

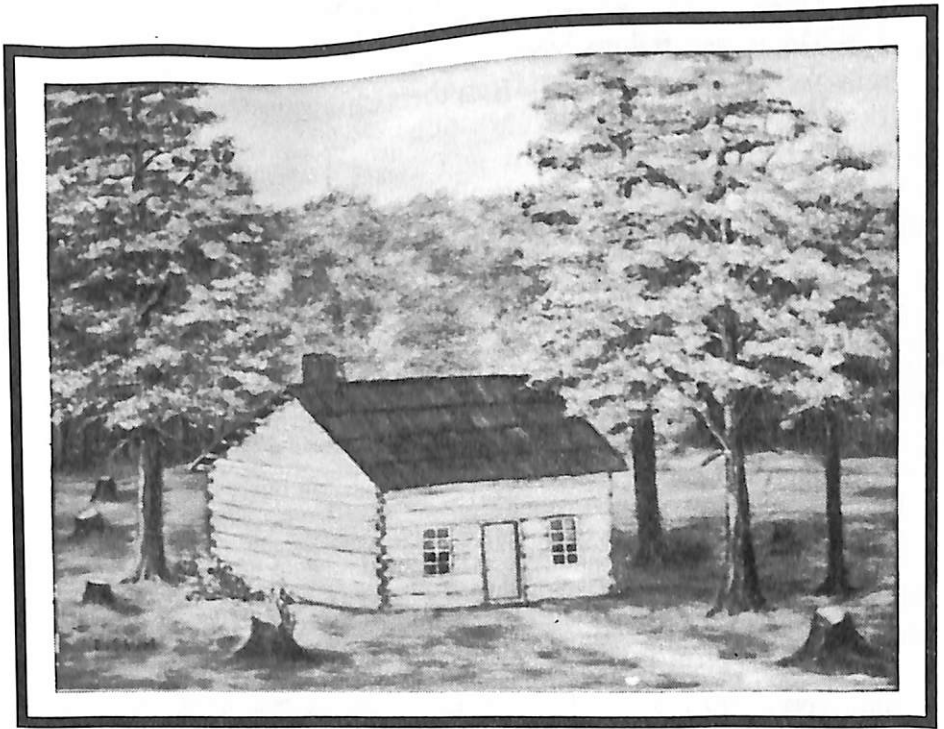
ST. STEPHEN'S
1841 - 1991



THE SAGA OF THE
IRISH SETTLEMENT CHURCH
150 YEARS



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THE SAGA OF THE IRISH SETTLEMENT CHURCH 150 YEARS

Compiled by Kenneth Burton Bennett

Picture on the cover is a painting of the first church. It was painted by Miss Ellen Shuel, given to the church in 1948.

Preface

Psalm 78 3,4;

Things we have heard and known,
Things our fathers have told us,
We will not hide them from their children,
We will tell the next generation. N.I.V.

During my formative years, the years of asking many questions, especially after the death of my father when I was eight, I lived with my grandparents Burt and Effie Collins. This farm had been the site of the second church and from this farm and the relations who visited it, came the answer to many of my questions. Burt's sister, my Aunt Ida Collins, a retired missionary, would come for short periods to stay and have time to tell stories of their childhood and her years among the Indians. My first Sunday school teacher was my Aunt Jessie Banwell, and over the years she would impress upon me the families' roots with the church and its love for the Lord.

By the time of the 100th anniversary I already had an interest in the church history, mother was on the committee and asked me to help her with a display for its celebration. Including planks from the old church and the communion rail from the attic. When the booklet came out and the family saw that it had some mistakes with the history, I decided to write down what I could find out about the church's past. Grandma Effie knew of my interest, she helped me with a high school history project on the families early pioneer days taken from old diaries, books and family papers that since have been left to me. These books and papers dealt mostly with the first 50 years of the Irish Settlement. Using facts found in them I have tried to put together a story of the early pioneer families. Thinking of the hardships they had to start, build and maintain what is now St. Stephen's Parish, I hope the remembrance of the heritage our forefathers have given us might be an inspiration to this generation and those that follow. So strong was their Faith, their love for our Lord, that at first they would travel from as far away as the Maidstone - Essex area to St. Johns Sandwich for worship, services of baptism, weddings and funerals.

Their travels took them over undrained trails through the bush to a place of worship central to their scattered farms. I regret I do not have a document for the exact spot of the first church site, - Maidstone was not a township until 1854 and was not included in the 1851 census of the county and by then the church was at Oldcastle.

We may not like or remember all the dates that make it factual, I ask you to look past the dates, try to imagine the story of faith and devotion they tell.

Then as the Psalmist says, "Tell the next generation".

Kenneth Burton Bennett

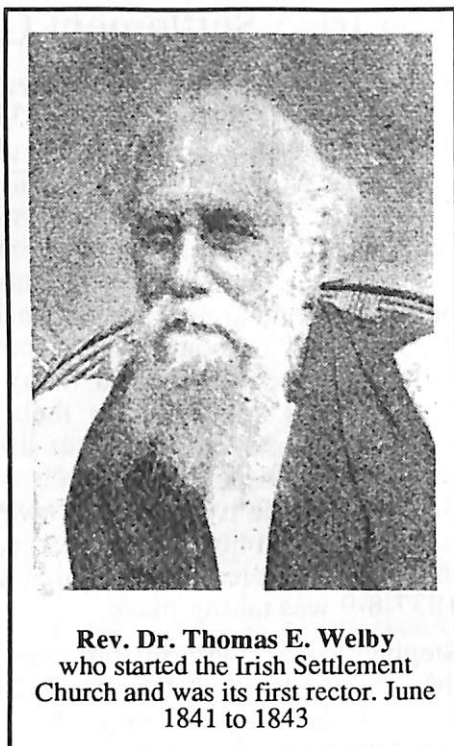
The Irish Settlement Church

The Irish settlement was centered around Maidstone Cross, named by Joseph Bennett in 1833. It was at the cross roads of Talbot and Malden. Malden Road ran from Fort Malden north east to the Middle Road and then east to Kent Co. Settlers soon came after the Middle Road was surveyed and thrown open to settlement in 1828, most of whom were Irish Roman Catholics and as early as 1839 Rev. Father McDonnell occupied the pulpit at Maidstone Cross. The Irish also settled out along Talbot Road east and west. Some of the Irish settlers were Protestant and along with many English settlers, a place to worship was important for their spiritual needs and also to share the hardships of pioneer life, in weekly communion and fellowship. The closest church was St. Johns in the town of Sandwich some twelve miles away. The roads in the area were little more than horse trails marked by blazed trees and used by the army for defense of the area as the Mackenzie rebellion of 1837-8-9 was taking place.

Stephen Collins with his brother George came from England to their sister Elizabeth Bennett in 1837. Stephen got a grant farm - lot 291 Maidstone, east of Elizabeth and husband Joseph on lot 294. They all were members of the Church of England, so in the spring of 1838 Stephen started holding services in his new home for his family and neighbors. Stephen was a lay preacher also known as a local preacher. The custom of the Church of England at that time was that point parishes and missions were serviced by a priest that would hold the Holy Communion service once a month, on Christmas and Easter.

Stephen was a blacksmith by trade and in 1837 on arrival he shod horses in Sandwich for the British army and Provincial Volunteer Militia, and after at his blacksmith shop at Maidstone Cross. Thomas Welby was army Major and the militia was commanded by Cap. Sparke in 1838. In his book "The Township of Sandwich Past and Present" of 1909 Frederick Neal writes "Not contented with the work he could do about town Dr. Welby (Rev. Thomas Earl Welby) extended his efforts into the country and with the assistance of his late friend Col. Sparke, he founded what afterwards became the mission of St. Stephens." Neal also writes about the history of St. Johns "In a little building, Richard Pollard as a Layman, held the services of the Church of England in the year 1802. He

was ordained and became the first rector of Sandwich with missionary jurisdiction over the whole Western District." It notes St. Johns founded in 1803 and St. Paul's, Detroit in 1805, so became the mother church of the area. In 1840 Rev. Dr. Thomas Earl Welby became rector and in June 1841 dedicated the mission of the Irish Settlement on the west corner of Lot 291, Stephen Collins farm, on Talbot road just east of Malden road in Maidstone township. From these documents it all fits together, layman Richard Pollard holds services for Protestants of the community, then St. Johns is founded a year latter,



Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Welby
who started the Irish Settlement
Church and was its first rector. June
1841 to 1843

layman Stephen Collins who had been a local preacher in England before coming to Maidstone Cross in 1837 holds services in his house in 1838 and by 1841 a church was dedicated. Stephen's commander of the volunteer militia Capt. Sparke now becomes Colonel Sparke who helped Rev. Thomas Welby with the mission that was active until it was moved late in 1851 to Oldcastle, Lot 303 Talbot Road.

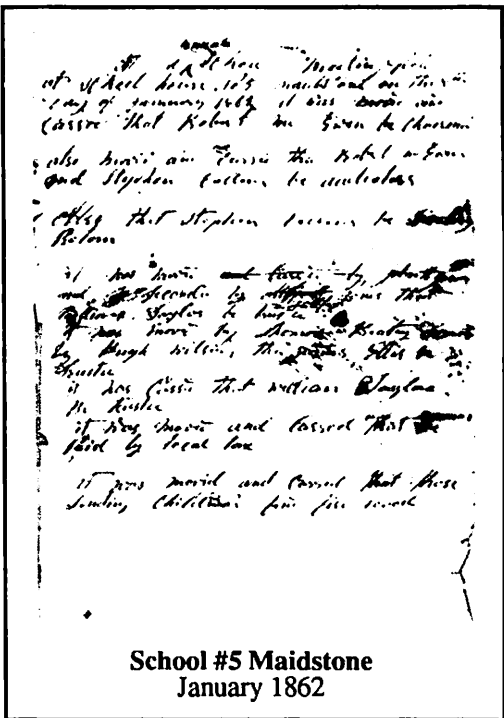
The exact spot the church was built on is not certain but was close to where the present Maidstone Bethel United church stands and a deed for this land when it was sold in 1869 is still kept by the family. Great great grandparents, Joseph and Elizabeth Collins Bennett came to Canada on their honeymoon in 1832 getting a grant farm at the cross roads on the south west corner and running west across from the now Floods elevator. In the winter he cleared land and after the spring planting would go Monday mornings to Detroit via Sandwich by horse to work in his wood carving, cabinetmaker trade and on Saturday come home with supplies for his family and close neighbors. This expanded until he began taking pack horses

with him and built a small store on his farm that later his eldest son Charles ran. He would also bring the neighbors mail from Sandwich and in July 1851 the first post office was started. Charles was postmaster in 1856-57. Going back the 12 miles to Sandwich for worship became a real task as the family grew and the road was but a horse path, so when brother Stephen started holding services in his house and then in the church, it was a real help. During these early settlement years diseases like cholera, small pox and flue took their toll especially with the children. Elizabeth was called an Angel of Mercy by the neighbors and because of his trade, he was kept busy building coffins and was well known throughout the country side. On this farm they raised nine children, seven sons and two daughters to adults of faithful Christian character. A Church of England prayer book of the youngest son Andrew dated 1800 on the cover and 1863 with his name inside was just handed down to me.

The public school for the neighborhood families was SS #5 Maidstone some 3 miles east on Talbot Road.

The annals of a school meeting held at the school the 8th of January 1862 elected Robert McEwan as chairman, Stephen Collins as secretary, Robert McEwan and Stephen Collins as auditors, Thomas Beatey moved and Hugh Wilson seconded that James Ellis and William Taylor be trustees. Moved that expenses be by local tax and those sending children find fire wood.

This gives us other names of families around the church, and from the centennial celebration booklet it gives the names of the first baptisms.



School #5 Maidstone
January 1862

First Baptisms

From St. Johns records the 8 baptisms took place on July 17th 1842.

Robert Watson son of James and Elizabeth Watson, born Aug. 1841.

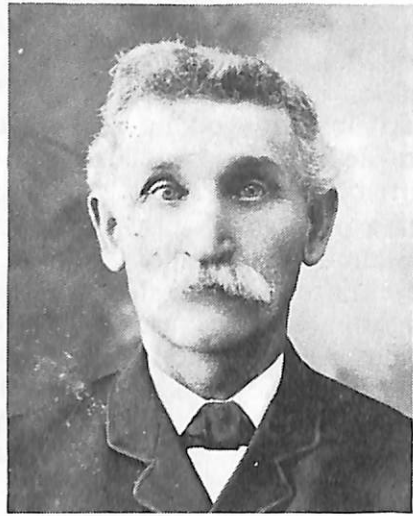
Elizabeth Taylor born 1834, Edmund Taylor born 1841, children of Edmund and Mary Taylor, who gave ground for the present church site.

Matthew Nicholson, born Mar. 29, 1842, son of Robert and Ann Nicholson who gave the ground for the second church site.

Anna Vollans (Mary Ann) daughter of George and Miriam Vollans born Jan. 23 1839.

Elizabeth Jessop born 1842, Phyllis Jessop born 1833, the daughters of George and Sarah Jessop and sisters to John.

John Robinson born 1841, son of Michael and Elizabeth Robinson.



Robert Watson, born Aug., 1841

July 17th, 1842, 8 children were baptized, traditionally Robert was said to be the first person baptized in the Irish Settlement Church. He married Rebecca Collins and they raised 6 children in St. Stephens, their descendants are still members.

First Wedding

It gives the first wedding as Stephen Collins and Mara Rhodes, married by Rev. Welby, witnessed by George Collins and Susanah Austin. The wedding took place Mar. 31, 1842 at Sandwich Church West, St. Johns, Mara's Church, but Stephen was the first member of the Irish Settlement Church married. The Rhodes family later moved to Woodslee and in 1871 Mara's father was still living at age 98.



Stephen and Mara Rhodes Collins
first wedding 1842, picture taken
about 25 years later.



Wedding Certificate
Stephen and Mara Collins - 1842

Other Churches in the Pioneer Period -

From a clipping in the Essex Free Press on the Ruscom Church, when the last service was held Dec. 30, 1984 it states "In the days of the saddle bag preachers and sparsely settled communities there was few regular preaching places. In 1845 there was 26 members in connection with the missions in Maidstone and Rochester. They had no chapels, not even a school house to preach in; the meetings were held in private homes. So as more settlers came the Protestant's place of worship was mainly because of convenience rather than by association to a denomination."

From an historical sketch of Bethel United Church of 1946 it states; "As early as 1856 a little band of settlers, forefathers of many of the present congregation, erected a log church on what is now # 2 Highway, slightly east of the 9th concession." It was replaced by frame structures, one by 1864 and a larger one in 1888, each at a different site.

The Church of England had a three point parish of Christ Church, Colchester 1819, St. Johns Church, Kingsville and Trinity Church, North Ridge 1866, with the following rectors-

Rev. F.G. Elliot, 1842-63, Rev. Robert Fletcher, 1868-74, Rev. Charles Green, 1874-75, and the Rev. Richard Johnstone 1876-79. Elliot and Johnstone both left these parishes to go to St. Johns, Sandwich so were moved around in the local area.

The next documentation is of John Greaves who came from England in 1856, at fifty years of age with seven children and settled on a piece of land previously purchased in Sandwich township on the Maidstone township line about a mile from Maidstone cross roads. There was no road and to the land was a sleigh track through the bush. They were members of the Church of England and as there was no religious body of that faith in the locality they associated themselves with the Methodist Church and for a number of years John was a local preacher. Another brother of Stephen Collins, Charles and his wife came to Canada and settled in Maidstone township near Maidstone Cross in 1850 and in 1865 purchased 100 acres down the road from John Greaves. John and Charles descendants still live on these properties. Charles and wife Elizabeth were both Church of England members but because there was no church near, later became connected with the

Methodist Church of which they became pious pillars. They had 6 children, St. Johns records of the Irish Settlement Church give the Godparents of only the first 3, but not those born after 1856.

Ellen bapt. Aug. 3 1851, Mara and Stephen Collins, Elizabeth Bennett

Thomas bapt. Jan. 19 1853, Joseph Bennett

George bapt. July 30 1854, Stephen Collins

Maidstone Methodist built in 1877 on the corner of lots 291 & 292, Talbot Road. First Trustees were Charles Collins Sr., Robert Little, William Robinson, Charles Bunn; Sec. Treasurer was John Greaves Sr. Also recorded, a Methodist Episcopal Church built in the early 1850's east of Maidstone Cross on Talbot Road, then an Indian Trail.

Henry Banwell born Jan. 28th 1798 son of James Banwell who opened the Summer Hill School on Mar. 10 1788 two miles from Bristol on the Bath Road. Henry was schooled under his father and became a teacher. On Apr. 25th 1822 he married Susan Figes Galpine and in 1835 came to Canada, settling on the east side of Sandwich near the old town hall. This home was burnt during the Rebellion of 1837,8,9. He taught in the public school and to private families, one being Col. John Prince. After the burning of this house he purchased a farm on what is now called the Banwell Road after him. Here he added a room on his log home and taught the children of black slaves from the underground railroad who stayed in the area before moving on to Buxton, Colchester and other areas. He surveyed roadways and lot lines in that area and kept the Registry papers of the county during the balance of the Rebellion for safety, because in the war 1812-14 Sandwich had been taken for a short period and when the Americans left they burned much of the town even St. Johns Church. Some time in 1850 he moved, this time to Con. 3 Lot 2 Sand. West on the Huron Line.

During his lifetime in Canada 1835/1877 he kept diaries of the weather, temperature, his plantings and harvest, what he or the family was doing, his wife Susan and seven children, all born in Eng. James T, Henry, Emma G, Felicia E, Susanna O,

Augustus B, Edward D. Six of these diaries were given to his granddaughter Effie Jean (Banwell) Collins and before her death in 1946 she gave them to me and I have taken excerpts pertaining to St. Stephens or the Irish Settlement Church.

Sept 10th 1851- warm & calm morning - day bright and very hot, wind W.& S.W. The boys at the church raising.

1851 September 5th warm at N.	Bright & very hot, calm. Black has de. Troublesome. Mr. Co. sent 2 Bus of Corn to Mill & to bring back the grist from 2 bus. of lbr.	10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 FEBRUARY 1854
6 warm at calm N.	Bright & very hot, calm. Augustus took the horse, (Sick) to the purchaser at Windsor. find our work not much, excepting mending the beds.	
7th warm at calm	Bright & very hot, calm sent to Mr. Co.	
8th warm at calm	Bright & very hot. N. calm Augustus took the open to Dr. Lee -	
9th warm at calm	Bright & very hot S. Augustus & Edw? went to Dr. place.	
10th warm at calm	Bright & very hot W. & S.W. the boys at the church raising.	

Henry Banwell's diary on building the church - Sept. 10 1851

This was the Irish Settlement Church on the Robert Nicholson farm, Lot 303 Talbot Road.

About St. Stephen Church, Howard Ave.

Oct. 26th 1871 - Augustus and Edward went to haul lumber for the church. A & E were his youngest sons.

Nov. 20th 1871 - Augustus and Edward went to work at the church.

Note: that seemed to be the end of the work at the church in 1871.

Apr 1st 1872 - Augustus attended the church meeting at Collins.

Apr. 3rd 1872 - Augustus and Mary Ann went to Collins in afternoon. Mary Ann is A's wife, Collins is Stephen Collins.

June 10th 1872 - Edward at raising of the church.

Note: the church was "A" frame construction and the main beams had to be raised and secured.

Nov. 5 1872 - Effie Jean, Edward and Jessie's daughter born.

Nov. 9 1872 - Mary Ann gave birth to daughter, Susan Figes after her grandmother Banwell.

Dec. 29 1872 - Mary Ann and Jessie took their infants to the church to be christened. Grandma Effie Jean and Grandpa Burton Collins were both baptized in the old church on Lot 303 Talbot Road and were life long members of St. Stephens Church.



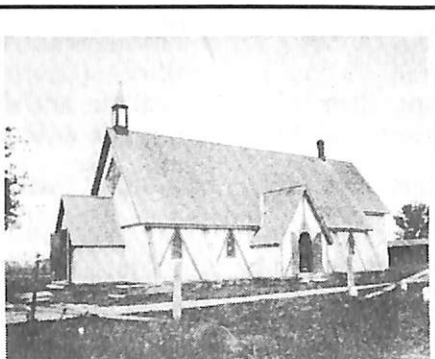
Edward D. Banwell



Janet Kirkpatrick Banwell

Edward D. Banwell, born Sept. 16 1832, Bath Eng. His father Henry's diaries tell how Edward and his brothers helped build the churches in 1851 and 1871-2. His first wife Eliza Jessop died in 1865, in 1869 he married Janet Kirkpatrick, their descendants are still members.

From the centennial booklet it has a picture of the "Immediate Predecessor of the present St. Stephens, Sandwich South" giving the date 1871-1913. In 1871 a frame structure was built on fifth concession Sand. S., site donated by Edmund Taylor. From the above data the church was built by the work of the members and the beams were not raised until June 10th 1872 with much work to be done before it was even closed in, and all had their farms to care for with much hand work at that time. Services were still in the old church on Dec. 29 1872.



St. Stephen's Church, Sandwich South 1871-1906

Picture of frame church for the 65th Anniversary in 1906. Herb Vollans said he was the boy at the church front door. The old drive shed is in the background.

*Received from the Church wardens of
 the Irish Settlement Church the sum
 of Thirty four dollars $34/100$ on
 account of Stipend for the year
 ending at Easter 1873 - Balance
 still unpaid \$ 20.00*
34 $34/100$ John Hurst

1873 Stipened Rev. John Hurst

A receipt from Rev. John Hurst rector-

Received from the Church wardens of the Irish Settlement Church the sum of Thirty four dollars $34/100$ on account of stipend for the year ending at Easter 1873 balance still unpaid \$20.00.

\$ 34 $34/100$

signed John Hurst.

So Easter 1873 it was still called The Irish Settlement Church and John Hurst was still rector for a time after May 15th 1874 when he held afternoon services with the newly started St. Marys Church (named after Mary Walker), and also the Irish Settlement Church, and later mentions St. Marys and St. Stephens being one parish, taken from the History of St. Marys.

From the papers of Stephen Collins a receipt-

Sandwich East - January 2nd, 1875.

"Received of Stephen Collins the sum of forty dollars being the amount agreed to for the old Church and site called the Irish Settlement Church."

signed

George Vollans
church warden

Augustus Banwell
church warden

Sandwich East
January 2 1875
Received of Stephen Collins
the sum of forty dollars
being the amt agreed to for
the old Church and site called
the Irish Settlement Church
George Vollans
Church Warden
Augustus Banwell
Warden
Jan. 2 1875. Sale of Church and site
to Stephen Collins.

From the county land registry taken for the Stephen Collins family we find that on the 12th of Aug. 1846 a Crown Patent was issued to Robert and Ann Nicholson for 100 acres being the south 1/2 of the north 1/2 of Lot 303 north Talbot Road. The next item was a granting by Robert and Ann Nicholson to the Church Society of Toronto of a deed for 1/2 acre south west angle, June 20 1848.

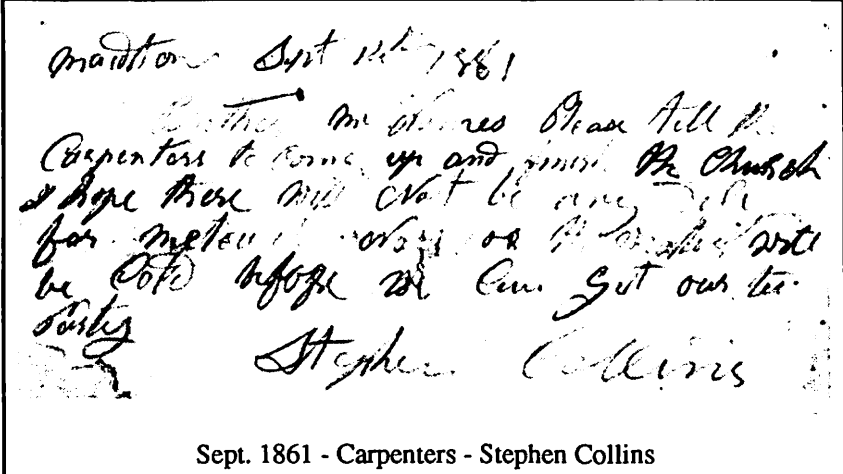
The spring of 1838 services were held in Stephen Collins home Maidstone until the spring of 1841, when the first church was consecrated The Irish Settlement Church, historically remembered through the years as the second Sunday of June. After granting the deed to the Church Society of Toronto it would have taken some time to clear the land, to build a suitable place of worship. From the Henry Banwell diary we

see the church was raised Sept. 10th 1851, so services would have been moved from Maidstone Cross to Oldcastle some time after that date.

Lena Shuel in her painting of the first church has depicted a small building of round logs, a log cabin church. Although she would not have seen either of the early churches her parents Richard and Ellen (White) Shuel were members and lived in the area, both born in the 1850's so she could have gotten the information from her parents. The Whites had settled at Paquette in 1832. The church building that was deeded back to Stephen Collins along with the site in 1875 was one of vertical oak plank construction, but more on it later. From a box of deeds and papers of Stephen Collins there are five that speak of the church.

1- a deed for the property Lot 291 Maidstone, church site.

2- county registry and deed of Lot 303 Oldcastle, church site.



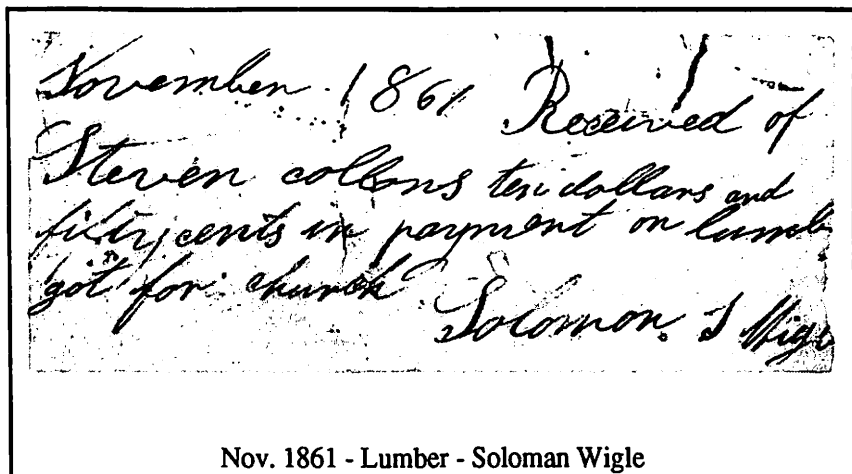
Maidstone Sept 16th 1861
Brother McNames please tell the
Carpenters to come up and finish the Church
I hope there will not be any delay
for material now, or the weather will
be cold before we can get our
party
Stephen Collins

Sept. 1861 - Carpenters - Stephen Collins

3- a note written on the 16th of Sept. 1861 and reads

"Brother McNames please tell the carpenters to come up and finish the Church. I hope there will not be any delay for material now, or the weather will be cold before we can get our tie party.

signed Stephen Collins, Maidstone.



4- Received of Stephen (Steven) Collins ten dollars and fifty cents in payment on lumber got for Church.

signed Solomon T. Wigle.

Solomon Wigle had a saw mill on a 160 acre farm, Lot 3 Con. 1 near Kingsville.

5- Again from the registry Jan. 21, 1862 a probate Will of Robert Nicholson to Ann Nicholson widow of Robert.

In the Centennial booklet it has the list of the committee in charge of the erection of this place of worship with the picture of the frame church on Howard Ave. 1871-1913. In the book by Neal, "The Township of Sandwich Past and Present" it gives the same list.

"This church first built on Talbot Road, known at that time as The Irish Settlement (founded by Rev. Welby), among those who took part in its erection were George Vollans, Edmund Taylor, Robert Nicholson, Richard Walker, John Jessop, and Messers. Robinson and Bennett." As Robert Nicholson died Jan., 1862 it could not be the frame church on Howard Ave. I submit the following information about these men -

George Vollans: born 1804 Yorkshire Eng. came to Canada 1829, to Sandwich township 1838, married Mira Page of Yorkshire Eng. They had 10 children. He died 1894.

Edmund Taylor: born 1799 England, came to Canada around 1835 with wife Mary and 3 children, Elizabeth born 1834 Eng. and Edmund Jr. born 1841 Can. were baptized 1842 as above.

Edmund and Mary gave land for Howard Ave. church site from farm in Sandwich Twp. in 1871.

Robert Nicholson: born in South Cave, York, Eng. 1798, and wife Ann born 1803, got crown deed 1846, gave property for Irish Settlement Church, 1/2 acre Lot 303 Talbot Road Oldcastle, to Church Society Toronto 1848, lived at Maidstone Cross 1842 where son Matthew was baptized with above.

Richard Walker: born 1787 and wife Fanny 1787 in Yorkshire Eng. as did G. Vollans, came to Can. Sandwich Twp. Maidstone Cross in 1834, in the 1851 Census he had moved to Woodslee, and by 1881 his son Timothy was on Con. 1 Lot 16 Rochester Twp. P.O. Woodslee.

John Jessop: born in Buckinghamshire Feb. 19th 1823 son of George and Sarah Jessop who settled in 1834 Sandwich Township. John married Mary Gunn also born in Buckinghamshire Dec. 25 1825 and her family also settled in Sandwich Twp. Mary died 1893, John Apr. 18 1897. Sisters Eliza and Phyllis also baptized 1842 as above.

Michael Robinson: born 1807, wife Elizabeth Carrie (Curry) 1812 in Scotland. Michael came in 1830, Elizabeth's family 1820's, they married in 1831, settled Lot 7 Con. 11 Sandwich Township. Son John born and baptized in 1842 with above.

Joseph Bennett: born 1805, Eng. wife Elizabeth (Collins, Stephen's sister) born 1807, married 1832 in Headly Eng. and came to Maidstone Cross in 1833, had 8 children born on this farm, have prayer book of son Andrew from Irish Settlement Church, confirmation dated Dec. 1 1863. St. Andrew's day is Nov. 30th. Joseph retired and moved to son Edwin's farm in Adrian Mich. in 1867.

Robert Nicholson died in 1862 and Joseph Bennett moved in 1867 so it could not have been the church on Howard Ave. That leaves either the church at Maidstone or Oldcastle. John Jessop would be 18 in 1841, so it is possible he could have helped at Maidstone but more likely Oldcastle, 10 years later. Richard Walker had moved to Woodslee by 1851 so Oldcastle would have been too far to travel as conditions were prohibitive in those days.

Conclusion: Neal states first church built Talbot road, Irish Settlement, and the above list of men taking part in its erection.

Irish settlement was centered around Maidstone Cross, Collins farm on Talbot Road Maidstone Cross, list of men goes with Maidstone Church.

Rectors during the mission years, Rev. Welby, 1843 Rev. W. Ritchie. In 1852 Rev. E.H. Dewar became rector of St. Johns Sandwich and the mission of the Irish Settlement. As Windsor became a town in 1854 he turned his interest to founding All Saints Church. He resigned in 1859 and became rector at Thornhill, he was followed by John Hurst late in 1859 with its three points, St. Johns, All Saints and the mission. Then in 1863 John Hurst becomes rector of All Saints and the Irish Settlement Church while Rev. Francis G. Elliot takes over St. Johns. Early in 1874 Rev.

John Hurst held afternoon services at the Walkerville Church and later by Rev. Dr. Caulfield as John went to England. May 15th St. Marys was united with St. Stephens Sandwich East till then called the Irish Settlements (from History of St. Marys). May 31st, 1874 Rev. A.H. Martin became incumbent and made them a single mission. Dec. 1st 1878 Rev. John R. Jones follows for one year. Sept. 1880 St. Marys is given a student from Huron College, E.L. Turquant, and St. Stephens is put back with St. Johns Sandwich. Rev. R.W. Johnstone was then rector. He pastored the two points until 1887 when Rev. D.H. Hind took his place. It was on June 10th 1900 during Rev. Duncan Hind's rectorship that the mission of St. Stephens became a separate parish with the Rev. William Hartley as its first incumbent.

The Nicholson site was granted to the Church Society of Toronto. The Rev. William Ritchie, second rector of Irish

Lenten Services

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, SANDWICH EAST.

Rev. Duncan Henry Hind, Rector.

1888

— — — — —

SERVICES

Tuesday, 12th February at 7 p.m.
Every Friday Evening during Lent at 7 p.m.

Collection for the Benefit of the Irish Fund

SERVICES

Sunday, 19th Feb. at 2:30 p.m. — The Sower of Seed. — St. John VIII-16
 Friday, 21st Feb. at 7:00 p.m. — Elias at Jericho. — 2 Kings, II 21.
 Sunday, 24th Feb. at 2:30 p.m. — The House Sun. — Acts I 25.
 Friday, 2nd March, at 7:00 p.m. — Elias and The Holy Stammerer. — 2 Kings, IV 26
 Sunday, 4th March at 2:30 p.m. — Worthiness. — 1 John, II 15, 17
 Friday, 6th March at 7:00 p.m. — Elias and The Syrian. — 2 Kings, V 10
 Sunday, 11th March at 2:30 p.m. — St. James. — St. James, III 5, 6.
 7:00 p.m. — Elias and Gehazi. — 2 Kings, V 26
 Friday, 14th March at 7:00 p.m. — Elias at Dothan. — 2 Kings, VI 17
 Sunday, 16th March at 2:30 p.m. — The Great Festival. — St. Luke, XIV 17
 Friday, 21st March at 7:00 p.m. — Elias Death. — 2 Kings, VIII 14
 Sunday, 24th March, at 2:30 p.m. — The Bread of Life. — The Sermon of our Lord. — Matt. XXVI 26

Lenten Services for 1888

Settlement was ordained by Bishop Strachan, the first bishop of Toronto, in 1843 and appointed at once to Sandwich. Rev. Welby's home used for a rectory was left to St. Johns. The land was legally conveyed to the Church Society of the Diocese of Huron in 1862. The Rev. Benjamin Cronin became first Bishop of the Diocese of Huron. From this information the Nicholson site was granted to the Diocese of Toronto.

On May 6 1868 a deed from Ann Nicholson to Stephen Collins for 100 acres being the S1/2 N1/2 north of Talbot Road or the property where the Irish Settlement Church was part of.

On Apr. 22 1869 Stephen and Mara Collins gave a Quit Claim deed to the heirs of a Daniel Murphy being the S1/2 N.W.1/4 North of Talbot Road Lot 291 Con.T.R. Maidstone township. Maidstone Methodist Church built in 1877 on the corner of this property and was rebuilt and expanded on the next lot (292) and now is the Bethel Maidstone United Church. Stephen had sold his farm in Maidstone late in 1865 but there was some legal trouble with land that the church was on and so the Quit Claim deed. He started a merchandising store in Windsor on Sandwich Street where Cleary Auditorium now stands with a dock for supplies on the river, then bought the Nicholson farm in 1868.

For just over two years he likely went to All Saints, May 6 1868 finds the Collins family back with the Irish Settlement Church on the corner of their farm.

History of South 1/2 Lot 303 North side of Talbot Road

12 Aug. 1846 Crown Patent Queen Victoria to Robert Nicholson a settler located by Colonel Talbot - Township Sandwich, County Essex, Western District. 100 acres - in Her 10th year of reign.

20 June 1848 deed from Robert Nicholson to the Church Society of Toronto for 1/2 acre S.W. angle Lot 303.

21 Jan. 1862 Probate will of Robert Nicholson to Ann Nicholson widow of Robert.

6 May 1868 Deed from Ann Nicholson to Stephen Collins - 100 ac. for \$2300. 1150 pd. 1150 Mort. S 1/2 Lot 303.

7 May 1868 Mort. from Sarah Rhodes to Stephen Collins \$600
S1/2 Lot 303

15 May 1868 To open road between Lots 302 & 303 Oldcastle
Road

2 Jan. 1875 Received of Stephen Collins \$40.00 for The Irish
Settlement Church & Site, Church Wardens, George Vollans,
Augustus Banwell

4 Dec. 1886 Stephen Collins dies, 75 years

24 Dec. 1886 Heirs & Heiresses to Geo. Burton Collins S1/2
S1/2 Lot 303

19 June 1888 deed Lake Erie, Essex, Detroit River Railroad
95/100 acre

13 Aug. 1896 Mara Collins dies, 75 years

1/31 - No. of Instalment Registered 2/23 - Date of Instalment of First Instalment
3/2 - No. of Instalment of First Instalment 4/2 - Date of Instalment of First Instalment

Re Collins

Extracts from all Instruments which appear to have been Registered on Land described as the South half of
of the Town Ship of Sandwich South in the said County of Essex, Ontario.

THIS ABSTRACT is not made to include General Registration or Instruments affecting lands without local description, or the estate taken by the Mortgages, these particulars can only be obtained by reference

NO OF INSTALMENT	INSTALMENT	ITS DATE	DATE OF REGISTRY	GRANTOR	
No. 1	Patent	12 Aug 1845		Crown	No 1
2	Deed	20 June 1848	15 Aug 1848	Robert Nicholson	The
3	Probate	21 Jan 1862	22 Oct 1862	Robert Nicholson	52
4	Deed	6 May 1862	7 May 1862	John Nicholson	Step
5	Mort	6 May 1862	7 May 1862	Stephen Collins	51
6	Mort	7 May 1862	11 May 1862	Stephen Collins	52
7	By Law	15 May 1869	7 Mar 1870	The Municipality of Sandwich East	
8	Mort	23 Oct 1875	22 Oct 1875	Sarah Rhodes	Step
9	Mort	14 June 1886	16 June 1886	John Nicholson	51

Registry Lot 303, 1846

Oak Plank Church

The 2nd Irish Settlement Church that was on Stephen's farm Lot 303 was near the West corner just back about 100 feet from Talbot Road and was made from planks of native oak and hewn beams. The planks were about 4 inches thick of random widths

and about 5 feet long and were mitered into the beams both top and bottom. Each plank was pinned to the next one with three, one inch round hardwood dowels about a foot in from each end and in the middle. The beams 8 inch square as upper and lower plates had the mitered key along their length about 2 inches deep and also the corner post, so that when the 4 inch plank were pinned together, then forced into the upper and lower plates in a layer of tar or pitch. The end posts were pinned into the mitered plates so that the whole wall became tight and solid, a 1 by 2 inch pine batten was then put over the joints between the plank. The roof was supported by the same type of hewn oak 8 by 8 beams as the plates connected with tie beams running horizontal 8 feet above the floor.

These were spaced 10 feet apart, one at each end and two in between. At 2 foot centers were 2 by 8 rafters covered with 1 inch by random width boards, some 14 to 18 inches wide running lengthwise. The roof boards were covered with cedar shakes. There were two windows spaced evenly along each of the side walls just below the top beam plate.

Again the frame and sills were mitered and pinned into the 4 inch wall planks. The windows were divided into 4 smaller panes with a glass area two feet square. One larger window was at what would have been the ecclesiastical east end of the building. It was constructed the same below the beam plate as were the side windows, but carried on above the plate in the end wall that went from the plate to the roof beam. The outside of the end walls above this upper plate were of 2 inch oak beams on the out side and lined with a finished board running horizontal on the inside. This same finished board ran from the upper plate to the roof between the rafters but the rafters were open. The door was near the right hand corner of the end wall that would have been west, a plain rectangular door of 2 inch oak, a layer of finished wood ran horizontal on the inside, and had a thumb latch. The building was about 20 feet wide 30 to 35 feet long, the walls were 6 & 1/2 feet to the eaves with a roof of a 5 by 12 pitch. There had been a hole for a stove pipe just in about 2 feet and to the left of the door, as I remember it, it was covered with a sheet of tin. The Church had been sold back to Stephen Collins on Jan. 2 1875 and some time later was moved in behind his home and placed on one foot cedar posts with a floor of joist and wide boards. By the time I was old enough to remember it was used as a chicken house, in the

spring of 1937 after my father died the December before, I lived with my grand father Burt and he acquired 50 barred rock chicks and put them under broody hens, I raised them in this building. When Grandpa died in Sept. 1939, the hens were moved into the barn. The fall of 1940 it was torn down and the wall planks were used to floor corn cribs. I was 12 years old in 1941 when mother (Etta Bennett) was on the 100th Anniversary celebrations committee for St. Stephens. We cleaned up five of the oak planks from this church building and found the three sections of communion rail that was in the attic of grandpa's house. We made a display of historical items just in front of the lectern, - the rails, planks, along with old bibles, communion service of Janet Banwell's, Aunt Ida Collins picture etc.

Stephen Collins immediate family and descendants who went into our Lords service as deacons, priests, and missionaries.

Rev. Ninion Dolsen & Harriet Church of England (Episcopal)

Rev. John G Emerick & Elizabeth Church of England (Episcopal)

Deaconess Ida E Collins missionary Church of England Yukon, N.W.T.

Rev. Calvin Wight missionary Presbyterian Church in China

Ida Emerick Wight missionary Presbyterian Church in China

Frances (Fanny) Cook missionary Presbyterian Church in China

Rev. Hugh G Crosby B.A. Huron Diocese, Episcopal Church U.S.A.

Rev. Donald Wylie Huron Diocese, Chaplin Montreal Q. jail

Rev. Donald Cook past Moderator Presbyterian Church S. Africa

Rev. Lyle Bennett Huron Diocese Anglican Church

Rev. Stephen Harnadek & Ruth (O.B.C.) Huron Diocese Anglican

Rev. Bruce Ford & Ellen Pentecostal Assembly

Rev. Elizabeth Jean Bower Huron Diocese, Ordained Priest Nov. 29/90

Rev. E. Armstrong & Susan (Banwell) United Church of
Canada and son Rev. Carman Armstrong.
Burt & Effie Collins 1st cousin. Susan & Effie baptized Dec.
1872

Rectors who served Irish Settlement and St. Stephens Church
along with the mother Church St. Johns, All Saints, St. Marys

- 1841 Rev. Thomas E. Welby first church, Maidstone June
1841
- to 1843 Rev. William Ritchie second church, Oldcastle Sept
1851
- to 1852 Rev. E.H. Dewar to 1859
- 1860 Rev. John Hurst with St. Johns Sandwich
- 1863 Rev. John Hurst with All Saints Windsor
- to 1873 Rev. John Hurst with All Saints and St. Marys
Walkerville
- to 1874 Rev. Dr. Caulfield with All Saints and St. Marys
- 1874 Irish Settlement becomes St. Stephens Mission
(Sandwich East)
- 1874 May 31. one parish- Missions of St. Marys and St.
Stephens Rev. A.H. Martin to Dec. 1 1878.
- 1878 Rev. John R. Jones to 1879
- 1880 Sept. St. Marys given student from Huron College
E.L. Turquant St. Stephens put back with St. Johns
Sandwich
- 1880 Rev. Richard W. Johnstone St. Johns (1879)
- to 1887 Rev. Duncan Hind (St. Stephens, Township Sandwich
South 1893)
- 1900 June 10th St. Stephens becomes separate parish
(rectory built)
- to 1900 Rev. William H. Hartley with Mission of Redeemer
- to 1905 Rev. F.F. Whealen, The Church of the Redeemer
1901, 2 points
- to 1908 Rev. J.R. Newell

- to 1912 Rev. Harold H. Dobson-Peacock (present church built) 1913
- to 1915 Rev. F.K. Hughes
- to 1921 Rev. L.C. Harrison
- to 1926 Rev. E.W. McKegney
- to 1929 Rev. Joseph Tully Nov. 3rd, 1929 (18 years)
- to 1947 Rev. Gorden C. Dickin Nov. 1st, 1947 starts St James 1949
- to 1954 Rev. Gorden Houghton to 1959 (new rectory Oct. 28, 1958)
- to 1960 Rev. Ted Grey (Edwin C.) Oct., 1965/66 Rev. Peter Ralph-Bowman
- to 1970 Rev. Allen Tilford Sept. 20, 1970
- to 1975 Rev. Tony Koning to 1983 July, 1975
- to 1984 Rev. John Swain Jan. 17th to Aug., 1990
- 1991 Rev. Kent Gardiner Feb. 1st.



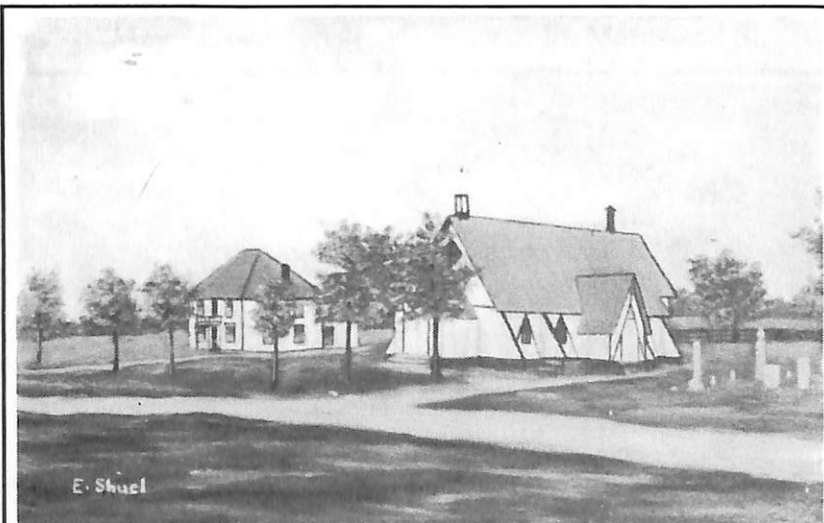
"NEW RECTORY - The old makes room for the new at St. Stephen's Church in Oldcastle where a modern rectory replaces one which has served for "countless" years."

St. Stephens Rectory

Rev. Duncan Hind served the mission of St. Stephens and St. Johns Church between the years 1887-1900 and in 1899 with the help of his assistant Mr. Frederick Hewitt a student of Huron College, Rev. Hind started services in the Orange Hall. The small congregation was known as the mission of Redeemer Church. Rev. Hind could see the need that St. Stephens become a separate parish and the mission of Redeemer as a second point with their own rector.



Rev. William Hartley 1900-1905 was the first rector of the Parish of St. Stephens. His first wife, Harriet who died in 1929 is buried in the cemetery near the church, has large "Hartley" stone. He is buried with his second wife in Kingsville.



Picture painted by Miss Ellen Shuel and dedicated in 1948, it shows the rectory, church and cemetery. Note the size of the maple trees along the gravel road. The driveway to the church is now the one into the cemetery, the cemetery was extended to where the frame church stands. The rectory had a small front porch and no basement until it was moved to make way for the present church. Date between 1900-1913.

Having their own rector meant the need for a rectory, and so it was built on the north side of the frame church, with the cemetery that had been consecrated in 1893 on the church's south side.

On June 10th, 1900 Rev. William H. Hartley a graduate of Huron College London, became the first rector of St. Stephens and the mission of Redeemer and made his home in the new rectory. He was followed by Rev. F.F. Whealen, Rev. J.R. Newell, and Rev. H. Dobson- Peacock.

Rev. Newell saw the need for a larger church for St. Stephens, the frame church was being filled even though the congregation of the Church of the Redeemer had built a new brick structure in 1901 on the Robert Shuel Sr. property. A committee was set up to raise funds as well as works and building committees. The site that was chosen was where the rectory stood. Extra land was needed for the rectory and was given by Charles Dickson now the owner of the Edmund Taylor farm north of the church. The new church was dedicated Nov. 9th, 1913, and the rectory now stood on a new foundation and was refurbished with a new front porch.

During the time of Rev. Joseph Tully, - Nov. 3rd, 1929 to Nov. 1st, 1947- was the Great Depression, a small chicken house and garden was added behind the rectory by the drive shed used to shield the horses from cold winter winds or hot summer suns, while owners were in church. The chicken house and garden helped to augment the meagre stipend along with families sharing produce from their farms, when they could not make large contributions on the collection plate.

The drive shed for the horses was open to the south, running along the edge of the existing parking lot for about 60 feet. It was still there in the early sixties and the foundation still can be seen. During Mr. Tully's pastorage the rectory was used for other events such as choir practice during the cold months, or junior choir practice Saturday afternoon led by Mrs. Tully. The senior Sunday school class, mostly parents with children in regular Sunday school, and Lenten meetings using the litany with favorite hymns played by Mrs. Tully. Ladies groups and other church meetings were held in the rectory as the church was not heated during the week in the winter. Another use was when they would have lawn socials as the strawberry social, as well as serving strawberries and ice cream, cake etc., a

program of different games were set up, the early evening ball game in Dickson's pasture, booths selling popcorn, home made candy, bake goods, and the efforts of the women's guild during the winter, sewing, crochets, knitting and quilts. Near the end of the evening Arch Hartley would get up on the rectory front porch and auction off some of the quilts etc. the ladies hadn't sold, followed by a stage show with local and guest entertainment. Benches and chairs in the front yard made the rectory porch a great stage, behind the front door the nervous talent waited for their time to take part. The last social, I remember of a much smaller size was during Rev. Gorden Dickin efforts with the Junior and Senior AYPAs, June 19 1953, with many of the congregation taking part. There are many fond memories of the old rectory still with the senior members of today.

Rev. G. Dickin left for the west, a parish in Fort Macleod Alberta, early in 1954. Much work was done to improve and secure the rectory for the new rector Rev. Gorden Houghton. Windows in the bedrooms up stairs were repaired or replaced as needed, painting, wallpapering, and repairs to the summer kitchen where Rev. Houghton had a repair area for his antique clock hobby. During his stay a committee was formed to look into the replacement of the old rectory, a plan was chosen from those submitted by the Diocese that was the same as one just built at Thedford Ont. Mr. Fawcett, a church member, was given the contract to build the present rectory, open house was Oct. 28, 1958, its cost - \$22,000.00. The old rectory was then torn down and the yard landscaped.



Present rectory taken on April 7th, 1991

During the pasturing of Rev. Ted Gray the new rectory again became the center of life for the parish as the old one had been, open to meetings and a friendly cup of tea. After Rev. Allen Tilford there was updating done, especially in the kitchen, wash and bath rooms for the Rev. Tony Koning and wife Jean. At this time Huron Diocese initiated committee system and St. Stephens and Redeemer were set up with five parish committees, as well as the boards. They would meet in the rectory to make it easier on Tony, with two or more meetings a week.

Before Rev. John Swain would accept the parish he wanted three bedrooms to be in the basement, so again much renovations. The addition of these three rooms were undertaken with much of the work done by the members, so again it was put into top shape, all freshened up. Besides fresh paint, the floors were refinished, a new electric hot water heating system, with electric baseboard heaters installed in the basement.

St. Stephens- 1913

Laying of cornerstone of St. Stephen's Church, Sandwich South on Monday, May, Twenty-sixth 1913 in the Forenoon. Harold Dobson-Peacock rector.

Committees;

Works; A.D. Curtis convener, E.P.Holden, Hy Banwell, J. Vollans, Geo. Vollans, E.Oliver, E. Holden, James Dickson.

Finance; Arch Hartley convener, Burt Collins, Ed Banwell treasurer, F. McKee

OFFICE FOR

**Laying the
Corner Stone**

OF

St. Stephen's Church
Sandwich South, Ontario

ON

Monday, May Twenty-sixth
nineteen hundred and thirteen
in the forenoon

HAROLD DOBSON-PEACOCK,
Rector

"Other foundations can no man lay than that is laid,
which is Jesus Christ."—1. Cor., iii.:11.

**Laying of the Corner Stones
1913**

secretary, F. Vollans.

Building; W. G. Jessop convener, Thomas McKee, Linonel O'Neil, George Holden, Joe Banwell secretary.

Wardens; Thomas McKee and Newton Holden.

Sec'y-Treas. Geo. Vollans

Architects, Leybourne & Whitney of Windsor.

Contractors, Newitt & Long

St. Stephen's Church financial statement for the years of 1913-1914 at the time of the building and furnishing the new church.

Audited by the rector H. Dobson-Peacock for 1913, John Holden and Burt Collins for 1914.

From July 1913 until Mar. 31, 1915 the Girl's Guild gave Choir robes, the front window of "St. Stephen", the furnace, and piano.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF		FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF	
St. Stephen's Church, Sandwich South		St. Stephen's Church, Sandwich South	
For the Years 1913-14		For the Years 1913-14	
RECTOR, REV. H. D. PEACOCK, L.Th.		RECTOR, REV. H. D. PEACOCK, L.Th.	
Year Ending Dec. 31st, 1913		Year Ending Dec. 31st, 1914	
RECEIPTS		RECEIPTS	
Balance on hand.....	\$174.37	Cash on hand.....	\$265.30
Balance per Newton Holden.....	36.06	Church Bells.....	4.00
Envelope.....	335.50	Sold Lumber.....	6.00
Loose Collections.....	97.16	Loose Collections.....	472.90
Yearly Subscriptions.....	123.20	Envelopes.....	205.50
Lumber.....	22.00	Yearly Subscriptions.....	.03
Proceeds of Pic-Nic.....	327.77	Sundry.....	
Total.....	\$1617.76	Total.....	\$1171.15
EXPENDITURES		EXPENDITURES	
Stipend.....	\$700.00	Stipend.....	\$11.00
Insurance.....	60.00	Stipend per C. Simpson.....	50.00
Taxes.....	18.14	Organ.....	10.00
Lot and Interest.....	207.00	Pumpkin.....	16.50
Coal Oil.....	1.00	Envelopes.....	3.30
Com. Wipe.....	.50	Express and Advertising.....	2.33
Car Fare.....	.30	Yards.....	3.30
Broom.....	3.00	Lead.....	1.50
Hyson Book.....	1.50	Piping.....	7.00
Caretaker.....	30.00	Organ Repair.....	2.04
Coal.....	24.00	Church Certificates.....	18.28
Organist.....	50.00	Coal.....	9.23
Pumpkin.....	10.00	Synod Assessment.....	11.25
Screen Doors.....	3.74	Prayer and Hymn Books.....	17.65
Carbide.....	37.75	Carbide.....	12.87
Synod Assessment.....	9.25	Fence and Screen Doors.....	24.54
Freight and Express.....	4.25	Taxes.....	60.00
Glaze and Pump Repair.....	6.40	Janitor.....	7.50
Printing and Envelopes.....	21.50	Wood.....	2.00
Dr. Mission.....	12.80	Synod Dees.....	1.00
M. S. C. C.....	52.30	Delegate's Expenses.....	15.00
Synod Dees.....	6.03	Secretary.....	1.23
Delegate.....	7.00	Baster Leaflets.....	125.20
Total.....	\$1322.46	Total.....	\$1111.15
Balance.....	293.30		
Total.....	\$1617.76		
Audited and found correct by H. Dobson Peacock.		Audited and found correct. John Holden Burt Collins	

Financial Statement - 1913-14 - Edward Banwell

Russel Curtis born in 1896, now 95 years young, was church warden in 1941, the year of the 100th anniversary. He was 17 in 1913 when the present church was being built, he told me two stories about happenings at that time. It seems contractor James Long used volunteers with the construction when possible. They had scaffolding up along the vestry and bell tower side of the church. The ramp to the scaffold was getting steep as the brick laying neared the top of the wall. A wheel-barrow was being used to take brick and mortar to the top of the scaffold. Rev. Peacock was nearing the top of the ramp with a load of material when the ramp let go, down came ramp, Rev. and his load.

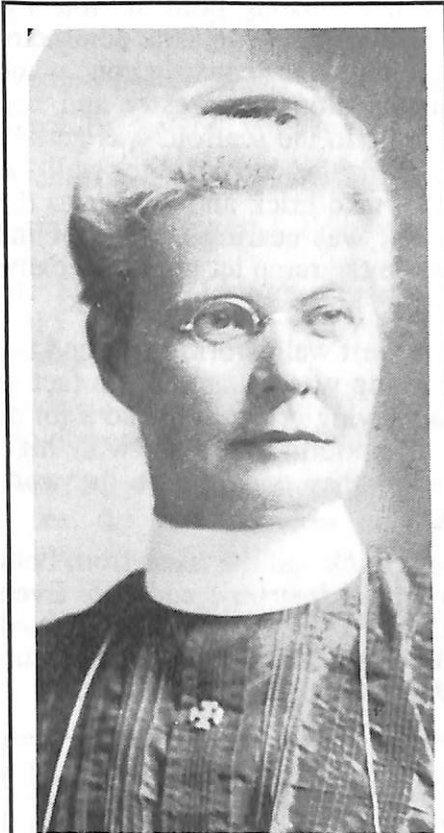
Again as they were finishing the west wall, working around the hole for the large window, everthing was going well, in fact to well. They were moving so fast laying brick, they had a lot of green mortar that was not set. A storm came up with high winds out of the west and before they could brace the wall, down came the freshly laid brick.

After cleaning the mortar off the brick and the mess from both incidence, the only hurts was that of lost time and ego. Even with these setbacks, the church was finished and dedicated Nov.9th 1913. Seven years later the mortgage was cleared, and it was consecrated Feb.27th 1921 by Archbishop Williams.



This is the oldest surviving photo of the present St. Stephen's, with frame church at right edge of picture, before it was torn down in 1914.

Ida Collins, Missionary from St. Stephens



Ida Emerick Collins, born June 23, 1863, the daughter of Stephen and Mara. She was St. Stephen's organist during the 1880s. In 1898 she was ordained and spent 30 years as a Church of England missionary in the north.

Ida Emerick Collins was born June 23rd 1863, the daughter of Stephen and Mara Collins at Maidstone Cross, Maidstone township near the Sandwich East township line. When she was two years old, the family moved to Windsor, where Stephen had a hardware and merchandising store near the river.

On the 6th of May, 1868 when she was still four, they bought the farm, Lot 303 Talbot Road where the Irish Settlement Church was. She had been baptized in this church after birth and her second name or baptismal Christian name was Emerick named after Rev. John Emerick, Episcopal minister, who in the next year married her older sister Elizabeth. The last three children of the family of twelve were given family names for their second name, those being Rhodes - Mara's maiden name, Emerick after her sisters husband and Burton also a

Maidstone family. John and Elizabeth also named their youngest daughter Ida J. Emerick and she too became a missionary, married Rev. Calvin Wight and served 37 years as a missionary in China. Ida's schooling started in a log school on the opposite corner of her father's farm, as the church and was there until the frame school was built on the Burke farm, lot 306 Talbot Rd. about 1880 or before. In 1893 Sandwich South became a township and a town hall was built near the old

log school site.

Grandfather Burton along with his two sisters Ida and Charlotte attended the old log school. In early 1900 the frame school burnt and while the S.S.# 6 brick school was being built, classes were held in the town hall at the old school site. For upper school Ida stayed with relatives in Windsor and later when she was 33 years old she attended the Church of England Deaconess and Missionary Training House in Toronto. She graduated to Deaconate Dec. 8th 1898. It would seem that her early years made an impression on her, worshiping with the large Collins family in the oak plank church on the corner of their farm. By the age of ten, worship was moved to a new church on the Edmund Taylor farm, Lot 8 on the 5th Con. known as the gravel road. During this time she studied music, her father Stephen played the organ and she followed in his footsteps.

When she was 16 she started to play the organ for St. Stephens Church. On Christmas Eve 1887 she was recognized for filling this position. It was signed by Thomas McKee and Richard McKee, church wardens on behalf of the congregation. At another time while in the north Mission she wrote to All Saints and St. Stephens requesting the gift of a canoe, to help her in her travels from mission to mission. She spoke both Blackfoot and Cree languages and some Eskimoan dialects, she had the Book of Common Prayer, Hymnal and Bibles in their languages. I remember as a boy, after her retirement, she would come many weekends to the home farm, now her brother Burt's. She would sit at the old organ, play and sing the favorite hymns in the native languages. I learned to sing some of "Jesus Loves Me" in Blackfoot. She also taught me enough to pick out the melody of easy to play hymns on the organ. I was only eight when she died, yet remember how she would make me practice my scales. She made her home with a friend on Windermere Road, Walkerville, still teaching music at age 74. My sister Jean took lessons from her until our father died in December of 1936. Jean is now Jean Bower and lives on the old church site at lot 303 Oldcastle, and is a member of St. Stephens. Ida wrote about some of her experiences in the northern missions before she died. Death came Feb. 10th, 1937. She was buried in the family plot at St. Johns Sandwich, with the Rev. Joseph Tully attending.

Early Church Families

The choice of early families are from the 100th Anniversary booklet. Some families are in more than one event; they are:

1. Those that took part in the erection of the Irish Settlement Church.
2. Those that donated property for church sites.
3. The first wedding.
4. The group baptized on July 17, 1842.
5. Rev. John Hurst who was rector for over 12 of the beginning years.

Collins Family

before 1770 also spelled Collens

William Collens died Jan. 8, 1768, wife Margaret died Dec. 18, 1754. They lived in Headley, Hampshire, Eng. Their son Charles bapt. Mar. 12, 1743 was the fifth of seven children. Apr. 12, 1769 Charles Collins married Mary Boxall, bapt. Nov. 13, 1747, died Apr. 12, 1843. Charles was a blacksmith, he died Oct. 6, 1801, Headley.

Charles and Mary had 13 children, their fifth son Stephen bapt. Apr. 16, 1777, died Aug. 19, 1820. Sept. 23, 1802 he married Jemima Etherington bapt. Aug. 25, 1782, died Nov. 1, 1834. They had eight children. Stephen carried on a large iron hardware and forge manufacturing business and his sons worked with him in this trade.

Stephen and Jemima's children

1. Sarah bapt. Dec. 16, 1803, Headley, unmarried, came to Canada, in 1861 census was living with Joseph and Elizabeth Bennett at Maidstone.
2. Mary Ann bapt. Dec. 22, 1805, Headley, married 1822 to William Whittle.
- *3. Elizabeth born Nov. 6, 1807, bapt. Nov. 27, 1807, Headley, married 1832 to Joseph Bennett, son of Colonel Joseph Bennett, born May 13, 1805, came to Canada on honeymoon. Elizabeth died July 13, 1882 and Joseph Jan. 20, 1894, they are buried at Adrian, Mich.
4. Daniel bapt. Dec. 29, 1809, Headley, married Oct. 10, 1833

to Louisa Phelps. Daniel carried on father's Iron - Forge business.

- *5. Stephen born Oct. 31, 1811, bapt. Jan. 3, 1812, Headley, married Mar. 31, 1842 to Mara Rhodes born Feb. 1, 1824, Devonshire Eng., daughter of James and Susanna Rhodes, who came to Canada in 1832. Stephen and Mara were the first members of the Irish Settlement Church married.
- 6. Jane bapt. Sept. 19, 1813, Headley, married Oct. 29, 1835 to William Phelps
- 7. George bapt. Oct. 3, 1815, Headley, died Jan. 4, 1894, married Aug. 18, 1844 to Sarah Nicholson in Detroit, Mich., daughter of Robert and Ann (Pickering) Nicholson. Sarah born Sept. 16 1825 South Cave, Yorkshire Eng., George came to Canada with brother Stephen in 1837.
- 8. Charles bapt. Dec. 19, 1819, Headley, died Mar. 5, 1893, married May 19, 1849, in Headley, to Elizabeth Richard, born Feb. 8, 1828 Eng. died July 17, 1903. They came to Canada in 1850 to a farm near Stephen's.

Stephen and Jemima, married by Edmund White (rector), witnessed by Thomas Loe and Ann Collins (sister).

Headley parish Records #991755. Parish records do not have birth dates. Canada census 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891.

*5 Stephen and Mara Rhodes Collins Family (Blacksmith)

	Born	Died	Married
1. Susannah Jemima	Jan. 31, 1843		Adan Clark
2. Sarah	Sept. 19, 1844	Apr. 19, 1912	unmarried
3. Elizabeth	Aug. 28, 1846		1 Rev. John Emerick 2 William Shoemaker
4. Rebecca Louisa	July 11, 1848	Apr. 4, 1907	Robert Watson
5. Hezekiah John	Feb. 10, 1850	June 28, 1901	unmarried
6. Harriet Jane	June 27, 1852	June 10, 1927	Rev. Ninion Dolsen
7. James Stephen	Mar. 6, 1854	Oct. 18, 1887	Bridget Lyons
8. Joseph Charles	Mar. 4, 1856	Dec. 22, 1934	Caroline Hurst
9. Niomi Jane	Feb. 17, 1858	Dec. 3, 1863	
10. Charlotte Rhodes	Apr. 18, 1860	1895	Arthur Maynard
11. Ida Emerick	June 23, 1863	Feb. 10, 1937	unmarried
12. George Burton	Mar. 12, 1865	Sept. 16, 1939	Effie Jean Banwell

George Burton and Effie Jean Collins Family

	Born	Died	Married
1. Stanley George Banwell	Jan. 17, 1895 Aug. 9, 1899	Nov. 10, 1951 Feb. 12, 1980	June 25, 1924 Olive Melinda Baker
2. Jessie Rhodes	Feb. 24, 1897	Jan. 18, 1958	unmarried
3. Etta Jean	May 4, 1901 July 12, 1898	Dec. 13, 1964 Dec. 19, 1936	June 22, 1927 Ralph Emerson Bennett
4. Mara Alice	Jan. 15, 1907 Jan. 12, 1906	Feb. 17, 1987 Feb. 23, 1987	June 18, 1928 Stafford Morley Sydney Adams

1. Stanley and Milinda (Mildred) an adopted son
Gerald Banwell Collins May 12, 1938

2. Etta and Ralph Bennett's children

a Kenneth Burton	Sept. 10, 1927 Jan. 22, 1935		Feb. 14, 1953 Myra Belle Curtis
b Etta Jean	Jan. 6, 1930 Apr. 9, 1925		Sept. 6, 1952 Mack Newton Bower
c Marion Ruth	Feb. 21, 1935 Mar. 24, 1933		Sept. 1, 1952 Allan William Parr

3. Alice and Stafford Adam's children

a Dorothy Irene	June 20, 1930 Dec. 30, 1927		Sept. 19, 1953 Robert Henry Boyle
b Norma Joanne	Apr. 28, 1935		Dec. 22, 1979 William Bill McAllister
c Donald Burton	July 10, 1940 Feb. 28, 1938		May 19, 1962 Evelyn May Curtis

7 George Collins Family (Blacksmith)

	Born	Died	Married
George Headley, Eng.	Oct. 30, 1815	Jan. 4, 1894	Aug. 18, 1844
Sarah Nicholson, Yorkshire	Sept. 16, 1925	Jan. 30, 1892	Detroit Mich.
Sarah was dau. of Robert and Ann Nicholson, Lot 303 Talbot Rd.Sand.			

George and Ann's children, all born in East Zorra Twp.,
Oxford, Ont.

1. John	Feb. 15, 1847	Feb. 15, 1847	
2. Stephen Robert	Feb. 8, 1848 Jan. 11, 1931	Feb. 16, 1932	1908 Edith Weekly
3. Jemima Ann	Feb. 17, 1850	July 20, 1942	Feb. 10, 1896 William Nichol
4. Mary Jane	July 23, 1852	Mar. 27, 1934	
5. Elizabeth Pickering	Oct. 14, 1854	Nov. 26, 1947	Dec. 31, 1885 John Grimstead
6. Emma	Jan. 20, 1857	June 4, 1920	
7. Danial	Feb. 24, 1859	June 12, 1890	
8. Martha Cross	June 3, 1861	Nov. 1, 1905	
9. George Thomas	Aug. 3, 1863	Mar. 2, 1950	Apr. 17, 1901 Patience Bickle
10. Alice Pridgeon	July 25, 1865	Oct. 27, 1951	Mar. 22, 1892 George Cooke
11. Mathew Robinson Sandwich,	Dec. 12, 1867 Apr. 9, 1866	Dec. 20, 1948 Apr. 3, 1939	Nov. 1, 1893 Estella Mary Jessop

dau. of John and Mary (Gunn) Jessop, Sandwich Twp.

8 Charles and Elizabeth Collins Family (Blacksmith)

	Born	Died	Married
Charles Collins, Headley Eng.	Dec. 19, 1819	Mar. 5, 1893	May 19, 1849
Elizabeth Richards, Eng.	Feb. 8, 1828	July 17, 1903	

Came to Maidstone Ont. Canada after marriage 1849, children,

1. Ellen Louisa (Louise Helen) Bapt.	Feb. 23, 1851 Aug. 3, 1851, Godparents, Elizabeth Bennett	Apr. 17, 1908	1866 Stephen, Mara Collins, John Greaves
2. Thomas Richard	June 29, 1843 Feb. 15, 1852 Thomas, Bapt. Jan. 19, 1853, May 6, 1856	Mar. 7, 1908 1924 Godfather Joseph Bennett 1929	1879 Caroline Cathran Farough Mariah A. Butts (b1862)
3. George Daniel	Mar. 5, 1854		George, Bapt. July 30, 1854, Godfather Stephen Collins
4. Jemima G.	Oct., 1956	1947	John B. Farough (1848/ 1928)

5. Sarah Elizabeth	Jan. 18, 1859 Mar. 3, 1852	Apr. 20, 1921 Jan. 19, 1931	Nicholas Farough William Campbell
6. Hannah Ann	1862		

Bennett Family

Joseph Bennett born London England 1767, became Colonel in British Army, 1803 he married a lady of title and they had three children Joseph Jr. born London England May 11, 1805, died Jan. 20 1894 and is buried with Elizabeth at cemetery 3 miles from Adrian MI. Treat Rd. Married early 1832.

Elizabeth Collins born Nov.6 1807, town of Headley, Hampshire Co. Eng. She died July 13, 1882, age 75, Joseph age 88.

After marriage at Headley Parish, they came to America, landed at N.Y. then to Detroit. British army Veterans and families were offered Crown Land Grants in Canada as Col. Talbot settlers and Joseph took the north half of Lot 294 south of Talbot Road West, Twp. Sandwich, about 12 miles from Detroit. They had to clear land and build a house in the first year and later receive Crown Land Patents.

This Lot was at the cross roads of Talbot and Malden, then used by the army, so Joseph later named it Maidstone Cross after his native Maidstone Eng. and the village still carries the name.

They had nine children;

Charles born in Detroit 1834 married June 30 1858 to Susan D Whitson dau. of Alexander and Mary Whitson, Lot 8 Con. 19 Maidstone, neighbors children, Joseph married Ella Wise, George, and May (Morton)

Mary J. born Maidstone Cross Dec. 4 1837 married March 22 1858 to James P Whitson of the same family of Whitson`s. two children, Estella A. and Jessie J.

Stephen George born Maidstone Cross 1839 married - Dau. Elzora.

Jemima A. born 1841 married Tobias Wise, three children George, Mimmie married George Bishop, Clara married Charles Lambert

William D. born Maidstone Cross July 27, 1843. (noted below)

Alfred R. born Maidstone Cross Aug. 16, 1847, married Mrs. Alice Richard. Alfred died Feb. 20, 1937.

Edwin J. born Maidstone Cross Aug. 22, 1848, married Susan Able, children, Win, Mary, Annie, Grace, Jessie, Susie. He settled in Adrian Mich. on a vegetable farm.

Albert H. born Maidstone Cross Sept. 22, 1851, died age 37, unmarried.

Andrew H. born Maidstone Cross Oct. 10, 1853 married Mary Green children , Alfred A, Lillian, Louise. Andrew's prayer book was handed down to Howard Bennett, then to Kenneth Bennett and is dated Dec.1st 1863 and given to him by the Irish Settlement Church that his father Joseph helped to start in 1841 at Maidstone Cross. Andrew died at 37.

William D. Bennett married in 1866 at Maidstone Cross to Jane Elizabeth Greaves. Dau. of John and Jane Greaves of Lot 291 South Talbot Road, Maidstone Cross. Jane E Greaves born April 14, 1847 Lancashire Eng. came with her family to New York in 1850 then to Maidstone Cross in 1856. William died Jan. 17, 1907 and is buried with Jane (date unknown) in North Ridge Cemetery, just east of Essex. In 1868 William moved to his brother Edwin's farm near Adrian Mich. Lenawee Co. as did his parents and others of the family. Jane's sister Elizabeth and husband Henry Pollock also lived there.

Children:

1. John William born Sept. 8, 1868 Lenawee Co. Mich.(noted below)
2. Alfred Joseph born May 16, 1872 Lenawee Co. married June 22, 1898 Cathern (Cassie) Smyth born 1869/1924 from S. Woodslee. Children, William Howard born June 1, 1899, died Mar. 14, 1990 married Lillian Roach. Anna born Jan. 18, 1891 married Harold Malott; Charles; Mary married Clifford Cook -- a. Sheila, b. Roxann
3. Albert Andrew (Ab) born Sept. 19, 1874 Lenawee Co. married April 8, 1903. Etta H. Hall, born Oct. 8, 1869. July 4, 1906, son John Willis, 2nd. married Edith Campbell and had twins. Beatrice married Elmer Gorden. Margaret married Howard Dawson. Albert died Feb. 15, 1961 buried North Ridge

4. George Thomas born Lenawee Co. July 21, 1877 married Oct. 2, 1901 Bernice Smith of S. Woodslee. Children, Clara, Carl, Muriel, Alton, Lyle, Carmen. William came back to Canada 1877
5. Minnie Louisa born Aug. 21, 1882 S. Woodslee, Essex Co. married May 7, 1902 Robert John Garrow born Essex 1877, children Carmen, Clifton
6. Ernest James born Aug. 14, 1885 S. Woodslee married May 20, 1905. Villa Wagner, son William Wallace born 1919/ died Nov. 27, 1989. Wallace married Leona Bezanson, children, Danny, James, Gary, Judy, Mark, Valerie, Doreen. Wallace lives in Essex.
1. John William married Sept. 6, 1893 Emma Lickman at Maidstone Meth. Emma Lickman born Nov. 27, 1873 Essex Center dau. of George and Emma Lickman. John died May 31, 1903 at 34 and Emma Jan. 19, 1973 at 99 years. Children, Arthur Roland born Aug. 6, 1894 at Hensall Ont. married Aug., 1923. Vera M. Cuthbert born 1897, died Mar. 4, 1967, 69 years. One child still born. Arthur died Dec. 1, 1984, 90 years. Ralph Emerson born July 12, 1898 at Hensall Ont. married June 22, 1927. Etta Jean Collins born May 4, 1901, Oldcastle Ont. Ralph died Dec. 19, 1936 and Etta Dec. 13, 1964, buried at St. Stephens Church Cemetery Oldcastle. Ralph at 38, Etta at 63. Children, Kenneth Burton born Sept. 10, 1928, Etta Jean born Jan. 6, 1930, Marion Ruth born Feb. 21, 1935.

Rhodes Family

also spelled Rhoads

J. Rhodes Family came from England to America some time in 1832, a Rhodes family picture was painted in Greenwich England in June of 1832 before leaving. Settled on farm in Windsor near tunnel entrance, later moving to a farm at Woodslee.

Father - James Rhodes - 1773 Devonshire

Mother - Susanna Rhodes (Maiden name Wetherhead) - Devonshire

Children born in Devonshire England

1812 Elizabeth Rhodes married Samson Pike

	Ebenezar Rhodes	lighthouse builder, Great Lakes
	Joseph Rhodes	Major General, Civil War
	Isaac Rhodes	War Veteran
1824	Mara Rhodes	married Stephen Collins Mar. 31, 1842
	Sarah Rhodes	Spinster
1829	John Rhodes	Father of Marcia Belle Rhodes Meacham
1832	Hezekiah Rhodes	Father of Lottie Rhodes Perry.
	Mara Rhodes	born Feb. 1, 1824 - married
	Stephen Collins	born Oct. 31, 1811
	Marcia Belle Rhodes	born Oct., 1864 - married
	Louis Meacham	born Oct., 1861 - died May 3, 1946

By 1871 on the Woodslee farm was Charles Rhodes age 58, wife Mary Ann 48, children, Charlotte 15, Annie 9, Charles 6, living with them was James now 98, and Joseph 48.

Watson Family

James and Elizabeth (Raycroft) Watson

James Watson born Ireland, Elizabeth born 1806 Kingston Ont. James came to Kingston Ont. where he married Elizabeth, then they moved to Sandwich where he worked at his trade of shoe maker. They moved to a 100 acre farm Con. 7 Lot 12 Sandwich Twp. Elizabeth died in 1851 although still living for the 1851 Census. She left 5 children.

1. Mary J., born 1838 in Detroit, married Charles McGriggan of Alpena Mich. James, John, William, Lizzie, Annie, Kate, Mary.
2. Robert born Aug., 1841 at Sand. farm married Rebecca Louise Collins daughter of Stephen and Mara Collins. Robert was baptized in 1842 at Irish Settlement Church, Maidstone. Farmed at Con. 9 Lot 11 Sand. E. Stephen, Percival, Sarah, Ida, Jessie, Maria.
3. John, born 1843, married Mary A. McDonald born 1856 adopted daughter of Jacob and Mary Lonsbury. John farmed on home farm Con. 7 Lot 12 Sand. Frank, Mary, Lauer, Clara, Wilbert, Ethel, James, Earl.

4. Henry, born 1847, married Ellen Hurst daughter of Nicholas & Christina Hurst. 1881 census, gives family Henry 31, Ellen 27, James B. 6, Elizabeth 2. County book gives children Bird, Robert, Mary. Farm Con. 9 Lot 14 Sand.
5. Elizabeth, born 1850, married Thomas Porter of Windsor. James, William, Edward, Annie, Mabel, Bertha, Hazel, and Esther.

John and Mary Watson married 1875

1. William Frank, born 1876, married 1902 Maud Maynard daughter of Arthur and Charlotte (Collins) Maynard. Lived on Watson homestead.
2. Mary Elizabeth, born 1878/1897
3. Laura, born 1879/1892
4. Clara Belle, 1881/1892
5. Wilbert, born 1883/1892 all died of diphtheria Laura, Clara same day
6. Ethel, born 1886
7. James, born 1889
8. Earl, born 1891
9. Pearl, born 1894
10. Della, born 1896
11. Edna, born 1896
12. Esther, born 1898

Robert and Rebecca L. Collins married Sept., 1875 St. Stephens Church

1. Stephen, born Nov. 15, 1876, married Mary Frith, born 1878
2. Percival, born 1878, married Jessie Mac Kenzie
3. Sarah E., born 1880, married John Wesley Robinson, born 1877
4. Ida, born 1882, married David Ure, born 1880, son of William & Margret
5. Jessie Raycroft, born 1884, married Edward Banwell, born 1880
6. Maria, born 1888, married James Battersby, born 1885

Stephen and Mary Frith married 1902

1. Verna, born 1904, married Forest Little son of Arthur Little
2. Jean, born 1907, married William Hill
3. Gerald, born 1911, married Beulah Farough
4. Douglas, born 1917, married Eleanor McKenzie

Jessie and Edward Banwell son of Edward and Janet Banwell

1. Lloyd Watson, born 1908, died 1922
2. Dora Louisa, born 1911, married Michael Di Stasi
3. Percy Edward, born 1912, married Gladys Mac Rae
4. Bruce Robert, born 1917, married Grace Eleanor Dickson
5. Jessie Mae born 1926

4 Bruce and Grace Dickson married

1. Robert
2. Elizabeth
3. Barbara
4. Allen

Robinson Family

Michael and Elizabeth Robinson

Michael, born 1807 in Scotland, came to Canada in 1830, married Elizabeth Currie (Curry) born 1812 in Scotland, parents came to Canada in 1820s, settled first at Tara, Ont. then came to Sandwich in 1830 by raft from Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair and Detroit river.

Michael and Elizabeth married in 1831, first two children born in Michigan then they settled on Con. 7 Lot 11 Sandwich Twp. Their faith, Church of Scotland but were one of the founding families with the Irish Settlement church.

1. Mary Ellen, born 1832 in Mich., married O'Keefe
2. Robert, born 1836 in Mich., married Margaret, born 1850, John 1868, Elizabeth 1869, Michael 1871, George 1873, Denicle 1875, Robert 1879. farmed Con. 7 Lot 11 Sand. E.
3. Margaret, born 1838, Ont.
4. John, born 1841 Ont., baptized 1842 Irish Settlement in first group farmed Con. 6 Lot 13 Sand. E.
5. William, born 1843 Ont., married Jane Ure, born Mar. 25, 1848, farmed Con. 8 Lot 16, family below.

6. Elizabeth, born 1844 Ont., married Yorke.
7. George, born 1847 Ont., married. Farmed Con. 7 Lot 11 Sand. E. next to Robert.
8. James, born 1849 Ont.
9. Micheal, born 1852 Ont., married Mary, farmed Con. 8 Lot 11 Sand. E. mother Elizabeth lived here 1881,
10. Mary, born 1858 Ont. (1871 census)

William and Jane Ure, daughter of David and Jane Ure

1. William, born 1870
2. David, born 1872
3. Margaret J., born 1874 married Charles Herdman
4. John Wesley, born 1877, married Sarah E Watson, born 1880
5. Florence E., born 1880 married, Isaac Libby
6. Frederick, born 1883, unmarried
7. Mabel,, born 1887, married John McNeil
8. Harold, married Caroline Robinson
9. Hazel, married Dennis Mahoney son of James and Emma (Banwell) Mahoney

Margaret and Charles Herdman born 1867 son of Robert & Emma Herdman farmed Con. 5 Lot 306 Talbot Road N.

1. Frederick, married Nellie, son Jack
2. Elmer, married Betty Marie Gray , Richard, Margaret.
3. Garnet, married Evelyn Jessop, Ross.
4. Gertrude, married Percival Jessop, Gloria, Beverly

John Wesley and Sarah Watson daughter of Robert and Rebecca Watson

1. Bruce
2. Forest Reid, married Erna McMullin
3. Wesley
4. Marjorie, married George Bennett son of George & Margret Bennett
5. Alma, married Warren Ford, Ronald, Wesley

Florence and Isaac Libby

1. Clarence
2. Gordon

3. Leslie
4. Wilfred

David farm later became Robinson subdivision

Robert and Margret Robinson, Robert faith C.E., Margret R.C.

1. John, born 1868
2. Elizabeth, born 1869
3. Michael, born 1871
4. George, born 1873
5. Deniele, born 1875
6. Robert, born 1879

John, born 1868, married Josephine Dunn lived on homestead
Con.7 L 11 Leo, William (Billy).

Jessop Family

George Jessop and wife Sarah (Bailey) born 1795, came from Buckinghamshire Eng. in 1833 and in 1834 settled on the Malden Road, Sandwich Twp. George died July 23, 1851, Sarah Sept. 27, 1864.

Children

1. Mary Ann, born Feb. 14, 1817 Eng., married Oct. 27, 1840 Henry Teakle, Mary died Jan. 16, 1895
2. James Henry, born 1819 Eng., married June 7, 1848 Mary Ryan, born 1828 Ireland. James was Chief of Police and County Constable, 1851 census as carpenter. James died Oct. 22, 1897
3. George, born Mar. 25, 1821 Eng., married Feb. 25, 1847 Agnes Mears, born 1821 Can. George elected Reeve of Sandwich 1898 and died Aug. 25 the same year. (Margaret 1847, George 1848, Mary 1850.)
4. John, born Feb. 19, 1823 Buckinghamshire Eng., married Apr. 2, 1848 Mary Gunn, born Dec. 25, 1821 also in Buckinghamshire, daughter of George Gunn in Sandwich.
5. Stephen Joseph, born 1825, died May 5, 1833 Eng.
6. Henry, born 1826 Eng., married 1848 Elizabeth White, born Eng. 1825. Henry died Mar. 8, 1900
7. Emma, born Feb. 5, 1829, married William Johnson, farm

Con. 7 Lot 25 Maidstone.

8. Sarah Ann, born 1831 in Eng., married Dec. 30, 1847 Thomas Johnson. Sarah died May 5, 1896.
9. Phyllis, born June 22, 1833, boat on Atlantic Ocean married Nov. 4, 1861 John Moore, 1829 farmed Con. 2 Lot 54 Sand. W. Phyllis died June 4, 1913, they are buried at St. Johns.
10. Daughter, born at Sandwich Oct. 11, 1838, died the same day.
11. Elizabeth Janet (Eliza) born, May 30, 1842, Lot 40 Sandwich, married Jan. 3, 1861 Edward D. Banwell son of Henry Banwell. Eliza died Nov. 5, 1865.

Mary Ann, James, George, and John, confirmed Aug. 31, 1842 at St. John's. Henry, Emma, and Sarah Ann, confirmed Aug. 4, 1845 at St. John's.

James and Mary Jessop

1. William, born 1849
2. James, born 1851
3. Catherine, born 1853
4. Susanah, born 1855
5. Mary, born 1857
6. John, born 1859

George and Agnes Jessop

1. Margaret, born 1847
2. George, born 1848
3. Mary, born 1850

Henry and Elizabeth

1. George, born 1850
2. Henry, born 1853
3. James, born 1858

Eliza and Edward Banwell, married Jan. 3, 1861

1. Susanna Alice, born Mar. 9, 1862, married George Latcham
2. Sarah Felicia, born Jan. 5, 1865, married William Cruickshank

Eliza died Nov 5, 1865, Sarah lived with George & Felicia Little (Aunt)

John and Mary Jessop

1. John Franklin, born Sept. 27, 1852, married Florence Findley, born 1858
2. William M., born 1858, married Ann Lounsbrough, born Mar. 6, 1860
3. Estella M., born 1866, married Matthew Collins son of George Collins

J. Franklin and Florence Jessop

1. Mary, born 1879
2. John, born 1880
3. Olive, born 1882
4. Charles, born 1884
5. Waltham (Walter), born 1885
6. Sarah, born 1888
7. Alice, born 1890
8. Garnet
9. Harry
10. Annie married Percy McKee
11. Leslie

Estella and Matthew Collins

1. George Edwin, born Woodstock Ont. Apr. 17, 1895, married Catharine Hughes
2. John William, born Sand.S. Nov. 14, 1899, married Frieda Halversen
3. Stephen Franklin, born Sand. S. July 1, 1908, married Maud Emery

John died Apr. 18, 1897 while living with daughter Estella

William M. and Annie E. Lounsbrough, married Oct. 26, 1881

1. William, born 1882, died May 31, 1906
2. Edmund, born 1884
3. Ernest F., born 1886
4. Lillie, born 1888
5. Henry, born 1891, married Lillie (Lily) Curtis, born Jan. 2, 1893
6. George, born 1895
7. Percy, born 1897, married Gertrude Herdman
8. Earl, born Aug. 24, 1904

Vollans Family

Sons ---William and George Vollans -- Yorkshire, England

William was a soldier regular army, came to Canada with troops, then to Bermuda, where he died.

George, born 1804, married Mira Page, born 1806, daughter of Edmund Page, of Yorkshire, they came to Canada 1829, to Sandwich Twp. 1838.

George died 1894 (1887) and Mira died 1890. Con. 5 Lot 5

1. Thomas, born Nov. 29, 1829, Prescott Ont., married Jane Ratcliff, born 1837: Amelia 1862, Herbert 1864, Cora 1868, Ernest 1870, Frank.
2. William, born 1831 Ont. farmed in Sand. Twp.
3. Edward, born 1835 Sandusky Ohio, married Edielia: Ada 1864, Berti 1866, Frederick 1868, Eva 1870.
4. Mary Ann, born Jan., 1838, married John Gunn, born 1835, Con. 4 Lot 3 Sand. Charles 1863, Jessie 1865, Ida 1867, Annie 1870, Jasper, John, George, Mirian 1889.
5. Hanna, born 1869, married George Gray
6. Isaac, born 1840, married Lisa, born 1844, farm Con. 8 Lot 1 Sand. W. Henry 1868, James 1870.
7. Barbara, born 1845, married Alexander O'Neil: George 1869, Frank 1871, Harry 1873, Maggie 1875, Fred 1878, Lionel 1880, Millie 1881, Mamie 1883, Eugene 1884, Elmer 1886.
8. Jane, born 1847, married James Holden: Edward, Charles, Barbara, Oscar, Maud, Nettie.
9. Robert, born 1849.
10. Elizabeth, born 1853, married John O'Neil.
11. Samuel, born July 26, 1846, married Mary A. Herdman, born Mar. 1849 daughter of Robert & Emma Herdman who came from Scotland to Sand.W.
 - a. Elizabeth Bell, born Jan. 1, 1869, married William Shaw: Hazel , Margerie.
 - b. Charles, born July 25, 1871, married Maud Shuel: Harold, Allen
 - c. Robert, born July 15, 1873
 - d. Frank, born July 4, 1876
 - e. Rose, born July 29, 1879 (music teacher), married Ernest

Holden

- f. George, born Apr. 20, 1883
 - g. Miriam, born Apr 6, 1886, married Oct. 14, 1908, Joseph Thomas Banwell: Beulah J., Douglas W., Eric T, Edith Rose.
 - h. Herbert, born Oct. 13, 1892, married Margaret E. Noakes (Nellie): Jack, Gary.
- 1856 Thomas Vollans started a mill sawing logs being cleared in area
- 1877 he started the Champion Flour Mill
- 1891 started the Vollans Flouring Mill
- 1858 Thomas married Jane Ratcliff
- a. Amelia, born 1862, married Alexander McDowell, daughter Elsie
 - b. Herbert Page, born 1864
 - c. Cora, born 1868
 - d. Thomas Ernes, born 1870
 - e. Frank R.

Nicholson Family

John Nicholson's son

Robert I, Nicholson, born South Cave Oct. 31, 1773, married Rachel Smith. They had 8 children in South Cave, York Eng. Robert II, the oldest.

Robert II, born Apr. 12, 1798, married Feb. 9, 1823, died 1862. Ann R Pickering, born Mar. 17, 1803 South Cave, York. Daughter of Matthew and Elizabeth (Robinson) Pickering.

Children,

1. Pickering, born Nov. 16, 1823 S.Cave,
2. Sarah, born Sept. 16, 1825 S.Cave, married Aug. 18, 1844 George Collins in Detroit Mich.
3. Elizabeth, born Sept. 9, 1827 Walkergate York Eng.
4. Mary Jane, born 1831 Mich. U.S.A.
5. Robert III Pickering, born 1836 Mich. U.S.A., married Mary Ann
6. Matthew Robinson, born Mar. 29, 1842 Irish Settlement

Essex Co.

7. Ann Rachel Abigal, born 1849 Irish Settlement Essex Co.

Matthew baptized in Irish Settlement Church with group as stated in 100th anniversary booklet, July 17, 1842 he would be under 4 months. Robert and Ann Nicholson got the crown deed for S.1/2 of N.1/2 Lot 303 on Aug. 12, 1846.

Robert and Ann Nicholson gave 1/2 ac. to Church Society of Toronto in June 20, 1848.

Robert II and wife Ann both were born in the parish of South Cave, York England as were their first three children. They then moved to Michigan U.S., the parish records showed his trade as carpenter. Here the births of Mary Jane in 1831 and Robert III in 1836 took place.

Coming to Ontario near Maidstone Cross, Matthew was born March 1842, and by 1849 his sister Ann Rachel was born on the farm at Oldcastle, with baptisms at the Irish Settlement Church at Maidstone Cross. They had given 1/2 acre of land to the Church Society in 1848 and by Sept. 10, 1851 the Banwell boys were at the church raising on this property. The 1861 Census, has Robert and Ann the parents and children Robert and Ann on this farm, Matthew would now be 20 and may have left home.

1871 Census-

Robert III Nicholson	36	born Mich. U.S.
Mary Ann Nicholson	40	
Elizabeth	8	
Catharine	6	
George	3	
John Banwell	14	born U.S., was a domestic

1881 Census-

Robert III Nicholson	45	W. Meth.
Mary	50	
Elizebeth	17	
Catharine	16	
George	13	
David	11	
Mary	9	
Sarah	9	
Francis (Frank)	6	

1891 Census-

Robert III Nicholson	56
Mary	60
George	23
Mary	19
Francis (Frank)	17

Robert Nicholson died at age 63 in Jan. of 1862, Ann stayed on the farm until the 6th of May, 1868. The 100 acres was sold to Stephen and Mara Collins. Robert and Ann were one of the founding families of that church.

The 1881 Farm Atlas of Essex Co. has Robert Nicholson III on a farm at Con. 7, Lot 4 Sand. East now Sand. South and his address was Oldcastle, their church affiliation was with the Wesleyan Methodist. Some time after the 1891 census he moved to Detroit, some of the Nicholson descendants still live in the area.

Walker Family

1851 Census

Richard Walker	63	Eng.	C.E.
Fanny Walker	63	Eng.	C.E.
John Walker	35	Eng.	
Timothy Walker	23	Eng.	Yorkshire, born 1829
Susan Walker	17	Eng.	born, 1833
Henry Walker	10	Ont.	born, 1841

Richard Walker born in 1787, came from Yorkshire Eng. to Sandwich Twp. in 1834 at Maidstone Cross.

In the 1851 census he had moved to Woodslee and by 1881 his son Timothy was on Con 1 Lot 16 Rochester Twp., P.O. Woodslee.

Richard Walker was one of those mentioned who built the Irish Settlement Church.

Taylor Family

Edmund Taylor was one of those mentioned who built the Irish Settlement Church and also gave the land for the church site on

Howard Ave. in 1871.

1851 Census

Edmund Taylor	52	born 1799 Eng.	Sand. Twp.	C.E.
Mary Taylor	52	born 1799 Eng.	Sand. Twp.	C.E.
Thomas Taylor	26	born 1825 Eng.	Sand. Twp.	C.E.
George Taylor	20	born 1831 Eng.	Sand. Twp.	C.E.
Elisabeth Taylor *	17	born 1834 Eng.	Sand. Twp.	C.E.
Mary Ann Taylor	16	born 1835		
Caroline Taylor	12	born 1839 Can.		
Edmund Taylor *	10	born 1841 Can.		

* those baptized 1842 Irish Settlement Church

1861 Census

Edmund Taylor	61
Mary Taylor	61
Thomas Taylor	36
Edmund Taylor	19
Jane Taylor	6

1871 Census

Edmund Taylor	70	Eng.
Mary Taylor	70	Eng.
Edmund Taylor	29	Can.
Jane Taylor	16	Can.
George Holinsworth	10	Can.

1881 Census

Edmund Taylor	80
Mary Taylor	80
Jane Taylor	26
Edmund Taylor	38
George Holinsworth	20

1881 Atlas Essex County

Edmund Taylor Con. 5 Lot 8 Sandwich East
Thomas Taylor Con. 7 Lot 3 Sandwich West
Edmund Taylor Con. 7 Lot 2 Sandwich West

Thomas Taylor, born 1825 Lancashire, Eng. son of Edmund & Mary Taylor, wife Ann Taylor, born 1829 Surry Eng. Thomas died Apr. 12, 1907 and Ann died June 22, 1908.

Children

Emily Taylor, born 1864, died Dec., 1948 married Clemence Curtis 1859/1928

Etta Taylor, born 1866, married Henry Rounding 1864

Joseph Joe Taylor, born 1867/1943, unmarried

George Taylor, born 1869/1958, married Florence Fish born 1894/1971

Edmund Taylor, born 1872/1953, unmarried

Walter Taylor, born 1875/ 1957, married Louise born 1889/ 1953 U.S. Louise had daughter Flossie Clark

Emily and Clemence Curtis had 17 children, descendants attend St. Stephens. Etta and Henry had daughter Etta who married Harold Little.

Caroline Taylor born 1839 married Thomas Holinsworth born 1834

Children

Elizabeth Ann, born 1858, married George Green

George Albert, born 1860, married Elizabeth Washbrook, born 1871

Thomas Holinsworth died

Caroline Taylor Holinsworth marries 2nd time Abrham Wood, born 1838

Abrham was son of Joseph & Ellen Wood both born in 1809 lived Sand. W.

Caroline and Abrham Wood's children

Ellen Wood, born 1865

Joseph Wood, born 1866

Edmund Wood, born 1868

William A Wood, born 1870

Elizabeth Ann Holinsworth raised with her mother and Wood's family

George Albert Holinsworth raised by his grandparents Edmund & Mary Taylor.

Elizabeth Ann Holinsworth married George Green, a farm accountant who came from the U.S.

children,

Andrew T. Green, (Pte.) lost life in war 1914/1918.

Cora Green, married Charles Dickson, son of David Dickson

Sarah Green, married Honeyball

Fanny Green, married Medcalf

Myrtle Green, married G. Wanden

Dickson Family

David and Jane Dickson were born and married in Scotland, there the eldest two children were born, they then came to Canada, settling at Thorold near Niagara Ont., the rest of the children were born at Thorold. In early 1880 they moved to Sandwich West, Con. 6 Lot 3 Howard Ave. David and Jane had 12 children.

David Dickson, born Jan. 6, 1828 Scot. C.E.

Jane Lamond Dickson, born Jan., 1838 Scot. C.E.

William, born Feb. 6, 1858 Scot. married, had daughter Mabel Myers

Jessie, born Feb. 2, 1863 Scot. married William Lonsbrough

James, born Jan. 20, 1864 Ont.

John, born Jan. 23, 1866 Ont.

Francis, born Sept. 1, 1867 Ont. (male)

Ellen, born Sept. 21, 1868 Ont. married Charles Roderick

David, born Dec. 6, 1869 Ont.

Charles, born May 28, 1872 Ont. married Cora Green, Charles died 1959

Thomas, born Oct. 31, 1873 Ont.

George, born Jan. 20, 1875 Ont.

Jane, born June 24, 1876 Ont., married Frank Vollans

Barbara, born Feb. 24, 1878 Ont.

Charles and Cora Dickson children

Viola, married Hunter Scott

Carl, married - 1. Josephine 2. Margret Benard

Grace, married Bruce Banwell

June, married Orville Rounding

Donald, married Thelma Duel

Doris, married Howard Craig

Charles and Cora lived on the Edmund Taylor farm, Cora was Edmund Taylor's great grand daughter, and to build the present church in 1913 they gave an acre more of land from the farm to move the rectory to make room for the church while still holding services in the old frame church.

Holden Family

The graveyard south of the driveway was given by John Holden Esq. in 1891, son of James and Elizabeth.

Joseph Holden of Bolton, England, near Manchester. He came to America and settled in Kentucky with sons. John who died in Bolton Eng., Thomas Charles, and James came to America.

James, born in 1804, Bolton Eng., married Elizabeth Barr, born 1815 Ayrshire, Scotland, daughter of John and Jane Barr who came to Delaware U.S. in 1816, then to Fort Wayne Indiana.

James left Kentucky in 1836 settling in Fort Wayne where he married and farmed until 1860, moving to Windsor Ont. just before the U.S. Civil War and opening a grocery business in Sandwich, later in Windsor.

James retired in 1883, died May 1892, Elizabeth died Feb. 1892, both were members of the Church of England.

James and Elizabeth had 10 children born in Indiana before coming to Windsor.

1. John born, Sept. 19, 1837, married Rhoda C. Evans, born May 12, 1841 in the U.S.
2. Thomas, born 1839, married Sarah Stonecipher.
3. Charles, born 1842, 1880, married Emma Taylor.
4. Mary, born in U.S., married George W. Mason.
5. James, born in U.S., married Jane Vollans.
6. Newton, born in U.S., unmarried.
7. William, born in U.S., married Jane Purvis.
8. Jane, born 1848 in U.S., married James Westaway, born 1848, son of William.
9. Janet, born 1851 in U.S., married Robert Teakle.
10. Joseph, born 1860 in U.S., unmarried, died 1895.

John and Rhoda's children

1. Willard, born 1861, married Jane Thresher.
 - a. Newton married Jessie
 - b. Herbert
 - c. Harold married Elizabeth Little - Howard
 - d. John
 - f. Irene married Glen Webster
 - g. Clara married Lorne McKee
 - h. Stanley married 1 Erma Vollans 2 Stella O'Brien
2. Alice, born 1864, married Edward O'Neil
 - a. Justus
 - b. Janet
 - c. Roy
 - d. Valette
 - e. Cordelia
 - f. Wilferd
3. George W., born 1866, married Laura Merrick
 - a. Elsie, married Herb Scribner
 - b. Theresa
 - c. Gladys
 - d. Grace
 - e. Merrick
4. Arthur C., born 1868, married Lizzie Merrick
 - a. Laura unmarried
 - b. Vera married Cicil Golley - Edwin, Elsie
 - c. Elaine unmarried
 - d. Catherine married Joseph Bucher - Margret, Joan.
5. Mary, born 1870, married Dr. Justus G. Austin
 - a. Rhoda Roberta
6. Bertha married Ernest Riggs
 - a. Newell

Thomas and Sarah children

1. Viola born 1861
2. Rosetta
3. Albert born 1869

4. Frank born 1873

Charles and Emma's children

1. Ida
2. Annie married Joseph Blake Bedford - Bert Bedford
3. Bertram married Emma
4. Ernest married Fred, Mildred, Thelma.

Mary and George Mason's children

1. Clarence
2. Daniel
3. Ethel

James and Jane's children

1. Edward
2. Charles
3. Barbara
4. Oscar
5. Maud married Bob Libby
6. Nettie, born 1886/1967, married Frank Lonsbrough, born 1886/1959

Jane and James Westaway's children

1. Nettie
2. Charles

Janet and Robert Teakle

1. Marjorie

Hurst Family

Rev. John Hurst rector 1860 - 1873 of Irish Settlement Church.

1871 Census Windsor

John Hurst	46	Eng.	Ch. Eng. Clergyman
Mary Hurst	49	Eng.	
Jessy	23	Eng.	
Elizabeth	19	Eng.	
William Henry	17	Eng.	Bank Clerk
Mary	13	Eng.	

John	11	Eng.	
Fanny Stannings	18	Eng.	Servant
Mary Ann Stannings	16	Eng.	Servant



Rev. John Hurst, 1860-1874 and was rector at the time the church was moved to the Taylor farm on Howard.

Many have given of their time and efforts over the past 150 years but one was given a plaque for his endless hours of work for over 20 years. The inscription speaks for itself --

Presented To
JAMES L. JENNER
In Appreciation Of
His Selfless Work And
Dedication to The Parish
From
His Many Friends Of
St. Stephens Church
1975

Choir --

Through the years the choir has been an important part of the worship at St. Stephens along with the organist. In an old letter it tells of Stephen Collins playing the organ and the young people singing their favorite hymns during the late 1860's and 1870's. His daughter Ida was organist at St. Stephens for several years and was given a tribute for her valuable services on Christmas Eve 1887.

Mildred O'Neil was honored with a special service for her 50 years as organist and leading the choir, at her retirement. "A night of recognition Sept. 23, 1979".

Mrs. Joseph Tully helped with the choir and held junior choir practice on Saturday afternoons at the rectory during the 1930-40's.

Junior Choir 1956 - 1974 Submitted by Ruby M. Robertson, Nov., 1990

The Reverend Gordon Houghton's wife organized a junior choir in 1956. The first practice was held at 7:00 p.m. April 19th. At the conclusion of the Houghton's ministry in St. Stephens, Junior choir was taken over by Ruby M. Robertson. She remained leader until 1974 when it became necessary to

fold, because of lack of interest and the formation of a Youth group which included music in its program.

In Junior Choir, many youngsters experience exposure to classical music, group fellowship, and accomplishments by presenting special anthems, enhancing the worship service.

Picnics, Bar.B.Q.s and Christmas gatherings were held. Four members attended the first Huron Diocesan Choirboy camp at Tyrconnel, and from that training, took part in the Anglican Congress service, at St. Paul's Cathedral, August 11th, 1963. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Most Rev. A.M. Ramsey, was guest preacher.

With assistance from Mrs. Dorothy Phillips and Rev. E.C. Grey, eight girls and four boys were transported to rehearsals and performances in Essex Deanery, as part of the Pageant of Anglican Congress, 1963. They were dressed as medieval pages, and carried a shield of an Anglican Diocese. The Pageant was produced by the Rev. A. Norman Ellis of Harrow.

In the report to Vestry, January 1967, it stated, Junior Choir members develop good church habits as well as receiving group training. We averaged 38 choir practices a year. Peak years were 1960 to 1966 with over twenty members registered, (twenty seven in 1963).

Many still attend St. Stephen's along with their children, as does our present organist, Thomas Malenfant.

Remember the verse we used to say, called Manners?

*Be thankful, be silent, be reverent,
for this is the house of God.
Before the service, speak to the Lord,
During the service, let the Lord speak to you.
After the service, speak to one-another.*

Ruby M. Robertson.

Maryland Circle

1950 - 1976 Submitted by Joyce Hodgson.

Following World War 2, a sub-division named Maryland, was built on the Oliver farm property, one mile north of St. Stephen's Church. The Reverend Gordon Dickin, rector at the time, visited these families, newly moved into his parish, to see whether there was enough interest in forming a group with these young mothers. He received strong support and so emerged the group known as Maryland Circle, in 1950.

Membership was not limited to the sub-division, although the dozen or more who joined, did live there.

The Rev. Dickin made it clear, it was not to be a diocesan group, and they would be free to conduct matters in their own way. It was decided that working for the "Youth of the Church" would be their main object, and certainly, this was carried out, far beyond anyone's expectations.

Remembering the many projects undertaken, they consider that a few of the special ones would be; --- Purchasing card tables and chairs; Material for Junior choir vestments, and sewing skirts, surplices and bows; Purchase projector for the Sunday school; Tent for the Boy Scouts and sending children to Church Camp.

Services performed, involved, visiting new residents; the sick and shut-ins; Testing Girl Guides for their badges; Serving teas after Confirmation services and other occasions.

Money was raised by making items and selling them at their St. Patrick's Tea and Bazaar; Mother and daughter Banquets; Girl Guide and Brownie Social evenings; and at Teas. Meetings were held monthly, Wednesday evenings, 8:30 p.m. The first president was Eva Drysdale, 1950, and the last president Lucy Venne, 1976.

Joyce Hodgson.

(Treasurer for many years.)



ESSENAR A.Y.P.A.



A.Y.P.A.'S were started in the Diocese in 1902. St. Stephens and Church of the Redeemer had just become a parish with Rev. William Hartley as rector. The parish youth formed a group with Harry O'Neil, its first president. My mother Etta joined in 1915 when many of the boys had gone to serve in World War 1. At that time her brother Stan Collins was president. She gave me her A.Y. pin when I joined in 1946 and it is kept with my treasures. In 1924 Erle Banwell put the two church names together to form the name ESSENAR and the parish is still known by that name to this day. Whenever I meet Bishop D. Jones he would ask "How are things at Essenar."

Early Past Presidents; 1902 Harry O'Neil, E.P. Holden, Stan Collins, Roy V. O'Neil, Evan Vollans, Erle Banwell, Bert Bedford, Hugh O'Neil, Merle Gunn, Max Webster, Bruce Banwell.

The A.Y.P.A. program was Work, Worship, Fellowship, and Edification. Members took part in Deanery Local Council, Deanery Drama and Softball competitions, services at T.B. Sanitarium, Variety shows, Diocesan conferences and Golden Jubilee banquet and dance in 1952. They had their own annual banquet and dance, would hold their meetings at the church and often go to be with their parents at the Orange Hall card party, to have lunch and square dance as a family. They did work around the church and in 1948 started to publish a weekly church messenger. Summer outings often included BobLo, Kingsville and Rondeau Parks.

JUNIOR A.Y.P.A.

In 1950 Sr. A.Y. had grown to a membership of over 50 and Rev. Dickin could see many coming to A.Y. judging from their age, he saw the need for a Jr. A.Y. Without taking any from the senior's membership other than the leaders, he had me organize a group between ages 12 and 15. In the spring of '51 until school was out, I gathered together 11 youths over 12 years of age. We meet on Friday nights at Tully Hall for 2 hours, mostly playing games. By Sept., 1951 we got a Diocesan charter with

Director Kenneth Bennett, Assistant Myra Curtis and the first president Janet Banwell. By Sept., 1953 it had grown to 19 members, Pres. Gerald Collins, V.Pres. Garth Holden, Sec. Eleanor Santo and Treas. Ed Crowder. They followed A.Y. program, had 4 group leaders, learned to conduct a meeting, took part in Deanery drama and softball. They joined with the seniors with a strawberry social and the yearly banquet.

The senior's membership dropped and in the fall of 1959, the membership age was set again at 14, ending the need for junior A.Y. The junior program had served a purpose to keep the young people active with the church for those years.

In 1970 the A.Y.P.A. invited the newly confirmed to a corporate communion, that they might be interested in becoming members as the membership was down. By 1971 the A.Y.P.A had trouble getting members so Rev. Allan Tilford named Ruth Parr as president and leader of a new group called the Anglican Youth Movement, A.Y.M. of youth from both churches. In Feb., 1972 the A.Y.M. had a Huron Hunger Fund fast held at Tully Hall, 18 members took part in raising 1000 dollars from pledges. In 1976 the young people called themselves the S.R.Y., Essena Youth. From '76 to '79 they worked with Lenten Chancel Drama, had a Halloween party with 90 attending, a Pancake supper, Youth service helped by George and Doris Parr, carolling by Peggy Leithead, work on basement walls helped by Tom Malenfant.

S.R. Plus 20 Club

Rev. Ted Gray called a meeting for Jan. 24th, 1969 at St. Stephens to talk about a group for couples over 20 years from the two churches. On Feb. 1st, 1969 at 8 pm in Tully Hall the first meeting of the newly formed club was held. It chose as its name the S.R. Plus 20 Couples Club, its purpose was to hold non-profit social evenings. This meeting was followed by cards and a pot luck lunch. The next meeting was held on Feb. 21st, it was opened up to any person over 20 years, the evening consisted of cards and fun games, dancing, with a desert lunch, 19 couples attended. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Shuttleworth, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Mactier, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Walpole planned a square dance for Mar. 1st, '69, Dave Mitchel called. Over the following years, to present a summary of activities, game nights, square dances, hay rides,

scavenger hunts, pool party and B.B.Q., New Year's dances, trailer outings, helping at garden parties and turkey suppers, corporate communion and Christmas dinners. The S.R. Plus 20 club is still an active group.

Ladies Guild

Myrtle Crowder notes the ladies guild in the early days was also called the ladies aid. Presidents before 1913 were the rectors wives. Mrs. Newton (Jessie) Holden was president from 1913 to 1942. The guild formally disbanded at the end of 1967 but several ladies met at Cora Dickson's house for quilting until 1970. Last notation was May 6th, 1969. "The ladies would no longer send flowers at the death of a parishioner." Some of their many loving efforts was the care of choir vestments and choir mothers for junior choirs. Looking after the altar, setting up for services, (note, earlier the altar guild formed part of this group), sending altar flowers to the sick and shut-ins.

They made hangings and embroideries for the chancel, sewing quilts for sale, helping if some family were burned out. They put on the annual fowl suppers and church banquets, purchased tables and chairs for the parish hall and Sunday School. This augmented considerably to the expenses of the church, for example in 1957 treasure reports receipts of \$2950.00, 1959 \$2719.00 and in 1963 voted \$2300.00 to the church board.

Women's Auxiliary - W.A.

From the beginning of the present St. Stephens to the late 1920s there was a Sr. W.A. when it was disbanded. During the 1930s and '40s a Jr. W.A. organized by Mrs. Joseph (Maude) Tully. On Feb. 10th, 1949 the Sr. W.A. was reorganized by Rev. Gordon Dickin, and later on Oct. 3rd, 1949 Mrs. Dickin gave a talk to the W.A. on the work of the Chancel Guild setting forth its aims and duties. Election of officers followed, Pres. Mrs. Etta Bennett, V. Pres. Mrs. Percy McKee, Sec. Treas. Mrs. Stan Collins. On Apr. 26th, 1967 the Women's Auxiliary changed its name to the Anglican Church Women, this change was across the Diocese. Notes from 1950, had St. Patrick's tea, bale to Indian boy, bale to St. Paul's Residential School, Cardston, Alberta. Picnic at Etta Bennett's cottage with her Sunday

school class serving.

The W.A. packed a box of groceries and can goods for a clergy family in England. They held Christmas parties, started little helpers, and did other mission work. The Chancel Guild as part of the W.A. took over duties performed by the previous Altar Guild that was part of the Ladies Guild. In Dec. of 1956, the Chancel Guild had kneeling cushions dedicated for the sanctuary, and it is still an active group in the church.

St. Stephen's Sunday School

Published Weekly by The Evangelical Churchman Publishing Co., Ltd., Toronto, Canada.
Vol. VIII, No. 43.] SENIOR SERIES [8 cents per annum

Sunday School Lessons

—FOR THE—

✻ Children of our Church ✻

16th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY—16th SEPTEMBER, 1888

BIBLE LESSON—THE SMITTEN ROCK—Numbers XX: 1-13.

Golden Text.

They drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.—1 Cor. x. 4

Memory Verses.

7 And the Lord spake unto Moses saying,
8 Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.

The Lesson.

TIME: March-April 1882-87: years after the last lesson.
PLACE: Kadesh Barnea, near the southern border of Canaan.

INTRODUCTION.

Thirty-seven or thirty-eight years have passed since the last lesson. Back and forth through the desert have they gone, camped in valleys, camped by mountains, camped by sea. Rebellions, mutinies, and idolatries have marked the course of the years. A whole generation has

passed away, and now we are coming to the closing year of the wanderings. The lesson begins with the first month of the last year.

DIFFICULTIES EXPLAINED.

Then came the whole congregation. Who had been dispersed over a wide region for support during the long years. First month of the path year of the wanderings. Kadesh. In the edge of Zion on one side, and Paran on the other. Miriam, Moses' older sister, who watched him in the Nile. She must have been about 40 years old. Chaldean. Strongly reproached latterly. The glory of the Lord appeared. Probably in terrific flashes from the cloud over the tabernacle. Hear now, ye rebels. Moses is angry, and seems to have felt hard because God gave water to the unworthy people. Must we shall we. Is it right to bring water for those who have rebelled against us and insulted us. Smote the rock. Father in anger with commandment to speak, or in unbelief, as if the word would not be enough. To smite me. To honour me as a holy being. Ye shall not bring this congregation etc. It was necessary for God to show that He abhorred all sin, by punishing it in his highest servant. Meribah. Strife.

QUESTIONS.

1. *The Dry and Thirsty Land*—In what place did the Israelites gather? At what time? Who did it there? What got it after noon came upon the people? How did they act under it? What should they have done?

Sunday School Lessons 1888

From its beginning, the parish has been noted for its fine Sunday schools. The earliest record I have of results from parish Sunday school teachings is a Bible presented to Effie Banwell, my grandmother, by the Upper Canada Bible Society of Toronto Ont. It was given for honor marks in Sunday school exams, and printed for the British Foreign Bible Society by Queen Victoria printers. With it was a Sunday school lesson, senior series for children of our church, 16th Sunday after Trinity, Sept. 16th, 1888. She would have been 15 years old, she was one of the last baptized in the old Irish Settlement Church and was confirmed June 22nd, 1889 at St. Stephens. We are told in Psalm 78 to teach the next generation, this has likely happened many times at St. Stephens. Here is an example,- teacher Janet Banwell was followed by daughter Effie and granddaughter Etta Collins. Two of Etta's first students were Marshall and Manson Jessop, Jessie Banwell was my first teacher, Marshall later became Superintendent while I was teaching the Jessop boys, Wayne, Neil and Gary. I went to be Superintendent at Redeemer and Gary taught at St. Stephens. My father taught the adult class in the rectory the Sunday before he died in Dec., 1936, at that time Sunday school was at 2:00 and church at 3:00 p.m. Many parents with children made one trip to church to either teach or attend this class.

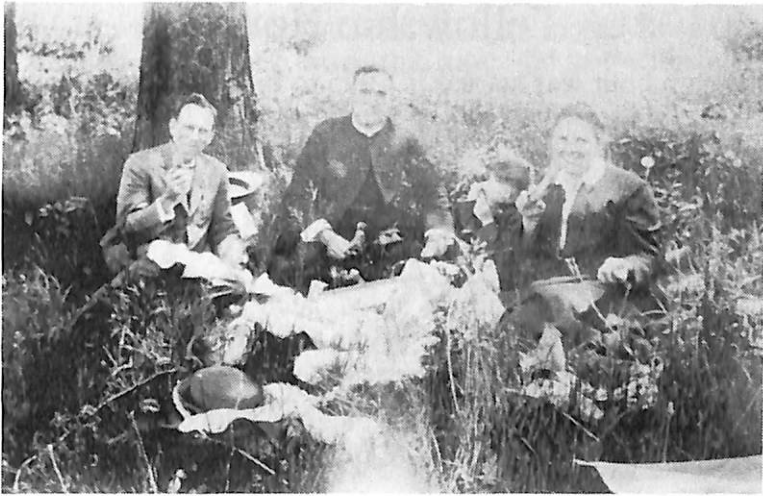
Past Superintendents; Newton Holden, Roy V. O'Neil, John Mennell, Margäret Fawcett Jr. school, Marshall Jessop, Mrs. Elmer O'Neil, Bert Bedford, Mrs. Carl Esping (Dorothy), Mrs. Gary Vollans (Marleen), Mrs. Ron Hutz (Pat).

Some Sunday school examination winners; 1939 Virginia Holden at age 12 highest standing all of Canada for the junior department, a gold medal. 1940 Margaret Fawcett highest marks in Diocese, a Bible from England. Highest marks G.B.R.E., 1946 Joyce Washbrook, 1947 and 1949 Marion Bennett.

In 1953 a Server's Guild was started, before this boys in the choir assisted the rector, first members; Frank O'Neil, Edwin Crowder, Garth Holden, Peter Hubbell, and Gerald Collins. Beth Bower was the first girl to be a server and has gone on to be ordained an Anglican Priest on Nov. 29th, 1990. Jim Curtis is now leader of the servers.



Guest preacher for the 150th Anniversary service June 9th, 1991 Rev. Elizabeth J. Bower, ordained an Anglican Priest Nov. 29th, 1990. She is the great granddaughter of Stephen and Mara Collins. Standing at the altar after solemnizing her first wedding at St. Stephens.



Church Picnic in 1917. Having lunch is Rev. F.K. Hughes and his son Kingsly, with Burt and Effie Collins. Picture taken by Jessie Collins. Rev. Hughes was rector from 1915-21, he died in Florida, Oct. 1969.

Friendship Circle

The following is the start of the Friendship Circle, from the Essex Free Press; There were 15 present when parish ladies of St. Stephens were entertained at the home of Mrs. George Parr in Dec., 1978. On Feb., 1979 Mrs. George Parr was hostess to former guild members, 17 present, next meeting planned for Apr. 24, '79. On Apr. 24th Mrs. George Parr was hostess to St. Stephen's elderly ladies, the former W.A., A.C.W., and Maryland Circle members were guests and Ella Curtis was honored for her devoted work in the W.A. Then on Aug. 10th, '79 the St. Stephen's Senior group met, the convener was Mrs. Doris Parr. Then on Oct. 14th ladies met at St. Stephens for 11:00 a.m. corporate communion with lunch and birthday cake at the rectory. The ladies decided on holding one of their social events each month, honoring those having birthdays. The new group is to be named "The Friendship Club" and to meet on the second Thursday of each month. Next meeting to be Nov. 8th and then in Nov. a Christmas party is set for Dec. 20th at 11:30 a.m. with communion followed by lunch, goodies and birthday cake. For transportation to the friendship circle please call Jean Koning or Doris Parr, note the name is changed to circle. This group is still meeting each month.

Fellowship Hour

Fellowship hour was started in 1975 to be held after church the first Sunday of each month, the convener was Mrs. Alva O'Neil and she was followed by Mrs. Dorothy Esping in 1979.

Memorial

Our present church stands as a dedicated memorial not only to the God we serve but also to all the faithful members and member families who have passed through its doors as well as the churches that preceded it. The church's interior is like a museum of dedicated furnishings, not placed for exhibit, but to enhance the worship of the Lord we love.

The list of gifts and memorials from over the years has not been kept and I am sure many have been forgotten or are no longer in use.

A memorial book starting in 1902 with gifts from Mrs. Janet Banwell of a large Paten and deep Chalice set, was given to her by Bishop J.A. Winstanley on her visit to England. The last entry is the Baptistry given in memory of Roy V. O'Neil by his family. To attempt to include all memorials without leaving any out is a task that at the present time is difficult if not impossible. Following is a short list starting with the building of the present church in Nov., 1913; Pews, Lectern, Prayer desk, Pulpit, Credence table - Ladies Guild; Missal stand - Mrs. Thomas McKee; Alms plate, Vases, and Church Bell,- Mrs. Newton Holden's Sunday School class; Stained Glass Window of " St. Stephen "- First Girls Guild; Stained Glass Window of "The Good Shepherd", Bishops Chair, Sanctuary Chair - unknown; Overhead Lights - Mr. and Mrs. Edward Banwell; Baptismal Font - Rev. Joseph Tully; Oaken Reardossal, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Collins, Mr. and Mrs. G. Burton Collins - Collins family; 1948 Pipe Organ, in memory of those who gave their lives W. War II. - Congregation; Organ Chimes in memory of Ralph and Etta Bennett; Altar Cross, - Irene Holden; Two Pictures of former St. Stephen's Churches by Miss Ellen Shuel. (Outside) Memorial to the "Men Who Fell In The Great War" 1914-1918 from the congregations of St. Stephens and the Church of the Redeemer, by public subscription, under the auspices of The Women's Patriotic League of Sandwich South.

June 1970 was the 129th anniversary, a Memorial Rose Garden was planted on rectory lawn, the roses did not withstand the harsh winters, and the garden soon was gone but not the memory of those for whom the roses were planted. The names should be posted if only in this book. Nettie O'Neil, Garnet Webster, John W. Curtis, Edmund, Walter and Louise Taylor, Percy, Lillian and Raymond Roadhouse, Arthur and Eliza Holden, Mr. & Mrs. Willard Holden, Mr. & Mrs. Wane Winslow, Ernest Holden, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph McCord, Elizabeth Holden, Leslie Jessop, Mrs. Sadie Peck, Mrs. Marcella Jessop, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hartley, Clinton M. Holden, Mr. & Mrs. John Webster, Mr. Charles Dickson, L. Scott Hunter, John and Edith Jessop, Newton Holden, Gary R. Curtis, Marjorie Crockett, Mr. & Mrs. Fredrich Thorne, George and Fanny Vollans.



Rose Memorial along church drive way on rectory lawn. Planted for the 129th anniversary in June, 1970, in memory of members love ones.

Highlights of Irish Settlement Church St. Stephens

- 1832/3 Joseph and Elizabeth Bennett come from England to Maidstone Cross (name it)
- 1837 Stephen Collins, brother of Elizabeth comes with his brother George and sister Sarah. Get Crown Patent for Lot 291 N.T.R.
- 1838 spring Stephen Collins holds services in his new home on Lot 291 Maidstone Cross, a 1 1/2 story log house.
- 1841 June Rev. Thomas Earl Welby with friend Col. Sparke, founded and dedicated the Irish Settlement Church
- 1841 George Vollans, Edmund Taylor, Robert Nicholson, Richard Walker, John Jessop, Michael Robinson, Joseph Bennett, among those who took part in erection.
- 1842 Mar. 31 Stephen Collins marries Mara Rhodes, at St. Johns, Stephen was the first parishioner of Irish S.C. married.
- 1842 July 17 Baptisms- Robert Watson, Elizabeth and Edmund Taylor, Mathew Nicholson, Anna Vollans, Phylis and Eliza Jessop, John Robinson
- 1843 Rev. William Ritchie
- 1846 Aug. Crown Patent to Robert and Ann Nicholson, Lot 303 N.T.R.
- 1848 June 20 Robert and Ann Nicholson to Diocese Toronto, 1/2 ac. for church site, west corner Lot 303
- 1851 Sept. 10 Raising of Church on site, Banwell Bros. (Henry Banwell Diary)
- 1852 Rev. E.H.Dewar, Church service now at Oldcastle Lot 303
- 1854 Windsor becomes village, Maidstone a Township
- 1856 John Greaves family, Eng. to Maidstone Cross, Church of Eng. members, no church in area, join Methodist Church .
- 1857 Separation Diocese of Huron from Diocese of

Toronto

- 1860 Rev. John Hurst came late in 1859 started All Saints Windsor 3 points with St. Johns, and Irish S.C.
- 1861 Stephen Collins to Carpenters to finish Church
Sept. 16
- 1861 Stephen Collins to Solomon T. Wigle for lumber for
Nov. church
- 1862 Robert Nicholson dies
- 1861/5 Joseph Rhodes - Mara's older brother, Major General U.S. Civil War
- 1863 All Saints two points with Irish S.C.
- 1863 C.E. Prayer Book given at confirmation to Andrew
Dec. Bennett youngest child of Joseph Bennett, from Irish S.C.
- 1865 Stephen Collins goes to Windsor, opens store.
- 1867 Joseph Bennett retires to sons farm in Adrian Mich.
after civil war
- 1868 Deed, Ann Nicholson to Stephen & Mara Collins, for Lot 303 Stephen moves May 6st to Oldcastle
- 1869 Deed, Stephen and Mara Collins to Heirs of Daniel Murphy for Lot 291, Maidstone Methodist on corner this lot, now it is Bethel Maidstone

From Henry Banwell's Diary's 1834/1877

- 1851 Sept. 10 as noted before, Banwell bros. at raising of church
- 1868 Henry Banwell's wife Susan dies
- 1871 Oct. 26 Augustus & Edward went to haul lumber for the church
- 1871 Nov. 20 Augustus & Edward went to work at church
- 1872 Apr. 1 Augustus attended the church meeting at Collins
- 1872 Apr. 3 Augustus and Mary Ann went to Collins in the afternoon
- 1872 June 10 Edward at the raising of the church, beams

raised.

- 1872 Nov. 5 Effie Jean, Edwards daughter born
1872 Nov. 9 Mary Ann gave birth to daughter Susan Figes,
my wife's name
1872 Dec. 29 Mary Ann and Jessie took their infants to be
christened at old church

---- End From Diary's ----

- 1871 Edmund Taylor gave site for church on farm Lot 8
Con. 5
1873 Receipt, John Hurst to Church wardens of Irish S.C.
for Easter stipend
1873/74 3 points, All Saints, Irish S.C., St. Marys
1874 2 points Irish S.C., and St. Marys with A.H. Martin
1875 Jan., Stephen Collins buys church and site back as
part of his farm -Irish S.C. Wardens
1880 Sept., 2 points, St. Johns & St. Stephens mission
1880 Ida Collins, Stephens youngest daughter, born 1863,
to plays organ at St. Stephens mission, recognized by
1887 Wardens Thomas & Richard McKee, Christmas Eve
1887.
1891/2 Cemetery property given by John Holden
1893 Cemetery consecrated by Bishop Baldwin on south
side of frame church
1897 Ida Collins attends Church of England Deaconess &
Missionary Training house Toronto
1898 Ida Collins graduated to Deaconate Dec. 8 1898, St
Philips Toronto, June 7 1898, ordained Deaconess,
missionary over 30 years. Member of St. Stephens
1899 Mr. Fredrich Hewith, Huron College Student under
Rev. Duncan Hind started services in Orange Hall -
Mission of Redeemer
1900 June 10, St. Stephens becomes Separate parish,
builds rectory
1901 Brick structure, Church of the Redeemer on Robert

Shuel farm

- 1912 Rectory moved on land from Charles Dickson to make room for new church
- 1913 May 26 Laying of corner stone new brick church, H. Dobson-Peacock rector, Janes Long of Harrow built it at a cost of \$12,000, designed to hold 300 people. Archbishop Williams dedicated it Nov. 9th, 1913, with the mortgage cleared, he consecrated it Feb. 27th, 1921.
- 1913 Front porch put on rectory
- 1948 Dec. - Rev. Gordon Dickin started Sunday school - Chandler School
Nov. 15, 1949, Certificate of Organization, name - St. James
- 1950 Sept. - sod turning St. James with dedication Jan. 28, 1951 Bishop Luxton
- 1950 June, Cemetry extended and consecrated by Bishop G.N.Luxton
- 1958 Rev. Gordon Houghton, new rectory built for St Stephens and Church of the Redeemer

Sources of Information

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Laying the Corner Stone of St. Stephen's May 26, 1913

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Quainton parish records #1042397 & 8

Headley parish records #991755

Frensham parish records #991754

Hawkey parish records #1041261

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Essex County Library Headquarters

Queen Victoria Land Patent

Tweedsmuir History Volume 4 1950-1980

- by Mrs. W.A. Crowder

Committee Members and Officers St. Stephens 1991

Rector's Warden: Sheila Duval
Deputy: Robert Jessop

Peoples' Warden: Jim Curtis
Deputy: Dale Bedford

Lay Delegate: Ruby Robertson
Sub-Delegate: Marg. Allison

Board Members: Rosemary Janisse
Ed Noakes
Bob Janisse
Dorothy Malanfant
George Parr
Cal Allison

Treasure: Ed Noakes

Auditor: Rosemary Janisse

Envelope Secretary: Gary Vollans

Cemetery Board: Dale Bedford
Ed Curtis
Bob McKim
Robert Banwell
Robert Jessop
Harvey McCauley

Vestry Clerk: Sheila Duval

Church Secretary: Kim Baker

Organist: Tom Malanfant

Associate: Ruby Robertson

Social Convenor: Donna Mae Curtis

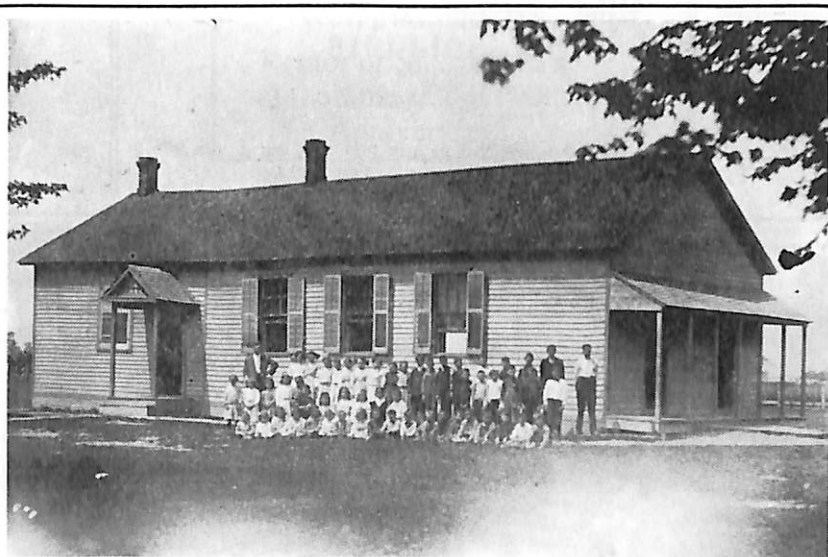
Coffee Hour: Verona Holden

Sunday School Superintendent: Rosemary Janisse

Sidesmen Rota: Dorothy Esping

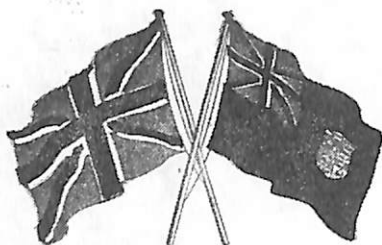


St. Stephen's in about 1880



SS #6 Sandwich South - Class of 1910

Order of Service.



Unbeiling and Dedication Of Memorial

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To the Men

From the Congregations of St. Stephen's Church
and The Church of The Redeemer

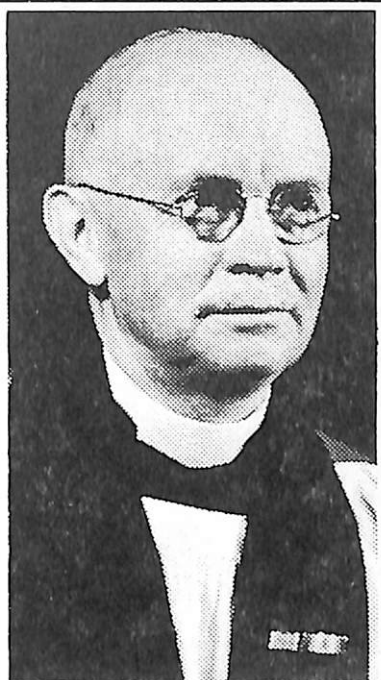
Who Fell in The Great War,
1914-1918

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"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay
down his life for his friends." John 15:13.



Choir at the time of the Dedication



Rev. John Tully
Rector of St. Stephen's
at the time of the 100th
Anniversary.



October, 1913 showing the old church in the right hand corner, new church and the rectory moved to the new site.