATOR



*The Curry Grain Elevator, 1875, still stands at the waterfront today.*

1884 when two major fires in less than a year, destroyed Port Perry's entire commercial core. Only the grain elevator, located feet away from the burning buildings on Water Street, escaped unscathed, making this structure the oldest surviving building in downtown Port Perry.

"The Old Mill" as it is called by the locals was purchased by the Township of Scugog in 2009 completing their ownership of the waterfront block in which it sits.

# The 1884 Port Perry Fire

During the summer of 1884, a heatwave hit the area and as the sun set, on Thursday, July 3, a few minutes before midnight, the townsfolk were rudely awakened by the persistent ringing of the Town Hall bell...the warning for FIRE!

A fire started in the stables behind the Mansion House Hotel (site of the present Post Office). Aided by strong wind, the fire spread rapidly, with wooden buildings virtually exploding as sparks settled on them.

Firemen battled courageously, but their equipment was inadequate to handle the inferno. Flames reached upwards of 40 feet into the air and could be seen as far away as Greenbank and Whitby. All attempts to save buildings were futile.

Panic stricken merchants, most of them uninsured, or under-insured, smashed down the rear doors of their stores, desperate to save merchandise. Some merchandise was rescued and piled on Perry Street, but the heat of the conflagration drove people away and the rescued merchandise itself caught fire as the fire spread to the street.

In less than an hour, the entire business section of downtown Port Perry was an inferno. From the north side of Mary Street to the south side of North Street, from Water Street to Perry Street and along Queen Street all the way to John Street, the fire consumed every structure, with the exception of three buildings.

The Ross & Sons Grain Elevator at the waterfront, plus two other buildings were the only structures to survive.

Thirty-three commercial buildings housing almost 50 businesses, as well as factories, warehouses, stables, six lodges and a dozen homes were nothing more than ashes and embers.

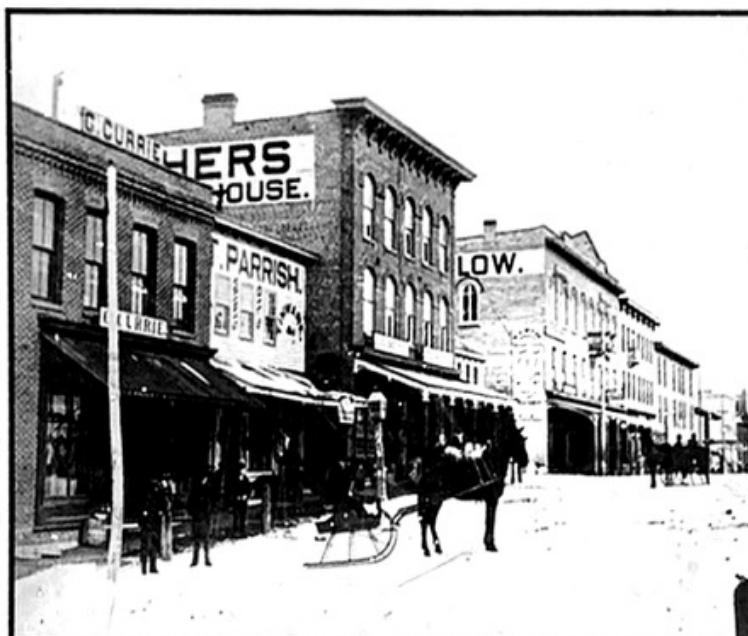
Immediately following the fire, an army of workers converged on the town and in only four months the entire commercial sector, 17 large brick buildings, had been rebuilt.



Photo taken from approximately this spot.

View of downtown Port Perry looking east towards Lake Scugog after the fire of July 3, 1884. The Ross Elevator and one building just west of the elevator, were all that were left standing after the inferno.

Photo at right, shows the buildings along the north side of Queen Street about five years before the fire destroyed all the buildings.



# Port Perry Lawn Bowling Club



*Merlin Letcher*



*George Gerrow*

Lawn bowling became popular sport in the early 1900s but it wasn't until July 1908 that a lawn bowling club was established in Port Perry. George Gerrow was the first president of the 20 member club.

A year after forming the club, they purchased this piece of land on Queen Street in preparation for a new lawn bowling facility. A cement wall was constructed along the street in 1910 and the following year the club installed electric lights.

Exactly when the club house was built has not been determined, although in June 1937 the lawn bowling club announced a remodelling and expansion of

the original facility.

The Port Perry Lawn Bowling Club was honoured in 1953 when a member of their club, Merlin Letcher, was elected president of the Provincial Lawn Bowling Association of Ontario.

Plans got underway in late 1979 to move the club to larger quarters, but it was five years before the club received a \$25,000 Wintario grant which made it possible.

A two-acre site on Old Simcoe Road was purchased in 1984 and the official opening of the new Port Perry Lawn Bowling Club took place in August 1986.

# Scugog War Memorial Library

**IN MEMORY OF JANIS GLANVILLE**  
*In grateful appreciation of outstanding dedicated  
volunteer service to the Scugog Heritage Advisory Committee.*



Memorial Library Opening, 1924



Memorial Library, 1935



Memorial Library, 2007



Hon. Herbert A. Bruce



Sir James A. MacBrien

The history of libraries in Scugog Township dates back to 1856 when the Port Perry Mechanic's Institute was formed for the dual purpose of a library and lecture hall. About 1880, the library was discontinued and the books were given to Port Perry High School or sold off.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union opened a reading room about 1894 which was furnished with chairs and periodicals. A few years later an 'Associate Library' was formed which operated for about 30 years.

In December 1916, the library moved into the ground floor of the former post office at the corner of Queen and John Street. Five years later, in June 1922, Village Council approved a proposal to purchase the property, tear down the building and construct a War Memorial Library. In 1924,

the 'Associate Library' became the town's first "Public Free Library".

On October 15, 1934, the cornerstone for the new War Memorial Library was laid by Mrs. W.H. Harris, and seven months later the new building was officially opened by The Honourable Herbert A. Bruce, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, assisted by General James A. MacBrien (both former Port Perry boys).

The War Memorial Library was opened as a memorial to the men of World Wars I and II and featured a "Book of Remembrance" which was kept in a lighted niche above the library's stone fireplace.

This library served the residents of Port Perry and area until 1982 when a new library was built on Water Street, on Port Perry's waterfront.

# BAAGWATING PARK

This park is named to honour the history and culture of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation.

After defeating the Iroquois in about 1700, the Anishnaabe people moved south and inhabited this area; especially in the summer and fall months when they would take advantage of the excellent hunting, fishing and abundance of cranberries, wild rice and ducks.

With European settlement came great hardship for the Ojibwe people. Over time, forests and lake edges became protected private property. The once vast numbers of passenger pigeons became extinct as did the elk, cougar and wolf in this area. Most devastating was the building of the Scugog River dam in the early 1830's and the consequent flooding which destroyed much of the food source of the Mississaugas. Three quarters of the local Anishnaabe people died. The remaining population was forced to move temporarily to another Anishnaabe community. Upon their return, they were disheartened

to learn that they had to pay for a mere portion of the land which they had previously occupied for many years. They purchased 800 acres on the northern portion of Scugog Island which did not include any shoreline land. They still reside there today.

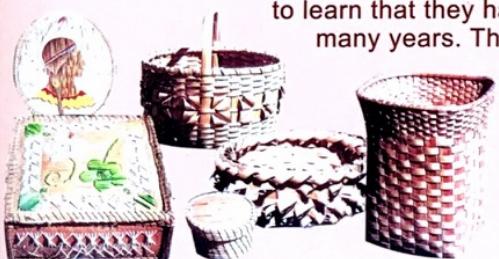


Photo courtesy of Scugog Shores Historical Museum

Today, the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation are a small, aboriginal community, whose determination and progressive attitude are a credit to their people. They are dynamic and valued members of the Scugog Township community.

The term "Baagwating" is derived from the Baagwating Community Association, whose membership is comprised of members of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. This Association was established to provide financial contributions to local charitable organizations and events for the enrichment and benefit of the residents of the town of Port Perry and surrounding communities.

"Baagwating" translates from Anishnaabemoowin (Ojibwe language) as "People of the Shallow waters." We are all people of the shallow waters as we join together to share the beauty of Lake Scugog as well as the responsibility for its stewardship.

## Major Sponsors (over \$25,000)

Environment Canada - EcoAction  
Ontario Trillium Foundation  
Township of Scugog  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada



## FORMER PORT PERRY TOWN HALL

### L'ANCIEN HOTEL DE VILLE DE PORT PERRY

During the 19th century, many villages and small towns across Canada constructed municipal meeting halls which served as political and social centres for their communities. This is a particularly fine example of the type. It was completed in 1873 to celebrate the opening of a rail link to Lake Ontario, an event which appeared to herald the economic triumph of Port Perry over other nearby communities. Noteworthy for its commanding site and the quality of its design and interior finishes, this building testifies to the vision and optimism of its sponsors.

Ce bâtiment offre un exemple particulièrement remarquable des édifices publics dont nombre de villages et de petites villes du pays s'étaient dotés au XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle pour leurs activités politiques et sociales. Il fut achevé en 1873 pour marquer l'ouverture d'un embranchement ferroviaire reliant Port Perry au lac Ontario, fait qui semble avoir annoncé la prédominance économique de cette ville sur les municipalités avoisinantes. Il se distingue par l'élévation de son site et par la qualité de son architecture et de son décor intérieur, et témoigne de la largeur de vue et de l'optimisme de ses promoteurs.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada  
Commission des lieux et monuments historiques du Canada



## DANIEL DAVID PALMER (1845–1913)

Raised in Port Perry, D. D. Palmer was self-educated, well read, and keenly interested in spiritualism and alternative medicine. While working as a magnetic healer in the United States, his clinical observations and analyses led him to conclude that proper spinal alignment could restore nerve flow and ensure good general health. Despite legal and financial setbacks, he published books on chiropractic treatment and founded and taught at several chiropractic schools. Palmer is recognized as the founder of chiropractic for his crucial role in creating and popularizing this alternative medical care in North America.

## DANIEL DAVID PALMER (1845–1913)

Autodidacte et cultive, D. D. Palmer, élevé à Port Perry, s'intéressait vivement au spiritisme et à la médecine alternative. Magnétothérapeute aux États-Unis, il conclut de ses observations et de ses analyses cliniques qu'un bon alignement des vertèbres pouvait rétablir le « flux nerveux » et préserver la santé. Malgré des ennuis juridiques et financiers, il publia des livres sur la chiropratique, fonda des écoles dans ce domaine et enseigna dans maints établissements. Considéré comme le père de la chiropratique, il joua un rôle clé dans l'élaboration et la diffusion de cette méthode alternative de traitement en Amérique du Nord.



Historic Sites and  
Monuments Board  
of Canada

Commission des lieux et  
monuments historiques  
du Canada

Canada

# The Willard Block

William Willard arrived in Port Perry in 1885 and erected this large block on the southeast corner of Queen and John St. the following summer.

When completed, Mr. Willard operated his general store in the west corner, while there were two stores to the east, and a market building to the south along Perry St. The upper floor was occupied by Dr. Sangster, dentist, and the Public Library.

In September 1895, the Willard Block was purchased by local businessman Richard Penhall, who owned it until his death.

Harold Archer purchased the Willard Block in 1928, then remodelled the building, creating a 50' frontage for his garage and a Pontiac dealership. He also sold White Rose gasoline from two "bowsers" (pumps) located on the sidewalk directly in front



*The Willard Block - circa 1886.*

of the building. In 1956 Harold Archer's son, Robert, assumed ownership of the car dealership, and moved it to Water Street.

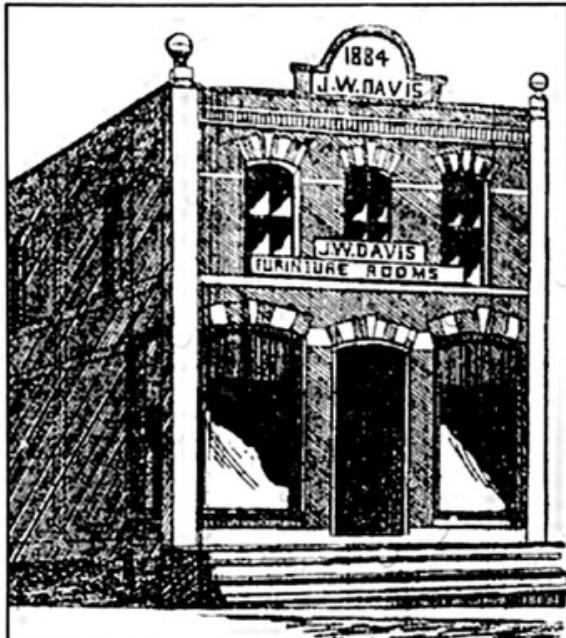
In 1958, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario purchased and remodelled the building, opening an outlet there in June.

The LCBO operated from this central location until it relocated in 1976. The current owner of this historic downtown building is Mary Hatsios.



*Willard Block circa 1930, with Archer Motors, and right, in 1958 as the new LCBO store.*

# John W. Davis Block



*The J.W. Davis Block circa 1910.*

John W. Davis opened a furniture manufacturing shop at this location in 1846. He also made coffins, and acted as the local undertaker.

The present structure was built following the fire of 1884.

Mr. Davis sold his furniture business to local undertakers Town and Spears, but retained the building. His family sold the building to William H. Letcher in 1901. Mr. Letcher passed the business and property on to his son Merlin in 1914.

The Letcher family sold the business to Archie McDermott in 1928 and in 1934 the McDermott Funeral and Furniture store was renovated to provide separate sections for each service. A new chapel was added to the south end of the building in 1951.

Art Panabaker began working for Mr. McDermott in 1946, purchasing half ownership in the business eight years later. Grant McDermott, Archie's son, joined Panabaker as a partner in 1960.

This was the same year the front exterior of the building was extended to the street, adding a large picture windows for the furniture show rooms abutting the sidewalk.

Art Panabaker and Grant McDermott retired in 1981, selling the building and business to Harold Wagg of Uxbridge. Mr. Wagg closed the furniture division but opened an art gallery in its place.



*Wagg Funeral Home 1998.*

Myles O'Riordan purchased the business from Harold Wagg in August 1990. In the fall of 1997, Mr. O'Riordan expanded the Wagg Funeral Home by constructing a large addition, modernizing and enlarging the chapels.

The Wagg Funeral Home is one of the oldest businesses in Port Perry, having operated as an ongoing funeral home since 1846.

# Dr. Orr Graham Veterinarian



Dr. Orr  
Graham



William Tate purchased this property in 1859 and built a house on this site which he later sold to Dr. Orr Graham, a veterinarian.

Dr. Graham was born in Reach township, near Saintfield. He attended primary school in the village, and later at Port Perry High School. He graduated from the Toronto Veterinary College in 1884 and then began his veterinary practice on this site, but a few months later the original home on this property was destroyed by fire.

In 1885, Dr. Graham built the impressive brick home illustrated above. He constructed a stable and animal surgery building behind the house where larger animals were kept while undergoing his care. Dr. Graham retired in 1909 and moved to Winnipeg. He sold his house and practice to John T. Elliot who had come from Detroit. Dr. Coates succeeded Dr. Elliot in 1910.

The attractive home changed hands many times in the following years. Dr. Stephen Kandel owned it for 17 years beginning in 1957. Alex Shepherd purchased the site in 1974 and operated his accounting firm, Shepherd and Powell, from this site for many years before retiring.

In 2010, following the death of Mr. Powell, the building was sold to Frank and Michael Konopaski, who operate Scugog Financial and Scugog Accounting Professional Corporation.

# The Jessop Block



Jessop Block about 1900



Jessop Block with Port Perry Star office 1935

This two-storey building at 235 Queen Street, is often referred to as the Jessop Block. It was constructed following a devastating fire in July 1884 which levelled Port Perry's entire commercial sector, including the original structure on the property.

Although its owner, Dr. Elisha Jessop, had moved from Port Perry before the fire, he had retained ownership of the property. He built the present building, which became known locally as the Jessop Block, in 1885.

Exactly when Dr. Jessop sold the building is unknown, but over the years it has accommodated many businesses, including W.G. Mone's General Store, the Royal Theatre and for a brief time a hospital on the second floor.

The building was purchased in 1920 by Samuel Farmer, who operated The Port Perry Star newspaper. The Farmer family sold the newspaper and building in 1963 to Per Hvidsten, who sold it to his son Peter in 1976. In 1991 the newspaper moved to a new location on Mary Street. Since then it has been home to a number of small retail businesses.

*Note: Dr. Jessop opened an office to practice medicine in St. Catharines in 1887. Active in politics, he also served 20 years as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, dying on October 24, 1918 while a MPP for Lincoln County.*



Dr. Elisha  
Jessop

# The Courtice Block

Thomas Courtice moved his harness business from Prince Albert to Port Perry in 1874 into a new brick building. That building was destroyed by the fire of 1884, but shortly after the fire he re-built this attractive two-storey building of yellow brick. The new structure was used as a wholesale harness factory, employing up to 75 men at its peak, during WWI.

Mr. Courtice took Samuel Jeffrey in as a partner in 1887 and they operated under the name Courtice & Jeffrey until the death of Mr. Courtice in 1901. The firm continued under that name until Mr. Jeffrey's son joined the firm in 1912, becoming S. Jeffrey and Son, and finally years later, Jeffrey and Taylor.

In 1954 the building was purchased by the Carnegie brothers, who renovated the building for commercial use and it was leased as a restaurant and men's wear store.

The building was purchased in 1972 by local realtor, George Stone. Since then the building has been carefully restored to its former appearance by the Stone family.



*The Courtice Block when occupied by Courtice & Jeffrey, circa 1900.*

# Harrington Block

Like a sentinel standing guard at the four corners of downtown Port Perry, this unique building with it's towering corner parapet and photography studio, was constructed in 1887 by George W. Harrington as a commercial building.

The block was purchased in 1895 by William Leonard, a renown Port Perry photographer. This building, along with another yellow brick structure north of the corner property, was referred to as the Leonard Block for many years.

During the Leonard's ownership, the ground floor was rented out to Arthur H. Rose of "Rose & Co." The store became known as "The Fair", and included the post office from 1903 until 1914.

Following William Leonard's death in 1947, the building was willed to his housekeeper, Margaret Real. During



Rose & Company - 1900



J.J. Lambert Real Estate 1968.

her ownership the building became home to a host of businesses. Some of these include Lambert Real Estate and Kelly, Jermyn law office.

In 1970 the building was purchased by its fourth owner, George Stone, for his real estate office at 221 Queen St. Mr. Stone leased the rest of the building to various commercial and residential tenants.

Since the death of George Stone in 1994, the Stone family have restored this impressive corner to it's original brilliance.

# The Currie Block



*Currie Block, circa 1875*



*Currie Block, circa 1886*

In 1870 brothers George and Mark Currie, grain merchants, bought this property from Joseph Bigelow and built a general store. They later formed a partnership with J.H. Brown who married George Currie's daughter and eventually bought out the Currie brothers.

After the 1884 fire, a new and different shaped building was erected and formed two stores with A.J. Davis running a drug store in the eastern portion and Thomas J. Widden operating a grocery store in the western section. Davis sold his drug store to A.M. Lawrence in 1932. Widden sold his store in 1935 to H.H. Mulligan who ran a barbershop.

In 1963 Mr. Lawrence remodelled the entire building into one drug store and in 1969 the business and building was sold to Gordon Parkin.

The Oddfellows Lodge held its first meeting in the upstairs of the original building in 1871 and continued to do so in the newer building until they moved in 1965.

The first indoor market was located behind the Currie building in 1872, but it was destroyed in the fire of 1884 and was afterwards relocated across the road in the Willard Block.

In 2012 it was purchased by Brett Puckrin, Tanya Latrielle and Guy Latrielle who immediately undertook restoration of the building.

# Wm. L. Parrish Block



**W. L.  
Parrish**



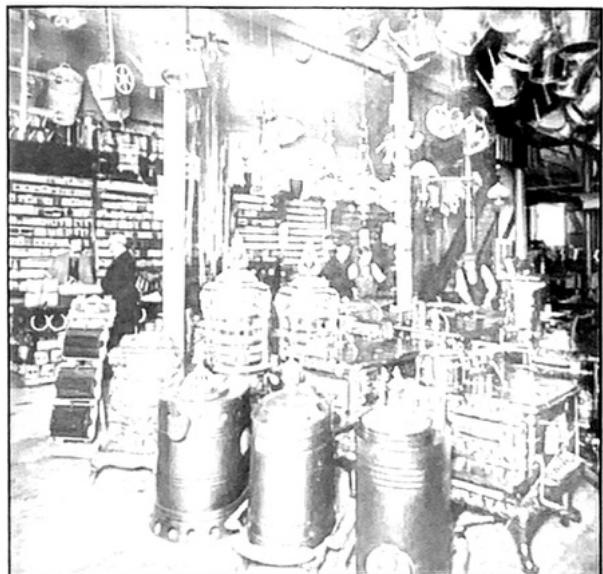
*William L. Parrish Hardware exterior 1930*

This property was bought by E. Worthington in 1868 as the western section of Lot 7. On it he built a flour and feed store. W.T. Parrish later bought it and turned it into a hardware store.

Immediately after the July 1884 fire, Mr. Parrish transferred ownership of the business to his 20 year-old son, W.L. Parrish. The younger Parrish built the present two story brick building and reopened it in February 1886. The store continued under the Parrish name until he sold it to W. Harry Peel in 1946.

When Mr. Peel went out of business, Wes Lane, a former employee, took over plumbing side of the business and the building was divided into two separate stores. The eastern half was occupied by a ladies clothes store named Canadian Woman, and later, Yvonne's.

In 1976, the building was sold to Wayne and Carolyn Luke, who opened Luke's Country Store. The Luke's later purchased the adjoining building to the east, uniting the entire Lot 7 once more.



*Parrish Hardware interior 1900*

# Jones Brothers Block



Charles  
Jones



William  
Jones



Jones Block circa 1900



Jones Block circa 1875

When Lot 7 was divided in 1868, this eastern half was sold to Charles and William Jones. They formed a partnership with Charles Paxton, but later bought out Paxton's interest and built an impressive three storey brick building here in 1873. The Jones brothers operated a clothing and dry goods store on the western half of the building and a general store in the remainder. This building was lost in a fire that destroyed the entire business section of town in July 1884.

A new building was constructed and in the eastern half, John McClung formed a partnership with William Jones to sell clothes, while the western half of the store was devoted to groceries, crockery and boots and shoes. Charles Jones returned to buy the eastern half of the building where he and his son operated a dry goods store.

The two sections went through a number of owners including Oke and McGregor, George Davey, W.C. Monet and F.W. McIntyre and the Port Perry 5c to \$1.00 variety store, which later became the Mersco 5c to \$1.00 store. In 1988 the property was purchased by Wayne and Carolyn Luke, who opened the Victorian Card shop in this section.

# The McCaw Block



William H. McCaw

Like most of the buildings in downtown Port Perry, this unique two-storey block was constructed following the tragic fire of 1884.

The property was originally owned by Port Perry entrepreneur Joseph Bigelow, who after the fire transferred ownership of this section of his large downtown property holdings into the name of his son-in-law William Henry McCaw.

Immediately following the fire the energetic young McCaw started construction on his new block of stores, completing the job by December 1884. He moved his jewellery store into the eastern section of its two units and leased the western portion of the new McCaw Block to local clothier William F. Brock. Mr. Brock's family still operates their clothing store to this day, just east of here, on the opposite side of the street.



W. H. McCaw Block, circa 1900.



George Emmerson

William H. McCaw continued in the jewellery trade at this location until 1915, when he sold his business and retired. He retained ownership of the building until his death in June 1930.

McCaw's estate left the building to his wife Emma (Bigelow) McCaw and she retained ownership until she died in 1945.

The McCaw's eight daughters assumed ownership of the McCaw Block after their mother's death, eventually selling it to their sister Aileen (McCaw) Emmerson, who left it to her son George in 1973.

Emmerson Insurance, which has operated in Port Perry since 1917, continues to operate from this location and the historic McCaw Block is still owned by the Emmerson family.

# Blong Block

This impressive red and yellow brick block, in the centre of the commercial district was constructed in 1885 by Jonathan Blong.

Mr. Blong purchased the property with its huge three-storey building called the 'Royal Arcade' from local entrepreneur Joseph Bigelow in 1877. Just seven years later, his building along with the rest of the downtown was destroyed by fire in 1884.

Undaunted by the loss, Mr. Blong began construction of this magnificent building, which became known as the Blong Block. At the time,

the two-storey block of stores was described as the "most pretentious and extensive business structure in Port Perry". It was elaborately decorated with red and yellow brick facings and covered a frontage of over 100 feet on Queen St.

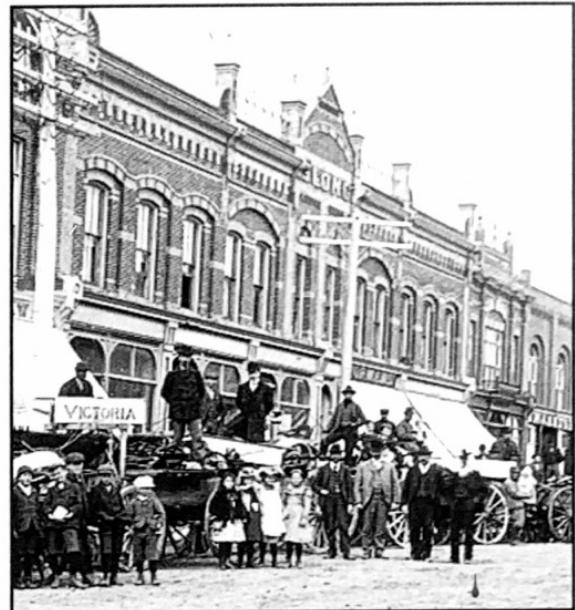
Mr. Blong divided the building into a number of units which were leased to local shop keepers, although he kept ownership of the eastern section of the building until 1915.

More recent owners of the block include, George Emmerson, who purchased it in 1954. He ran the Emmerson Motel from the second floor. Ground floor tenants included Emmerson's Insurance and Canadian Tire. In 1975 Mr. Emmerson sold the building to Charlie Santos who three years later sold it to Tom and Daphne Mitchell. The Mitchells restored the building and operated Settlement House Shops at this location until 2007.

The attractive landmark block was purchased in January 2013 by Dean Pandurov.



Blong Block, circa 1900.



# The Ackerman Block



*The B.F. Ackerman Block - 1886.*

Construction of the Ackerman Block was completed in 1886. At first glance it appears to be a single 40'x60' building, but in actuality, the structure is two buildings with a central focal point.

The western section of this attractive block was first occupied by Benjamin F. Ackerman, a leading manufacturer of harness and many other leather products, including trunks and saddles.

Mr. Ackerman sold his business in 1893 to harness manufacturer W.A. Beatty, but retained ownership of the building. He moved to Peterborough about 1899 where he built a four-storey factory and became the largest manufacturer of harness in Canada.

George Jackson, purchased the east section of the building in the early 1900s and opened a farm implement dealership. Following Mr. Jackson's death in 1930 his son Ted, a local auc-

tioneer, assumed ownership.

In 1957 Herb Brooks purchased the entire building and opened a feed business and hatchery in the east side.

Mr. Brooks sold the west block to Earl Argue, who opened a grocery store here, before selling the business to Merl Dowson in 1949. The Dowson's operated a Red & White food store at this location until 1975. Jack Owens was the next owner of this section, opening a pet shop here in 1976.



*B.F. Ackerman*

Other businesses to have operated from this two-section building include Van Camp Contracting, Murdock's Carpet, Lishman's Furs and currently Tribal Voices.

The present owner of the eastern section of this historic building is JoAnne Callery, who operates Village Decor Shoppe.



*Beatty's Harness shop 1900.*

# Aaron Ross & William Brock Block



*A. Ross & Sons store with Ontario Bank 1887*

Aaron Ross purchased this site in 1871 and built an elegant three story brick building. In the western half he had a general store and leased the eastern half to the Ontario Bank. After being destroyed by fire, Ross rebuilt the present two storey brick structure in 1885.

In 1911 Ross sold his business to William Brock, who had opened a general store in 1881 at the corner of Queen and Perry Streets.

After William Brock died in 1915, his three sons Harry, Fred and Harold took over. The store later became the property of Fred and his wife Sophie who bought back the bank building to the east in 1925. Fred and Sophie's son Arthur took over the business and it became the A.W. Brock Department Store in 1955.

Arthur Brock died in 1988, leaving the business to his son William (Bill) and his wife Claudette. Their eldest daughter Marina assumed management in 1993. Under her guidance, the store was considerably expanded to the west. Marina Brock was joined by her sister Juliana in 1996. The building and business has been owned and operated by members of the Brock family for more than a century.

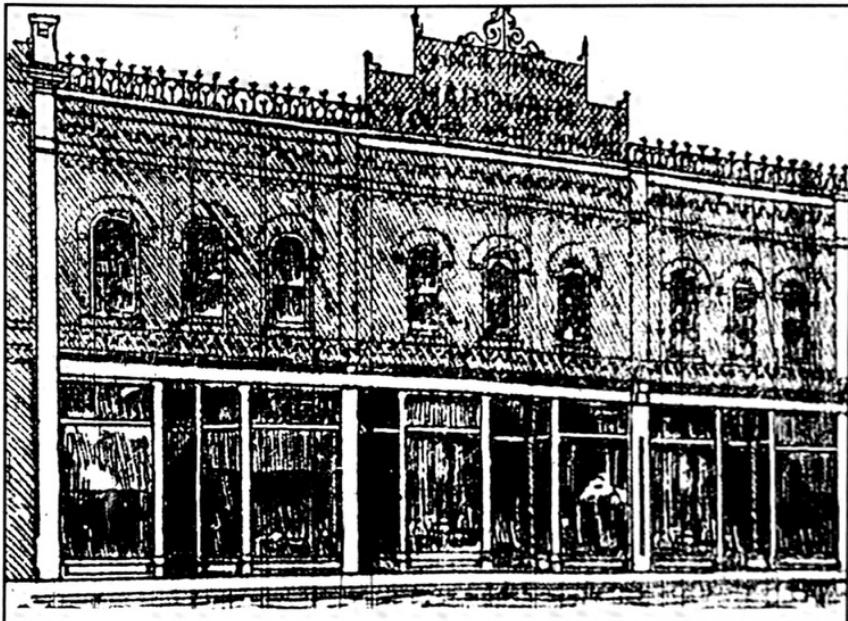


*Aaron Ross*



*William Brock*

# The Laing & Meharry Block



John B. Laing and John W. Meharry entered into partnership in 1874 purchasing a building at this location to operate a general hardware store.

A fire in 1884 destroyed their building causing a loss of more than \$16,000 for the two men. A new structure was immediately built on the site using the original foundations and they moved in by November the same year.

The attractive two-story block was built of white brick, with a frontage of 66' on Queen Street and 110' in depth.

The portion of the block not occupied by the owners was taken up by the Standard Printing Office and the real estate office of David Adams.

Six years later, in October 1891 the Laing & Meharry building was gutted by fire and their stock destroyed, but once again they rebuilt. Although similar to the original building there were

exterior modifications to the design.

E.H. Purdy purchased the Laing and Meharry block in 1897 and established his grocery and grain business in the middle and west section, while Cawker Brothers Butchers located in the most easterly section of the block.

The two easterly units of the original three section block are now owned by the Brock family, who occupy four storefront along Queen Street.

The most westerly of the original Laing & Meharry building has seen many changes in ownership over the past century.

Among its many tenants have been McClintock's grocery store, Pickard's Dominion Hardware for 20 years, Karl the Butcher, The Meeting Place restaurant and delicatessen, Reid's Organic Foods and Queen Beans and Plover's.



Cawker Bros. Butchers early 1900s.

# Allison Block

S. E. Allison opened a drugstore in a new building after the fire of 1884 and became the first office for the Bell Telephone Co. a year later. Allison vacated his store and rented it until 1897, then sold his drug store operation to T. C. Nicolls. Nicolls expanded the merchandise to include newspapers and stationery along with drugs.

After graduating from the Ontario College of Pharmacy, S. E. Allison's nephew C. H. Allison, purchased the drug store from Nicolls, thus returning the Allison name to the store. The building was destroyed in the

1901 fire. It was one of the most severely damaged due to an explosion caused by the chemicals kept in the store.

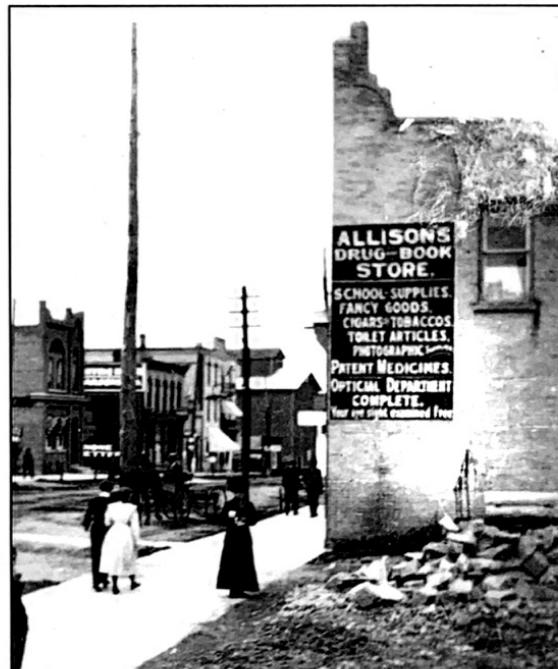
After rebuilding, Edward B. Flint established his rival drug store on the old Allison site. In June 1912, Flint sold the business to Orval Byers who in turn sold it to P. G. Morrison in May 1919. During Mr. Morrison's ownership of the drug store business, he sold the building and in 1928 relocated immediately west of the Post Office.

The Royal Bank of Canada moved their branch into this building in 1929 but closed only three years later. After the Royal Bank's departure, Gordon McKee opened the Superior Grocery Store. This store was purchased by Jack Hope who acquired an IGA franchise in 1953. He operated from this location until 1961 when he moved into a new store near the United Church.

George Stone operated a mens' store here until 1963. He sold his business to Don Carnegie, who renamed it Don Carnegie's Men's Wear. In 1976, Mr. Carnegie closed his store and it became a Becker's Milk store for the next decade. The property was next purchased by the Don Forder family in 1995. He undertook an extensive restoration of the building his daughter Dana moved her jewellery store, Dana's Goldsmithing here later that year. Dana purchased the building from her family in 2000.



C.H. Allison



Allison Block after the fire 1901