



**Township of Woolwich
Heritage Committee
Agenda**

April 12, 2023

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Video Conference - Internal

Chair: Councillor Bonnie Bryant

Access Details

Meeting Link

Meeting ID: 894 4250 8289

Passcode: 068142

Toll-Free: 855-703-8985

Pages

1. Land Acknowledgement

The land on which we meet has been here from time immemorial. People have inhabited southern Ontario for about 10,000 years and we acknowledge the Neutral people also called Attawandaron, Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee Peoples who lived here when settlers arrived and who share this land with us. May we together learn to care for and respect each other, our flora and fauna, and the land we inhabit together.

2. Call to Order

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

4. Adoption of Minutes

4.1 March 8, 2023

1

5. Work Plan

5.1 Township of Woolwich Municipal Heritage Register

6. Items from the Previous Meeting

6.1 Committee Meeting Format

Consider: Virtual, Hybrid, In-Person, Time, Location

6.2 Heritage Plaques

6.2.1 Greenhouse Road Plaque

6.2.2 Former St. Boniface School Plaque - Information Update

6.3 Final Review of Ghost Community Content

22

6.4 Proposed Heritage Designations

6.4.1 St. Boniface Church Cemetery, Maryhill

6.4.2 Carnegie Library, Elmira

6.5 Heritage Restoration Site Visit, Winterbourne

7. New Business

7.1 Staff Role Expectations for Planning and Administrative Support

7.2 Heritage Recognition Awards

7.3 Economic Development and Tourism/Heritage Committee Collaboration

8. Items for the Next Agenda

9. Next Meeting

May 10, 2023

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment

Township of Woolwich Heritage Committee Minutes

March 8, 2023
Virtual – Zoom Meeting
From 4:59 to 5:55 p.m.

Meeting Chair: Councillor Bonnie Bryant (Chair)
Attended: Hans Pottkamper
Kathryn Boose
Marg Drexler
Staff Present: Alex Smyth, Deputy Clerk*
Dolores Black, Council/Committee Facilitator*
Robyn Koutrouliotis, Licensing Officer/Administrative Assistant
Regrets: Colleen Willard-Holt (Co-Chair)
Allison Gramlow
Karen Cummings
Kim Hodgson

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Bonnie Bryant read a land acknowledgement.

CALL TO ORDER at 4:59 P.M.

The Committee welcomed new member Kathryn Boose.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

2023-2027 TERM OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Member Training

Alex Smyth, Deputy Clerk, providing procedural training for the 2023-2027 Committee term.

A. Smyth noted Committee members are required to make a declaration of pecuniary interest for any financial conflict(s) and have the option to declare any personal conflicts. Questions can be directed to A. Smyth or Dolores Black, Council/Committee Facilitator.

For more information, see the Training for Boards and Committees of Council 2023-2027 presentation, attached as Appendix "A".

Committee Meeting Format

The Committee discussed the preferred format for future meetings in relation to scheduling, severe weather events, and legislated deadlines.

The Committee deferred the item for discussion at the next meeting.

** Alex Smyth and Dolores Black left the meeting.*

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Marg Drexler

Seconded by Hans Pottkamper

That the minutes of February 8, 2023 be adopted as presented.

...Carried.

WORK PLAN

Ghost Community Signage

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Heritage Designations

The Committee will move forward with heritage designation for both the St. Boniface Church cemetery in Maryhill and the Elmira Carnegie Library. The Committee will discuss which member(s) will work on each designation at the next meeting.

Action: The Committee requested David Gundrum, Planner, circulate a designation by-law and supporting documentation from a recent heritage designation.

Action: The Committee requested D. Gundrum provide an update on the former St. Boniface school plaque.

St. Boniface Church Cemetery

M. Drexler noted she has content and images for the cemetery designation.

Elmira Library

H. Pottkamper provided a brief overview of the history of Carnegie libraries in North America. The Committee discussed meeting with print media outlets in the Region to help create publicity for the Elmira Library designation once the relevant information has been compiled.

Greenhouse Road Plaque

The Committee deferred the item to the next meeting.

Final Review of Ghost Community Content

The Committee deferred the item to the next meeting.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Municipal Heritage Register: Designated Heritage Properties

The Committee deferred the item to the next meeting.

Please see the Township of Woolwich Municipal Heritage Register, attached as Appendix "B".

Heritage Recognition Awards

M. Drexler provided a brief overview of Wellington County's Heritage Recognition Award program. The Committee expressed interest in creating a similar program for Heritage Week in 2024. Discussion occurred around presenting certificates for volunteer work and local media involvement. Further discussion will occur at the next meeting.

Heritage Restoration Site Visit

The Committee discussed scheduling a tour of a property in Winterbourne currently undergoing restoration. Further discussion will occur at the next meeting.

Economic Development and Tourism/Heritage Committee Collaboration

The Committee expressed interest in inviting Jenna Deboer, Economic Development and Tourism Officer, to an in-person Committee meeting to discuss ways to integrate heritage and tourism interests.

The Committee discussed initiatives including: the installation of signage around the West Montrose Covered Bridge to highlight other Township amenities; heritage tours; and providing information via QR code at key tourism sites.

Action: The Committee requested Robyn Koutrouliotis, Licensing Officer/Administrative Assistant, tentatively invite J. Deboer to the Committee's May meeting.

Action: H. Pottkamper will meet with J. Deboer in advance of her attendance at the May meeting.

Local Print Media Exposure

The Committee discussed reaching out to the local newspaper regarding heritage items of interest.

Action: H. Pottkamper and K. Boose will request a meeting with the local newspaper.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by H. Pottkamper

Seconded M. Drexler

That the meeting be adjourned.

...Carried.

Training for Boards and Committees of Council 2023-2027



Guiding Documents

- Council and their boards or committees receive their authority from the *Municipal Act, 2001*, or other legislation. The Act also imposes a number of requirements on Council and by extension its boards and committees.
- Township policies, by-laws, and other governing documents apply in addition to any adopted by the board or committee and approved by Council.



Term of Serving – 2023-2027

- Members of Boards and Committees of Council will serve on the appointed board or committee for the term of the Council that appointed them, or until successors have been appointed.
- Due to the timing of Elections and other requirements in the Clerks Office, Clerks staff will likely hold a recruitment in January of 2027 for the new term of Council (2026-2030).
- Your appointments will expire when new members have been appointed in early 2027.



Code of Conduct

- There are two main documents to guide boards and committees of Council in their conduct, the Township's policy on conduct and the Procedural By-law.
- These documents outline appropriate behaviour and operations during, as well as outside of, formal meetings.
- We encourage members of boards and committees of Council to be aware of the sensitive and confidential information they handle and that they do not use their influence outside of official duties.



Procedural By-law

- The Procedural By-law guides the operation of meetings, including quorum, voting, and meeting process for both Council and its boards and committees.
- The committee's Terms of Reference, establishing by-laws, or Roberts Rules of Order can be referenced for matters not addressed in the Procedural By-law.
- When in doubt, contact the Council and Committee Facilitator in the Clerk's office by phone at 519-669-6004 or email at dblack@woolwich.ca.



Quorum

- Quorum is the majority of members, unless otherwise outlined in the Terms of Reference or establishing by-law.
- Quorum is required to make the actions and activities of a committee or board official. In certain circumstances, a meeting can still be conducted, but any decisions made must be ratified at the next meeting with quorum.

Pecuniary Interest

- Pecuniary Interest refers to any direct or indirect financial conflict of interest or monetary stake in an item discussed at a meeting.
- It is the member's responsibility to declare any direct or indirect pecuniary interest. The Clerks office will not offer comment on possible pecuniary interest but suggest that when in doubt it is best for members to declare.
- Members with pecuniary interest shall not discuss, vote on, or remain in the meeting while the matter is discussed. Their absence does not impact quorum.



Pecuniary Interest

- It is now legislated that all members of Council and its boards or committees must publicly disclose in writing all declarations of pecuniary interest.
- A binder has been placed on the desk on the second floor of the Township Administrative Building for this purpose. There is also an online form that can be filled out. All boards and committees have a corresponding section of the binder.
- Please direct any questions to the Council and Committee Facilitator in the Clerk's office by phone at 519-669-6004 or email at dblack@woolwich.ca.



Delegations

- All usual meetings of Council and its committees are open to the public unless eligible as a Closed Session under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, and handled accordingly.
- Delegations must register in advance of the meeting and will have seven minutes to speak on a single topic. If a delegate has not registered in advance of the meeting, a motion must be passed to accept their delegation, and they will have five minutes to speak.
- If a delegate has previously appeared before the board or committee on a specific topic, they may be directed to only speak to new information.
- Boards or committees may refuse to hear delegations when the subject is beyond their jurisdiction or if the presentation is abusive including profanity or threats of litigation.



Meeting Decorum

- Meeting decorum is the responsibility of the Chairperson or Presiding Officer.
- Quasi-judicial committees of Council should uphold a formal, court-like process.
- Decorum must be upheld by all those attending the meeting.
- A violation of decorum is any action or statement that ought reasonably be known to be unwelcome.



Debate

- Members of the committee or board as well as members of the audience will address questions or comments through the Chairperson or Presiding Officer.
- Addressing questions or comments through the Chairperson or Presiding Officer is a display of respect as well as an opportunity for them to uphold meeting decorum if needed, but should not detract from natural meeting discussion.



Motions

- Motions may be presented verbally or in writing.
- Once moved and seconded by any board or committee member, the Chairperson will ask for any further discussion or amendment to the motion.
- A debate of the motion shall be restricted to members or staff as requested.
- While a motion is under consideration, no contrary revisions or motions shall be made except in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.



Voting

- When a motion has been put forward, every board or committee member shall vote unless:
 - Pecuniary interest has been declared
 - The member is the Chairperson or Presiding Officer unless there is a tie or a recorded vote
 - The member was absent during discussion or debate on the motion
- Any abstention from voting will be counted as a vote against the motion.
- Any motion that has an equal number of votes for and against shall be declared lost.



Agendas & Minutes

- All Agendas, except for Property Standards and Dog Designation Appeal Committees, must be posted on the Township's website a minimum of three business days prior to the meeting.
- All boards and committees of Council are required to submit their minutes once approved to Council for their information.
- Minutes can be sent to the Council and Committee Facilitator in the Clerk's office by phone at 519-669-6004 or email at dblack@woolwich.ca for inclusion in Council packages.



Other Guiding Documents

- Boards and committees of Council are also required by the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to adhere to Township policies in regards to Procurement; the Purchase, Sale, and Lease of Land; and Hiring Employees, where applicable.
- Please direct any questions to the Council and Committee Coordinator in the Clerk's office by phone at 519-669-6004 or email at dblack@woolwich.ca.



Appendix “B”: Township of Woolwich Municipal Heritage Register

DESIGNATED HERITAGE PROPERTIES

No.	NAME	LOCATION	OWNER
1	Conestogo United Church (built 1878)	2-2-077 1790 Sawmill Rd. Conestogo	Benjamin Kempel (designating By-law 46-80)
2	Dunke House (built 1891)	1-1-078 2 William St. Elmira	David Playford (designating By-law 46-84)
3	Gore Park Bandstand (built 1892)	1-2-199 68 Arthur St. S. Elmira	Township of Woolwich (designating By-law 36-86)
4	Bristow Inn (built 1860)	1-3-216 80 Arthur St. S. Elmira	David Wang, Jodi Calvert-Wang (designating By-law 56-89)
5	McDonald House (built 1867)	2-1-020 13 Katherine St. N. Winterbourne	Linda Berkett (designating By-law 113-89)
6	Steiner Residence (built 1857)	2-3-156 1401 King St. N. St. Jacobs	CLO Holdings Inc. (designating By-law 74-94)
7	Snyder, Brubacher & Shantz House (built 1879)	2-3-235 24 Queensway Dr. St. Jacobs	Susana Shantz (designating By-law 42-92)
8	Albright House (built 1850s)	2-7-012 52 Hill St. West Montrose	Susannah Martin (designating By-law 88-86)
9	West Montrose Covered Bridge (built 1881)	West Montrose Grand River crossing	Regional Municipality of Waterloo (designating By-law 81-2011)
10	Former Municipal Office (built 1912)	1-5-109 69 Arthur St. S. Elmira	2331045 Ontario Inc. (designating by By-law 6-2010)
11	Old Township Hall (built 1888)	2-2-023 1924 Sawmill Rd. (prior 24 King St. W.) Conestogo	Jeffrey Richards (designating By-law 7-2010)
12	St. Boniface Catholic School (built 1898)	3-1-05210 1354 Maryhill Rd. Maryhill	Waterloo Region Catholic School Board (designating By-law 53-2014)
13	Chalmers Presbyterian Church (built 1870)	2-1-06700 4 Katherine St. N. Winterbourne	Tara-Lynne and Paul Ballantyne (Registered Agreement from Conservation Review Board (CRB) decision – registered as WR1003568 on December 22, 2016)

DG

June 2022

2022-06-23 - Heritage Designated-Listed Properties (Updated).doc

LISTED HERITAGE PROPERTIES

No.	NAME	LOCATION	OWNER	INTEREST
1	St. Jacobs Public School (built 1929)	72 Queensway Dr. St. Jacobs (2-3-24700)	Waterloo Region District School Board (listed May 29, 2012 by Council resolution)	Original brick structure built 1929. Cultural significance of past students. Significance of school grounds and property to surrounding community.
2	Auger Cottage (built 1800s)	245 Hill St. West Montrose (2-7-02200)	Dwayne Auger (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	19 th century stone cottage / schoolhouse.
3	Blinn Cottage (built 1800s)	1238 Rivers Edge Dr. West Montrose (2-7-00200)	Richard Epp (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	19 th century stone cottage
4	Dowling Cottage (built 1800s)	1242 Rivers Edge Dr. West Montrose (2-7-00300)	Anthony Dowling (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	19 th century stone cottage
5	Olde Bridge Place Bed and Breakfast Inn Ltd.	5 Covered Bridge Dr. West Montrose (2-7-06700)	Allen Gow (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	Former blacksmith shop, gas station and 19 th century Victorian house.
6	West Montrose United Church and cemetery (built 1907)	42 Covered Bridge Dr. West Montrose (2-7-02700)	United Church (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	Historical community church and cemetery.
7	Old Order Mennonite Church, Winterbourne	1118 Letson Dr. Winterbourne (2-1-04100)	Old Order Mennonite Church (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	Winterbourne Mennonite meeting house and cemetery.
8	West Montrose General Store	12-14 Covered Bridge Dr. West Montrose (2-7-01000)	Vera Brubacher (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	General store.

9	Blinn Storage Sheds (built 1800s)	1239 Rivers Edge Dr. West Montrose (2-7-00210)	Richard Epp (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	Storage sheds.
10	Hendrick Schoolhouse (built 1874)	1060 Rivers Edge Dr. West Montrose (2-7-07600)	Brian Hendrick (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	Historic schoolhouse.
11	Private Buggy Bridge (built 1870)	1051 Buggy Ln. (2-1-03900) 1155 Crooks Tract Rd. (2-2-18800)	Clare Martin Mark Brubacher (listed May 13, 2014 by Council resolution)	Historic private buggy bridge.

DG

June 2022

**TOWNSHIP OF WOOLWICH
DESIGNATED CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE
AREA**

No.	NAME	POLICY	LOCATION	OBJETIVE
1	West Montrose Cultural Heritage Landscape (CHL) Policy Area	Woolwich Official Plan (Section 12.7)	Vicinity of West Montrose	To conserve the West Montrose CHL in such a way that its heritage values, attributes and integrity are retained.

DG

June 2022

Potential Ghost Communities (* = include; ? = maybe; x = omit) Please ignore the bolding in the names of communities; it's random.

?Name: Buehler's Corners

Description of ghost town:

Located in Woolwich Township at the junction of roads leading to St. Jacobs, Heidelberg, and Waterloo, Wagner's Corners was formerly known as Wakeford Corners and later Buehler's Corners (the latter after the family who had a property at the corner). It was an area settled by Pennsylvania-German Mennonites in the 1830s. Although there were a blacksmith shop and a sawmill to the west along the Heidelberg Road, there was no real settlement at the corners.



*Mr. and Mrs. Abe Buehler at Wagner's Corners, 1912.
DHC Research Files.*

***Name:** Colbournesburg

Description of ghost town: The origins of the Queen's Bush Settlement can likely be traced to a group of black immigrants, who moved to Upper Canada in 1828. While Ohio was a free northern state, many whites opposed granting rights to blacks and some worried about the threat of economic competition from recently arrived freemen. In 1804, the state enacted oppressive **Black Laws (1804)**. After two unsuccessful petitions for land to the Executive Council of Upper Canada, the Ohio group, led by **Paola Brown** and Charles Jackson, arrived at Crook's Tract, near Winterbourne. Prior to their arrival, the parcel changed hands a few times but remained undeveloped. Its current owner had trouble selling his plots, but was willing to sell to the new settlers.

1832's assessment rolls reveal a 34-person community in nine households. It included five families with a total of 18 children younger than 16 years (one had a child older than 16). Except for John Brown and his wife, all lived in Broken Front Concession 2, north of Cox's Creek. Holdings ranged from 70-150 acres (usually, 3 or 4 were cleared and planted) and were assessed between £11 and £33 (US\$2312 and US\$6936—see notes on conversion). The Browns' holdings were the highest-assessed at £63

(US\$13,242). They had 100 acres in Broken Front Concession 1, two milch cows, a team of oxen, and 26 acres planted in crops.

Within two years, most of the settlement, including Paola Brown, left for other areas in the province. Several families moved to the Queen's Bush, the southern periphery of unclaimed government land that lay 29 km (18 mi) north of the village of Waterloo and south of Lake Huron. Over time, settlers spread along a 13 by 21 km (8 by 12 mi) area on the boundary of modern-day Wellesley and Peel Townships (now in Waterloo and Wellington Regions), and established centres in Hawksville and Wallenstein.

xName: Crowsfoot Corners

Description of ghost town:

Located on the township line between Woolwich and Waterloo Townships, Crowsfoot Corners sat on a main north-south road though Breslau and Bloomingdale to Elora in Wellington County. At the township line, another road forked off north-west toward the village of Conestogo. This intersection was Crowsfoot Corners, mainly known as the site of Ebenezer Chapel, one of the earliest United Brethren churches in the county. The church was later relocated to Bloomingdale.

***Name:** Freiburg

Description of ghost town:

A crossroads hamlet just west of New Germany (Maryhill) in the former Waterloo Township, Freiburg ("free hill" in German) was at the junction of present-day St. Charles Street West and Shantz Station Road. Established around 1840, it was originally called Rumbach Corners after the first entrepreneur in the area, Ferdomamd Rumbach. For a couple of years he carried stock of mercantile effects (needles, pins, and other odds and ends) in a large box strapped over his shoulders. He later owned a two-storey brown log hotel called the Temperance House, a store and an assembly hall on the north side of St. Charles St. W. A post office operated here from 1847-1852 (another source: from 1851 to 1883?? Third source postmaster beginning 1851) when it moved to New Germany. Joseph Hummel operated a limestone kiln and produced many of the bricks for the local houses. His brickyard was located in what is now the orchard on the Hummel farm at 210 St. Charles St. W. Freiburg gradually declined as New Germany grew larger.

(write up by Hans Pottkamper)

Main Industries: A hotel, store, assembly hall, post office, blacksmith shop, wagon-making shop, weaving mill, brewery and sawmill made up the commercial complement of the community. A brickyard and cider mill were also established on a farming operation near the settlement.

Notable Settlers: Ferdomamd Rumbach (peddler; hotel, store, assembly hall owner), Andrew Hauss (blacksmith), Joseph Hummel (farmer and brickyard owner), Ignatius Weiler (wagon-maker), Andrew Weiler (owner of weaving mill, brewery and sawmill), Jacob Weiler (cider mill operator).

xName: Glenchristie

Description of ghost town:

A small hamlet in the former Waterloo Township at the corner of present-day Kossuth Road and Hespeler Road, Glenchristie was built around a lime kiln. Although a branch of the Great Western Railway (later the Grand Trunk Railway) passed nearby, and it was close to the Speed River, these potential advantages did not impact on the size of the settlement, essentially a rural crossroads straddling the county line between Waterloo and Wellington Counties. From 1939, Glenchristie was a stop on the railway line from Galt to Guelph. A Glenchristie school is referred to in the Waterloo South District Jubilee Women's Institute history, possibly in Wellington County.

xName: Heidelberg Station

Description of ghost town:

Heidelberg Station was a flag stop on the Grand Trunk Railway line joining Waterloo to Elmira, built in 1891. It was situated just north of the Woolwich Township line, where the railway line crosses present-day King Street at the St. Jacobs Farmers' Markets. It was about 5 km. southeast of the village of Heidelberg.

***Name:** Kossuth

Description of ghost town:

The settlement of Kossuth in Woolwich Township is usually said to have been named after Louis Kossuth, a nineteenth century Hungarian patriot who was widely acclaimed as a champion of liberty in Europe and abroad. However, Tremaine's 1861 map of Waterloo County indicates that a Mrs Kossuth owned two properties in the settlement, suggesting a more immediate source. Located a little to the north of Hespeler, along the road from Preston to Guelph, the hamlet sat at the present-day junction of Kossuth Road and Shantz Station Road. Its crossroads function was most important during the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway in the mid-1850s. Its hotel served teamsters hauling loads of limestone from the Speed River and other construction supplies. When railway building concluded, Kossuth lost significance but remained to serve the needs

of a large rural population. A distinctive industry was the manufacture of sulphur matches by the Zyrd family. The town also boasted a tavern, two grocers, a pottery, a post office, a hotel, a shoemaker, a saddler and a blacksmith. The post office closed in 1921 and by then the only remaining business was the shoemaker. A log school was established in 1842, replaced with a stone structure in the 1870s (also known as Reist's School and Waterloo Township S.S. No.16). Somewhat fittingly, the Kossuth school was purchased by the Hungarian Canadian Club when the school was closed in the 1960s. (Highlight=on twp interactive site (edited a bit); also photo of schoolhouse)

xName: New Jerusalem (also Jerusalem Corners)

Description of ghost town:

A locality in rural Woolwich Township south-east of Elmira, Jerusalem Corners was situated at the intersection of present-day Jerusalem Road and Scotch Line Road. It was also referred to as Jerusalem and the Jerusalem section.

Name: North Woolwich (also Sandytown)

?Description of ghost town:

Located at the junction of present-day Arthur Street North and Sandy Hills Road in Woolwich Township, North Woolwich was the location of a short-lived post office, secured for that area by William Lyon Mackenzie King, the Member of Parliament for Waterloo North in 1908; the post office closed in 1913. A Mennonite meetinghouse, a Baptist church and an Evangelical Association church (later United Church of Canada) were in the area from the 1850s. Nearby Sandytown, also a short-lived hamlet, supplied some amenities to residents of the North Woolwich area.

?Name: Riverbank

Description of ghost town:

One of the earliest schools in Waterloo County, Riverbank School was established in 1832 at the present-day junction of Riverbank Road and Fountain Street. In its early years, it was called the High Banks School, and later, Waterloo Township S.S. No. 15 school. A log structure was replaced by a frame building, and later by a stone schoolhouse around 1870. The school closed amid some controversy in 1960, and for a brief time was used as the headquarters of the Waterloo County Library.



*Waterloo Township S.S. No. 15 Riverbank School, ca. 1970.
DHC X.961.034.001*

?Name: Rosendale

Description of ghost town:

Rosendale was a cluster of dwellings on small lots situated near the intersection of Ebycrest Road and Bloomingdale Road. The hamlet furnished day labour for large farms and butchering operations in that area. A large creamery operation was centered at Rosendale for many years. Rosendale looked to Bridgeport for school, church, and business functions.

***Name: Shantz/Shantz Station**

Description of ghost town:

Located in present-day Woolwich Township on Shantz Station Road near the intersection with Victoria Street North, the site was formerly two miles east of Breslau on the farm of Samuel Y. Shantz. Samuel, his wife Esther and their twelve children lived on the farm between 1846 and 1867. Shantz was laid out in 1855 The Grand Trunk Railway was built through the Shantz farm in 1856 but hopes for a railway station did not materialize. Also, plans for a village to be built alongside a proposed railway station (Shantz Station) never materialized. An early post office there was operated from 1859-1863. There was a hotel for a few years, a Lutheran church, and two stores, including Schilling's, which lasted many years. Three schoolhouses were successively in use, starting with log buildings in 1843 and 1853. A stone building followed in 1894, with a second room added in 1955. The schoolhouse closed in 1965 for general education classrooms, but it held special education classes until 1968 when the building was closed.

xName: Three Bridges

Description of ghost town:

A locality in Woolwich Township on the present-day Hawkesville Road and Three Bridges Road where the road passed over an islet in the Conestogo River. The Three Bridges School and a Mennonite meetinghouse were located here.



Three Bridges School, ca. 1925. DHC Research Files.

?Name: Weissenburg (also spelled Weissenberg, burgh)

Description of ghost town: Weissenburg (“white hill” in German) was located at the present-day crossroads of Line 86 and Sideroad 16. The population of Weissenburg was about 100 in 1910, and it had daily stage-coach service. Pioneer farmers and wagon drivers travelling between Woolwich Township and [Guelph](#) would stop at Weissenburg to water their horses and refresh themselves at one of the two hotels, or to visit the blacksmith shop.

xName: West Montrose Station

Description of ghost town:

The West Montrose area of Woolwich Township was connected to a line of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1906. The line ran east and west about half mile north of the village, passing through Elmira and Linwood on its way from Guelph to Goderich. The West Montrose Station was a shipping centre for agricultural produce.

Name: Zuber Corners (also Zuber’s Corners)

?Description of ghost town:

Located slightly to the east of West Montrose at the intersection of present-day Line 86 and Zuber Road (Road 23) in Woolwich Township. The Zuber family was one of the founders of New Germany in the 1830s. Zuber Corners and areas to its east was settled by Roman Catholics. It was the location of an inn/general store and a stone school built in 1874 to replace the one at West Montrose which was subjected to yearly flooding. The school remained open until 1967.