

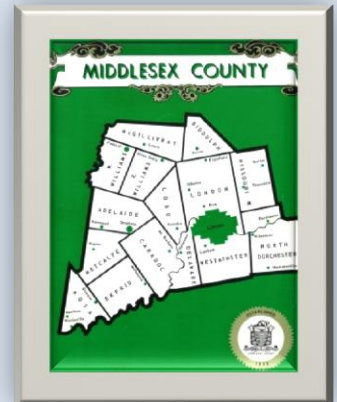


# Journal Of Reeves & Councils

Journal of Reeves & Councils of the former:

- Township of North Dorchester,
- Township of West Nissouri, and the
- Municipality of Thames Centre

1850- Present Day





**Former Reeves of  
North Dorchester Township  
1850 - 2000**



# Dorchester as part of the London District

- 1794** Settlement of Dorchester Township begins with early settlers who include: Edward Matthews, William Niles, Thomas Putnam, Richard Tooley
- 1800** Dorchester Township is created by the Act of 1799 and is included as part of the London District
- 1817-1840** Meeting for the Townships of Delaware, Dorchester and Westminster held in the Township of Delaware; representatives for Dorchester are Henry Reynolds, Edward Hendrick, William Niles, Patrick Herron, Sanders Beverly, William Putnam, Joshua Putnam.
- 1842** William Niles represents Dorchester on the Council of the London District
- 1845** Andrew McGregor also represents Dorchester on the Council of the London District
- 1847** Jacob Cline and Andrew McGregor represent Dorchester
- 1848-1852** Wm. Niles and Jacob Cline represent Dorchester
- 1847** Wm. Niles is elected as Warden of the Council of the County of Middlesex

# Reeves of North Dorchester Township

*William Niles❖	1850 - 1853	Richard Bankes	<b>1908 - 1912 PIX</b>	Charles Hoyle	1953
*Robert Craik	1854 - 1857	Frank Boyes ✚	1913 - 1915	Andrew S. Cromarty	1954 - 1956
Richard M. Varnum	1858	<i>David Smith</i>	<i>1916 – 1919 PIX</i>	John J. Wilson	1957 - 1958
John Marshall	1859	Stanley Shaw	<b>1920 PIX</b>	George Forbes	1959 - 1961
Robert Dreaney	1860 - 1861	Byron Marsh	1921 - 1922	Leo J. Gent	1962 - 1963
William McKee	<b>1862 PIX</b>	David Calvert	1923 - 1926	Kenneth Martin	1964 - 1965
Robert Dreaney	1863 - 1868	Edwin A. Rogers	1927	Cyril Pigram	1966 – 1969
*Richard Tooley❖	1869 - 1870	David L. Morrison	1928 - 1931	Edward Hamilton	1970 - 1975
Robert Dreaney	1871 - 1873	*Harold Marr	1932 - 1934	*William Grieve	1975 - 1978
James B. Lane	<b>1874 - 1878 PIX</b>	*Angus McGeachy	1935 - 1938	*William Lane	1978 - 1987
*James Gilmour	1879	Samuel Jackson	1939	William Irwin	1988 - 1990
John Durand	<b>1880 - 1882 PIX</b>	*J. Douglas Hunt	1940 - 1943	Christene McPherson	1991 - 1993
James Gilmour❖	1883 - 1896	Charles Rath	1944 - 1946	*Alan Marr	1994 - 2000
*George Neely❖	1897 - 1900	G. L. Shackleton	1947 - 1949		
Henry Jackson	1901 - 1903	George W. Roulston	1950	* Warden of Middlesex County	
Richard Bankes	<b>1904 PIX</b>	Charles Hoyle	1951 - 1952	❖Member of Provincial Parliament	
<i>James Smith</i>	<i>1905 – 1907 PIX</i>	Calvin Sutherland	1953	✚Member of Parliament of Canada	

January 21, 1850

First Meeting of Township of North Dorchester

The Council met at 11 o'clock A.M.

The following members were present

William Niles Esq.      Mr. Robert Craig

Jacob Cline Esq.      Mr. John McArthur

Mr. W. H. Niles

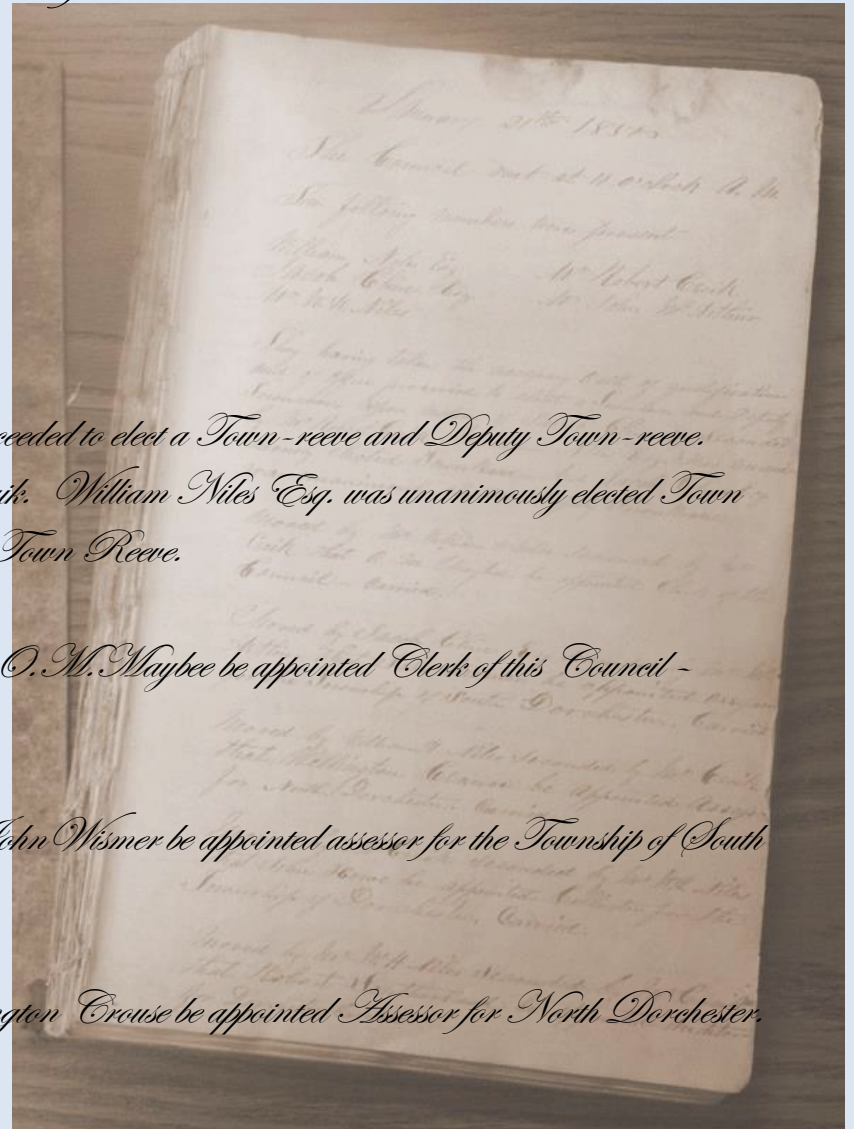
They having taken the necessary Oath of qualification and of office proceeded to elect a Town-reeve and Deputy Town-reeve.

After motion of Jacob Cline Esq. seconded by Mr. Robert Craig. William Niles Esq. was unanimously elected Town Reeve. And Jacob Cline Esq. was unanimously elected Deputy Town Reeve.

Moved by Mr. William H. Niles seconded by Mr. Craig that O. M. Maybee be appointed Clerk of this Council - carried.

Moved by Jacob Cline Esq. seconded by Mr. McArthur that John Wismer be appointed assessor for the Township of South Dorchester. Carried.

Moved by William H. Niles seconded by Mr. Craig that Wellington Crouse be appointed Assessor for North Dorchester. Carried.



Moved by Mr. Craik seconded by Mr. W. H. Niles that John Howe be appointed Collector for the Township of Dorchester. Carried.

Moved by Mr. W. H. Niles seconded by Mr. Craik that Robert Southerland be appointed auditor for Dorchester. Carried.

The Town Reeve then appointed J. F. Marsh Auditor.

Moved by Jacob Cline Esq. Seconded by Mr. W. H. Niles that Joshua Putnam Esq. be appointed Treasurer for the Township of Dorchester. Carried.

Moved by Jacob Cline Esq. seconded by Mr. McArthur that Edward Shepherd be appointed Superintendent of Schools for the Township of Dorchester. Carried.

Moved by William H. Niles seconded by Mr. Craik that William McClane be appointed Road Surveyor for the Township of Dorchester. Carried.

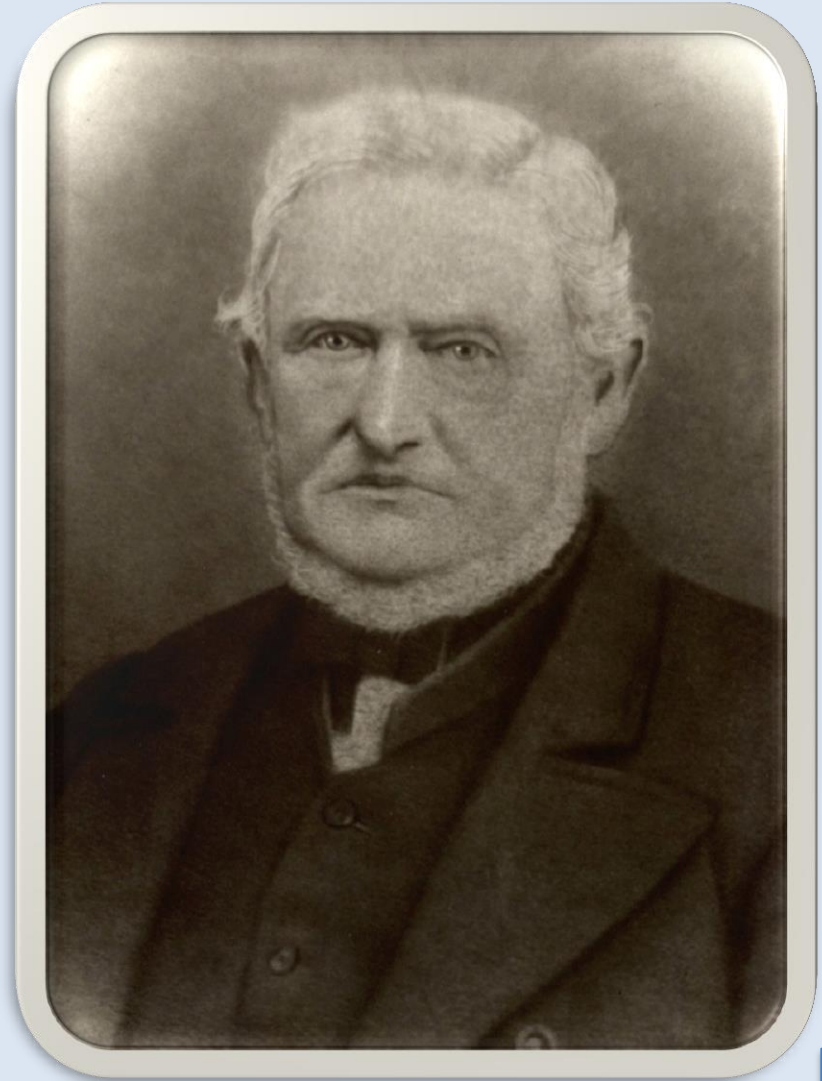
Moved by Jacob Cline Esq. seconded by Mr. McArthur that this council adjourn to meet on the first Monday of March next at the house of Joshua Putnam Esq. Carried.

# William Niles 1850 - 1853

William Niles (1799-1873) was born in Coeymans, New York. He came to Upper Canada to live with his uncle, Willet Casey, in Adolphustown Township. In 1821 he travelled west and settled around Nilestown, which was later named after him. There he established a farm, built a sawmill and opened a store.

William represented Dorchester as part of the London District Council from 1842 to 1854, and was also a Warden of Middlesex County in 1847 and 1851. On January 21, 1850, William became the first Reeve of North Dorchester Township, a position he held until 1853.

In 1854 he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada for East Middlesex as a Reformer.





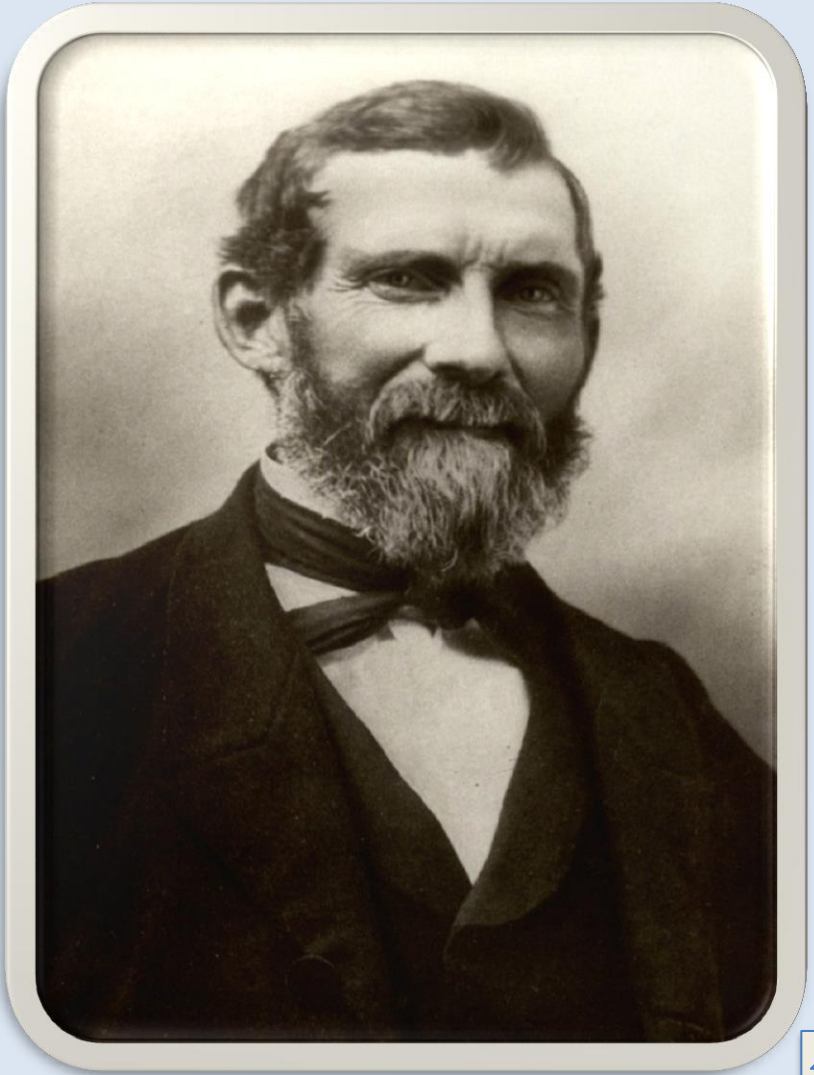
# Robert Craik 1854 - 1857

Robert Craik (1812-1867) was born in Dunns, Berwickshire, Scotland. He emigrated to Canada in 1832, and married Catherine Riddle in 1833 in Ancaster, Ontario. He became a farmer (Concession 1, Lot 5) and had 5 children.

Robert was elected Warden of Middlesex County in 1857.

He was elected to the Provincial Legislature in 1860 by-election as a Reformer for East Middlesex.

Robert died in Putnamville, North Dorchester.

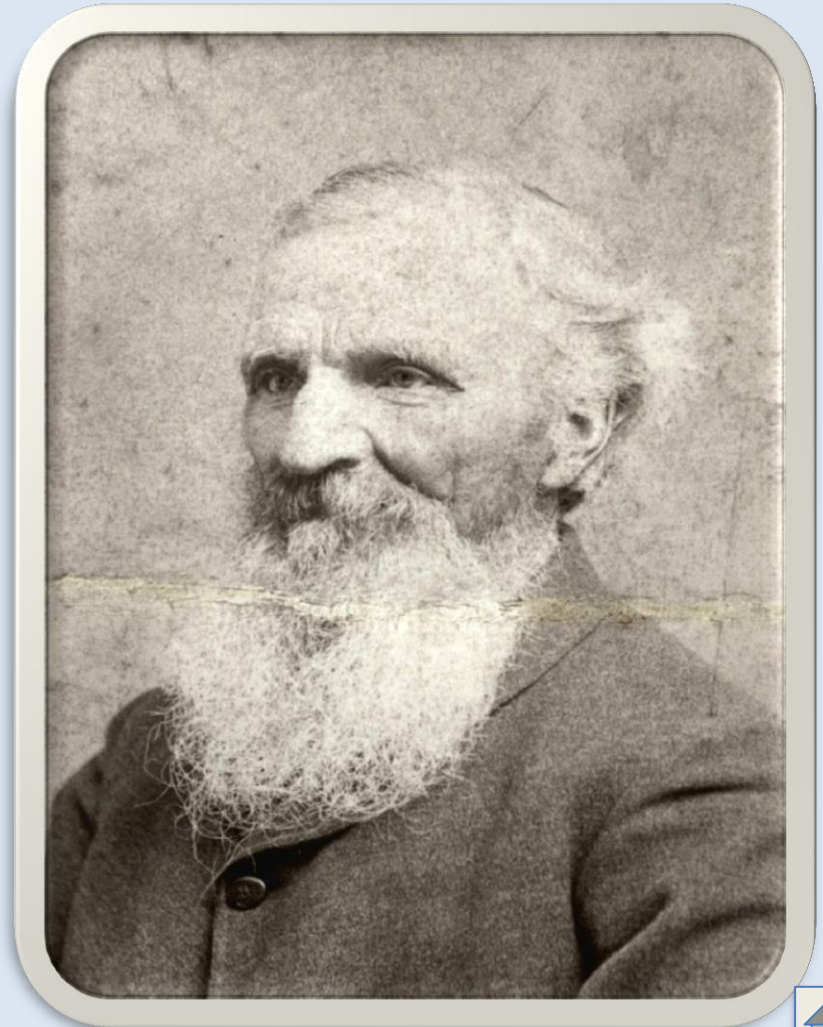


# Richard M. Varnum 1858

Richard Martin Varnum (1825-1915) was born in Sutton, Quebec. He married Harriet Perkins in 1854 in Yarmouth, Ontario. They moved west to Dorchester in 1864 and settled in a two room log cabin. The 1851 Census lists their location at Concession 5, Lot SW.

Richard became Reeve for the years 1858 and 1859.

Richard and Harriet and their children moved between locations in the United States and Canada many times before settling in Centerville, South Dakota in 1892, where he died. Richard was a town officer in various capacities wherever he chose to live; he was successful in 26 public elections from 1854-1892.



# John Marshall 1859

John Marshall (1817-1893) was born in Queens County, New Brunswick. John owned a 100 acre farm near Putnamville (now called Putnam). The farm was located at Concession II, Lot 4, SRT, Township of North Dorchester.

John was nominated to be Reeve in January, 1859. Meetings throughout the year were held at C. Huffman's Inn (northwest corner of Dorchester Road & Hamilton Road), William Jelly's Inn, and George Hartle's Inn.

John and Augusta were foster parents to a British Home Child, Alice Froud. John and his wife Augusta died in the community of Stewart, Kent County and are buried in Stewart Cemetery, East Tilbury, Kent County, Ontario.



bert Gevaert & Edward McKeon

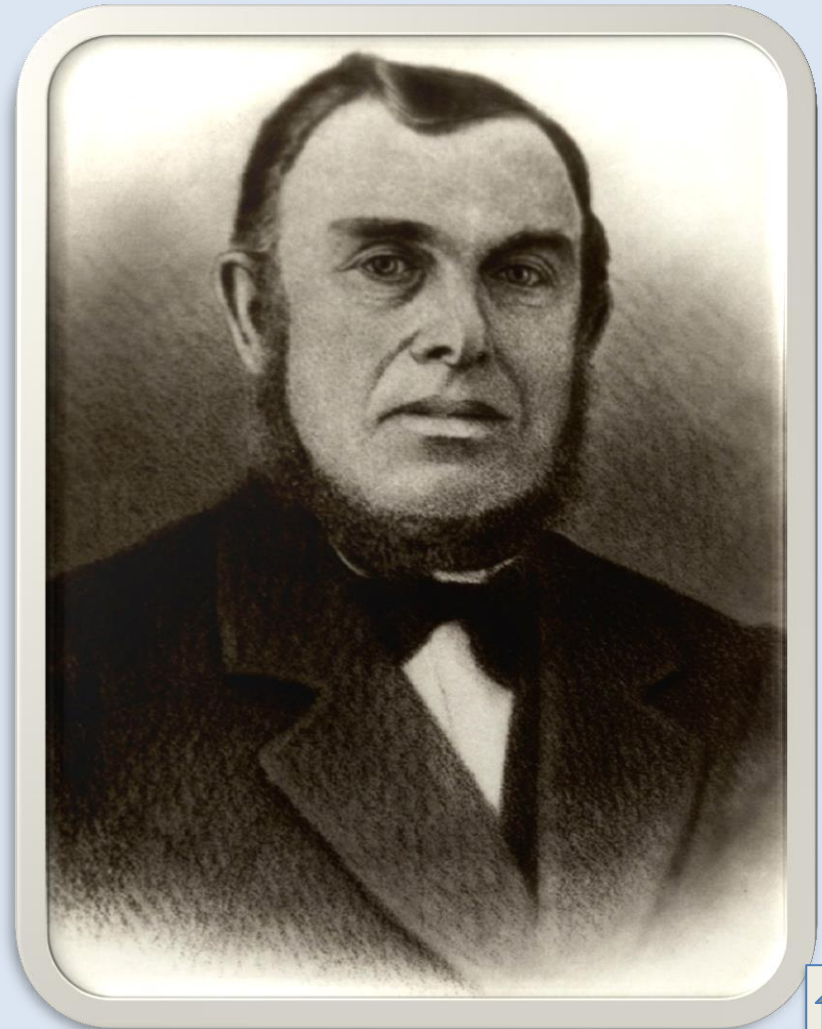


# Robert Dreaney 1860 - 1861

Robert Dreaney (1820-1905) was born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1821. He immigrated to Canada in 1841, learned the blacksmithing trade, lived in Toronto for four years and then moved to Concession 1, Lot 1 NRT in 1847.

Robert opened up a hotel and a blacksmith shop at that location which developed into a small village that came to be known as Dreaney's Corners, now called Crumlin.

Robert served as Justice of the Peace for Middlesex County as well as Postmaster for Dreaney's Corners for many years from 1857.



# William James McKee 1862

William McKee (1827-1882) was born in Massereene, Antrim, Ireland.

William married Mary Ann Pyatt, of North Dorchester, in 1855. They had 9 children.

There were two McKee farms in the township: Concession IV SRT, Lot 9 (50 acres) and Concession V SRT, Lot 13 (100 acres), the larger one being south of Harrietsville.

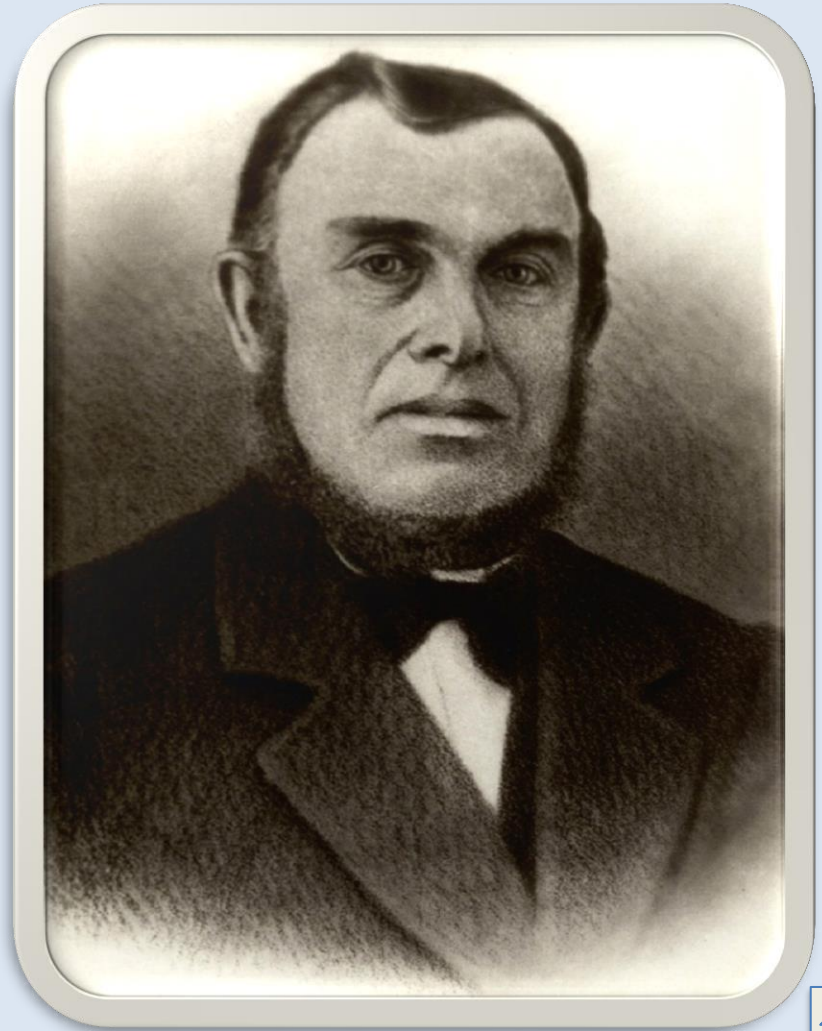
William became Councillor for Ward 5, and was selected as Reeve of the Township for the year 1862.



# Robert Dreaney 1863 - 1868

Robert Dreaney (1820-1905) served his second term as Reeve of the Township from 1863-1868.

In 1867 Robert was elected to the office of Warden of Middlesex County.

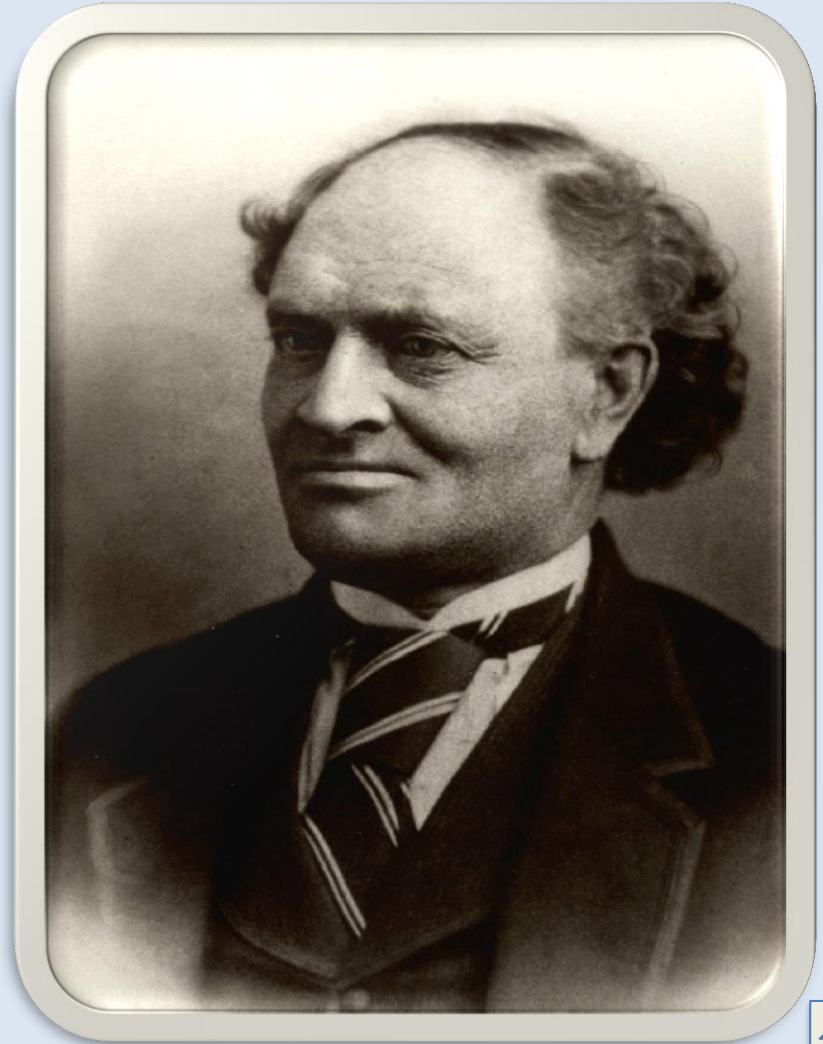


# Richard Tooley 1869 - 1870

Richard Tooley (1820-1910) was born in Devonshire, England. He came to Middlesex County in 1855 and settled on a farm at Concession V SRT, Lot 16 near Harrietsville.

Richard served on the Township Council from 1863-1870, being elected to Reeve for his last year. He also was elected as Warden of Middlesex County Council in 1870.

Richard represented Middlesex East in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as a Conservative from 1871-1883 and again from 1886-1894.



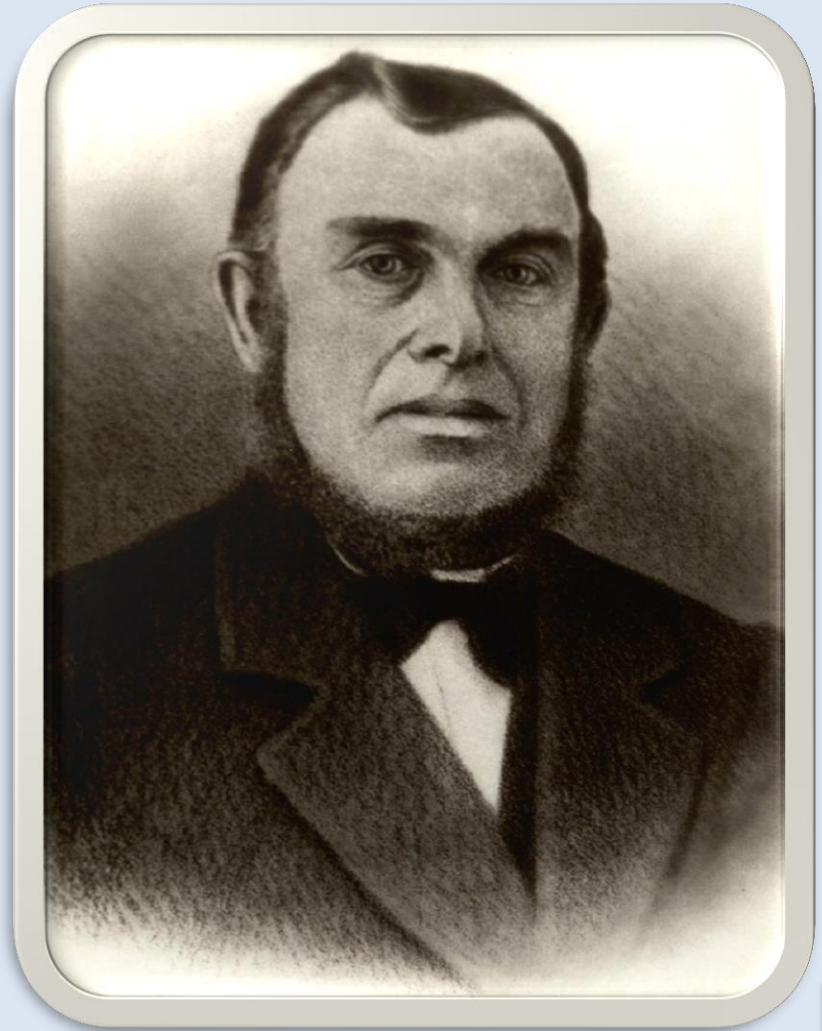
# Robert Dreaney 1871 - 1873

Robert Dreaney (1821-1905) remained on the North Dorchester Township Council and was Reeve for three more years.

He represented his ward on Council for a total of eighteen years.

In 1882 Robert purchased a 110-acre farm in London Township, and became Reeve of that same township in 1883.

Robert died in London, Ontario.





# James B. Lane 1874 - 1878

James B. Lane (1823 or 1924-1891?) was born in Cornwall, England. He settled in and built the first building in the Village of Dorchester - a blacksmith shop at the east end of Hamilton Road in 1844. It is said that James “carried 30 pounds of nails on his back all the way from London in order to assemble his shop.”

James was treasurer of the cheese shop in Gladstone in 1887.

James also served as secretary of the Township's Agricultural Society for 15 years, treasurer of the County Agricultural Society for seven years and Director of the Western Fair Association for several years.

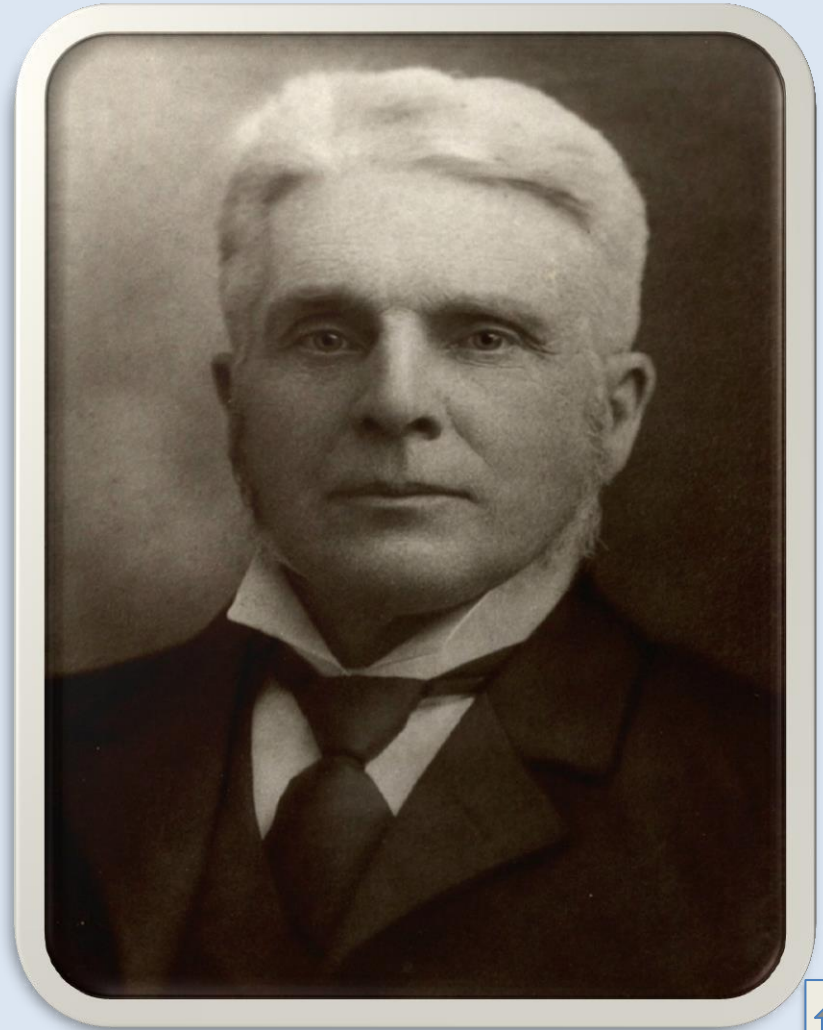


# James Gilmour 1879

James Gilmour (1842-1908) was born in South Hillhead, Renfrewshire, Scotland. He married Elizabeth McClary in 1871.

In 1879, James was elected Warden of Middlesex County.

James also served as a trustee for London County General Hospital.



# John Durand 1880 - 1882

John Durand (1814-1891), born in Scotland, lived on a farm at Concession 2 NRT, Lot 12 with his wife Janet, and his children.

John, with his son John Jr., was a breeder of Shorthorn cattle as listed in the “Canadian Shorthorn Herd Book, Volume 6” :

“BEAUTY OF THAMESFORD” Roan calved March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1886; bred by John Durand, Dorchester Station, Ont. second owner Henry Golding, Thamesford, Ont.

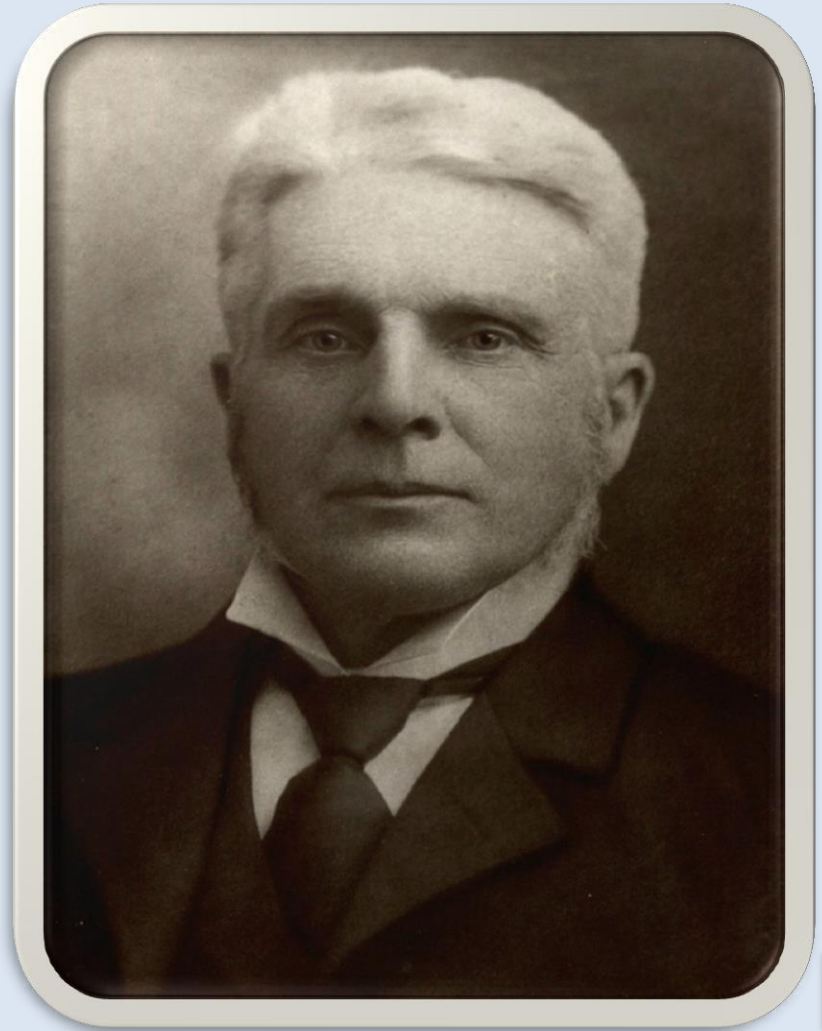
“DAISY OF DORCHESTER” Roan calved Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, 1886; bred by John Durand, Dorchester Station, Ont.



# James Gilmour 1883 - 1896

James Gilmour (1842-1908) became Reeve of North Dorchester Township again in 1883, and served for almost 15 consecutive years.

James was then elected to represent Middlesex East as a Conservative in the Canadian House of Commons for two terms from 1896 to 1904.

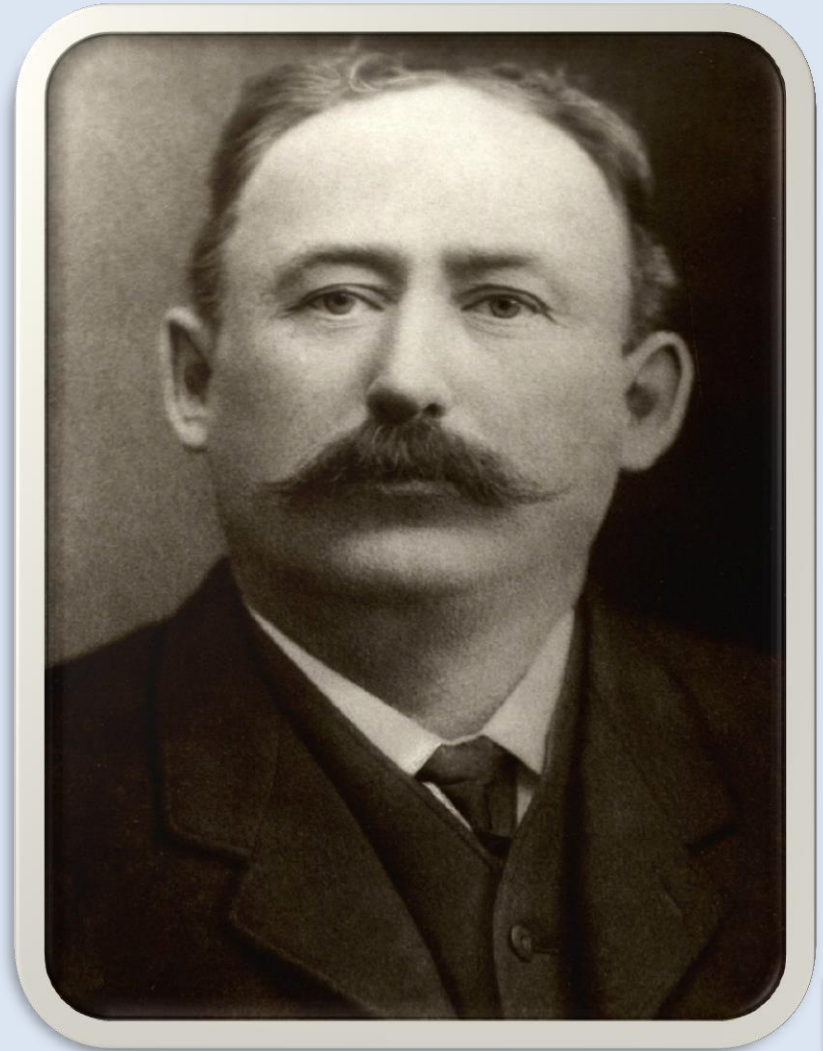


# George Neely 1897 - 1900

George Neely (1860-1913) was born in Sudbury, Ontario. He came to North Dorchester Township where he met and married Sarah Capstick in 1884. George and Sarah had six children.

George Neely taught at a small brick school Pineknot. The Putnam United Church history book (1900-2000) says the cornerstone of the church was placed by several men, one of whom was George Neely Esq., Reeve of North Dorchester.

George represented Middlesex East under the Conservative banner from 1905 until his death in 1913. He had served very efficiently for a number of years as Secretary of the Dorchester Agriculture Society.



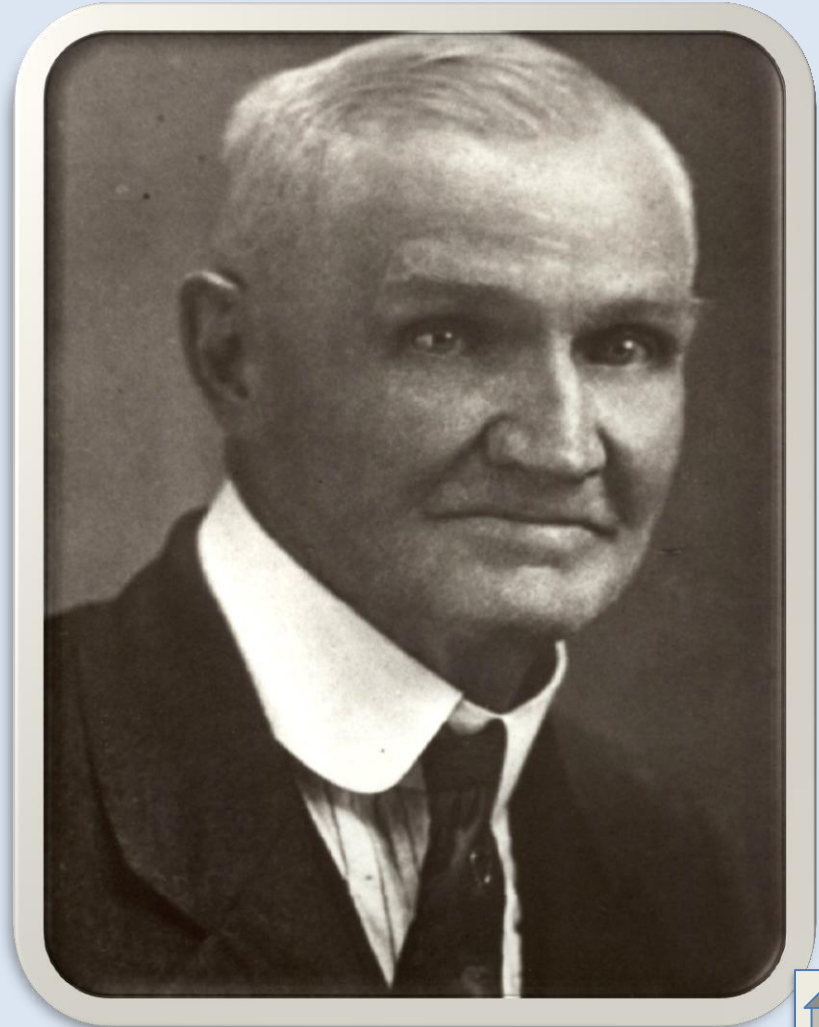
# Henry Jackson 1901 - 1903

Henry Jackson (1848-1926) was born in Toronto, Canada.

Henry and his family relocated to a farm in North Dorchester in 1855. In 1869, Henry married Sarah Bratt and together they had 9 children. They farmed on Concession 5, Lot 17.

Three of Henry's sons also were politically inclined; one son Samuel also became Reeve in North Dorchester Township.

Henry worked for many years as a storekeeper for the "insane asylum" as it was called, located on the road between Dorchester and London (Dundas Street).



# Richard A. Bankes 1904

Richard Albert Bankes (1861-1913) and his Swedish wife Emily Augusta Dean (b. 1869) had a son and three daughters.

In the 1891 census of Ontario, Richard's occupation was listed as a cheese man. There were many cheese factories in the area at that time.



# James Smith 1905 - 1907

James Smith (1849-1927?) resided on a farm in North Dorchester Township: Lot 13, Concession 3 (Mossley).





# Richard A. Bankes 1908 - 1912

From 1895-1907 Richard was listed in the Census as a farmer of North Dorchester.

The Banks Road, between Hwy. 2 and Trafalgar Road, was named after Richard Bankes, whose last name has appeared in some documents as Banks.



# Frank Boyes 1913 - 1915

Frank Boyes (1874-1961) was born in South Dorchester Township, Ontario.

Frank was a professional cheese maker; his cheese factory was located in Gladstone. Frank became Reeve of North Dorchester in 1913. He served as Reeve for 3 years.

Frank was elected to the Canadian House of Commons in 1930 to represent Middlesex East as a Conservative for one term. He served on the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization and on the Standing Joint Committee on the Library of Parliament during his term of office.



# David Smith 1916 - 1919

David Smith, (1899-?) Was a labourer who lived on Lot 19, Concession B. ?



# Stanley Shaw 1920

Stanley Shaw (1887-?) and his wife Mary (Thompson) married in 1916 and lived in the Village of Dorchester.

Stanley's occupation was listed as an auctioneer in the 1921 Census.

Stanley's father, E.T. Shaw, and uncles, owned the Lounge and Mattress Manufacturer Company located at Shaw Town (intersection of Shaw Side Road and Catherine Street).

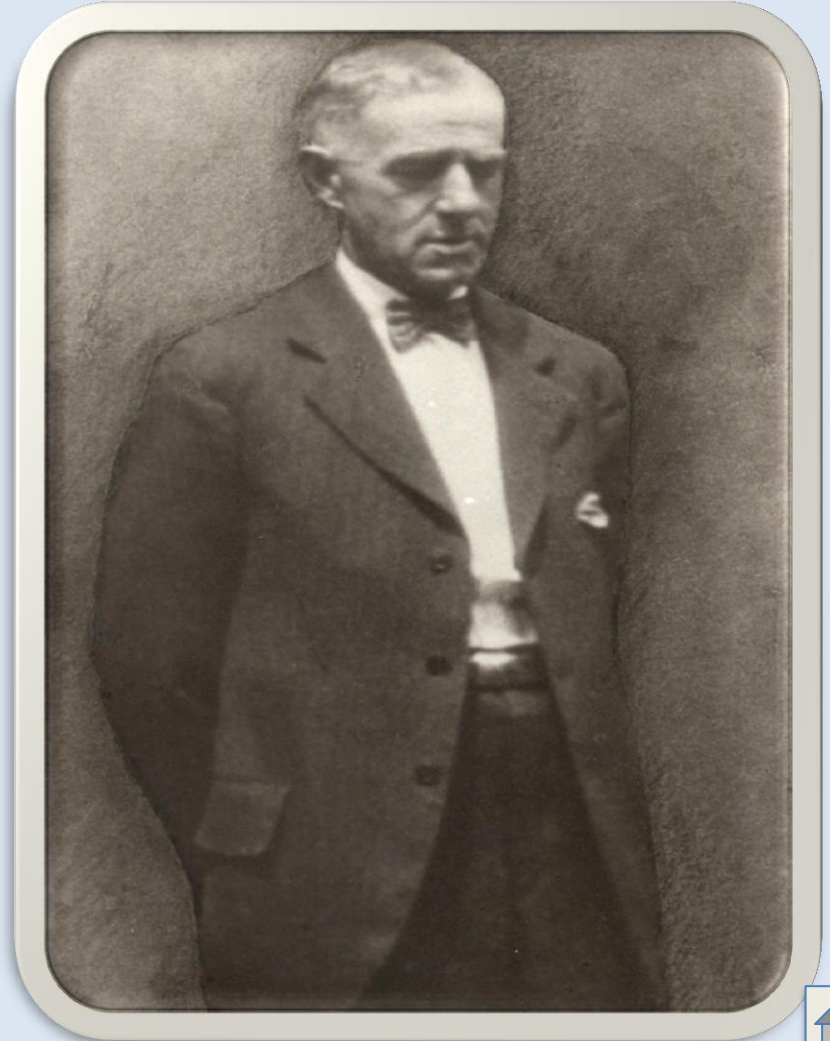
Shaw Side Road was named after the Shaw family.



# Byron Marsh 1921 - 1922

Byron Marsh (1878-1959) was born in Ontario, Canada. He married Annie McCallum in North Dorchester Township, and became a farmer.

According to the 1911 census Byron, his wife and two sons farmed at Part Lot 19, Concession 5 of the Township.

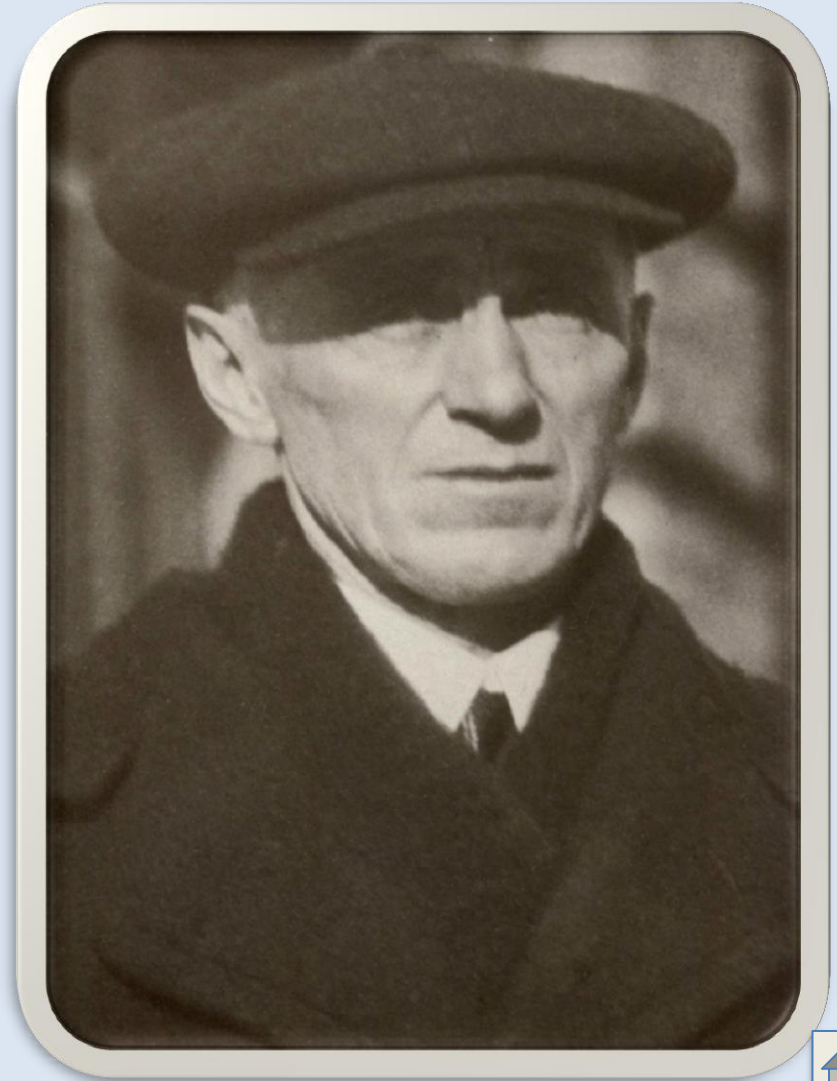


# David W. Calvert 1923 - 1926

David Calvert (1873-1948) was born in County Down, Northern Ireland. David and his family emigrated to Canada in 1875, where they settled in North Dorchester Township, Ontario.

David grew up in the Township, married Annie Jane Dundas and farmed in the north east area.

David became Reeve in 1923. He served for 4 years.

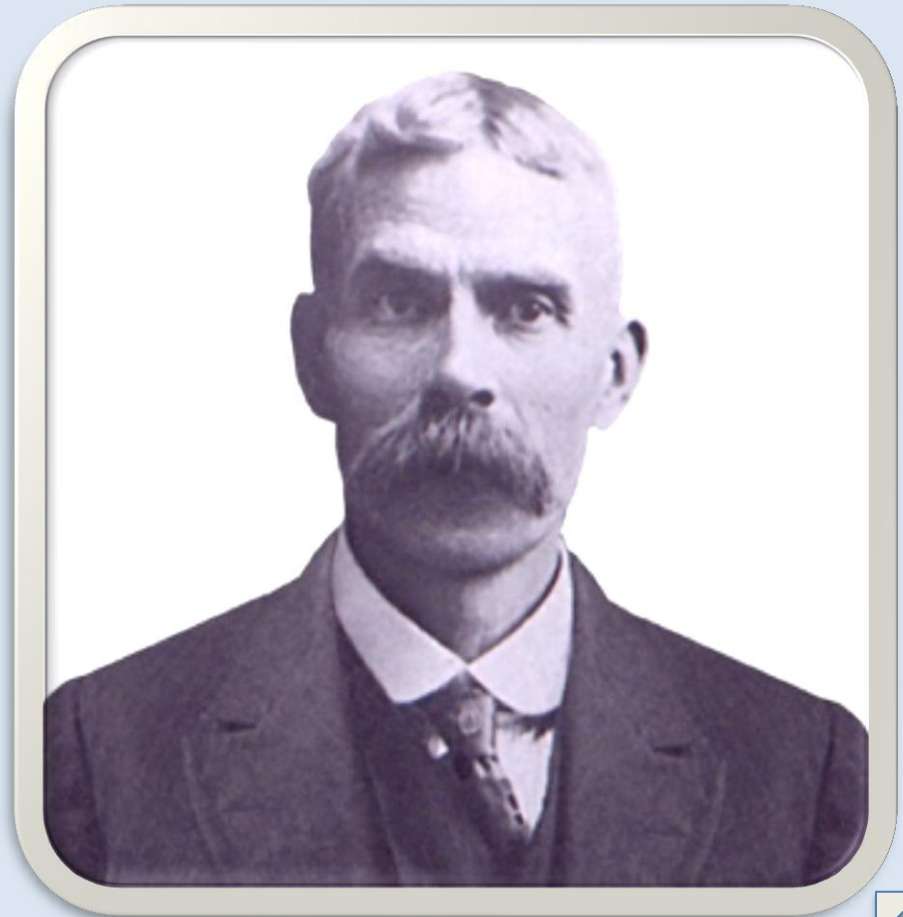


# Edwin A. Rogers 1927 - April 30, 1928

Edwin Arthur Rogers (1869-1928) was Reeve for one and a half years, dying suddenly in the middle of his second year.

Edwin and his family farmed at Lot 9, Concession 2.

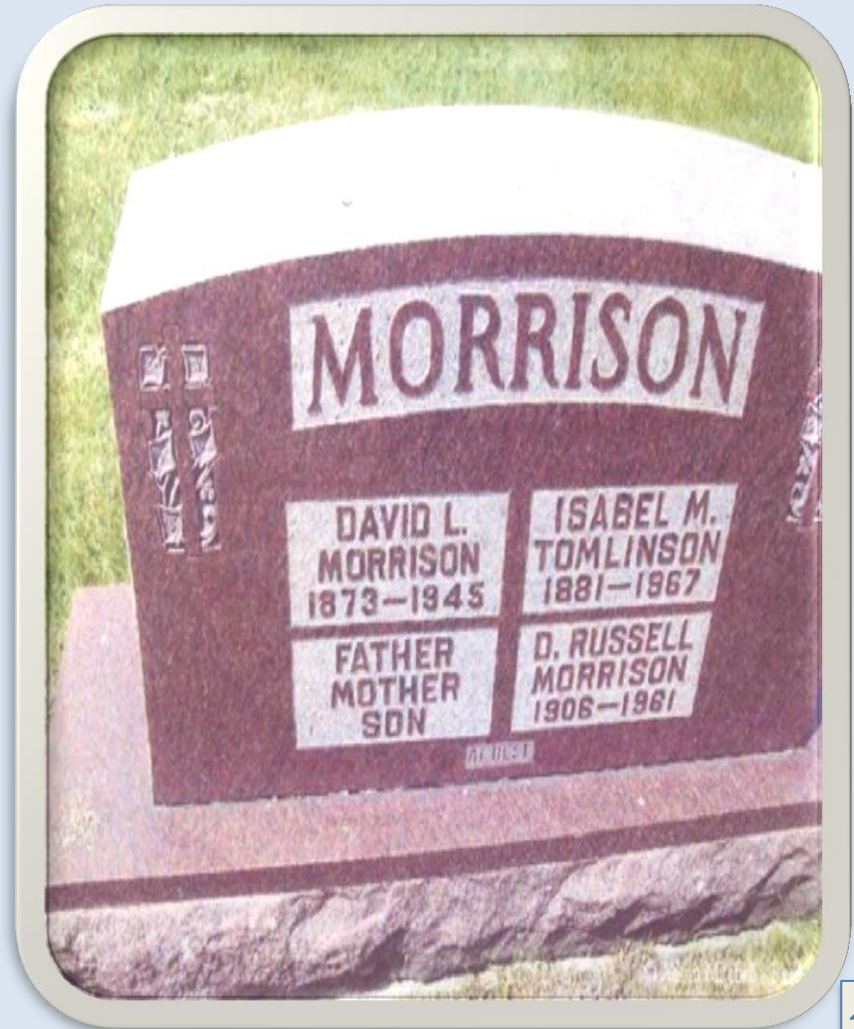
He is buried in Dorchester Union Cemetery.



# David L. Morrison 1928 - 1931

David Lawson Morrison (1873-1945) was born in North Dorchester. With his wife Isabel Mary (Tomlinson) and their five children, David farmed at Concession 1, Lot 15.

David is buried at Zion Hill, 7<sup>th</sup> Line Cemetery.





# Harold Marr 1932 - 1934

Harold Marr (1890-1960) was born in North Dorchester Township. Harold was a farmer and a driver who trucked cattle for area farmers to Schneiders, and hogs from the stockyards that were located just east of the railway station in Dorchester.

Harold was part of the Marr Quartet with Andrew Marr, Jack Hunt, and George Hunt. Harold was a Lodge Member; a member of the North Dorchester Agriculture Society; and a frequent patron of Smitty's Pool Hall on the corner of Catherine Street and Bridge Street.

Harold was Warden of Middlesex County in 1934.



# Angus McGeachy 1935 - 1938

Angus McGeachy (1895-1974) and his wife owned a farm on the Dorchester Road.

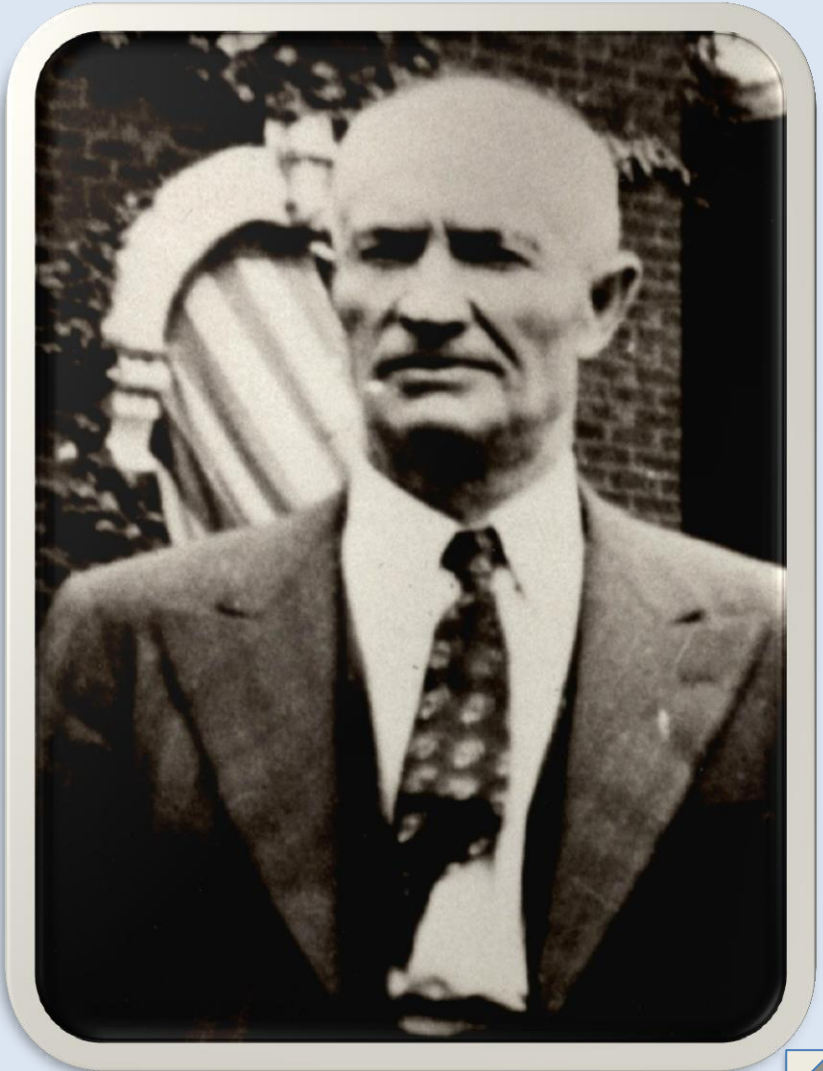
Angus was Warden of the Middlesex County Council for one year during his term as Reeve of North Dorchester Township.



# Samuel Jackson 1939

Samuel Jackson (1875-1950) was the son of Sarah and Henry Jackson. Henry had been a previous Reeve of North Dorchester Township.

Samuel married Sarah Isabelle Faulds at the turn of the century and together they had 9 children. Samuel farmed all his life in Gladstone, at Concession 4, Part Lot 19.



# John Douglas Hunt 1940 - 1943

John Douglas Hunt (?-1983), known as Doug, had a farm on Concession 2, west of Elgin Road, where Doug and his wife Leta raised three children.

Doug worked as the Drainage Superintendent for the Township after his term as Reeve.

Doug also helped at the McDonald's maple bush on Elgin Road with the yearly collection and boiling of the maple sap to turn it into maple syrup.



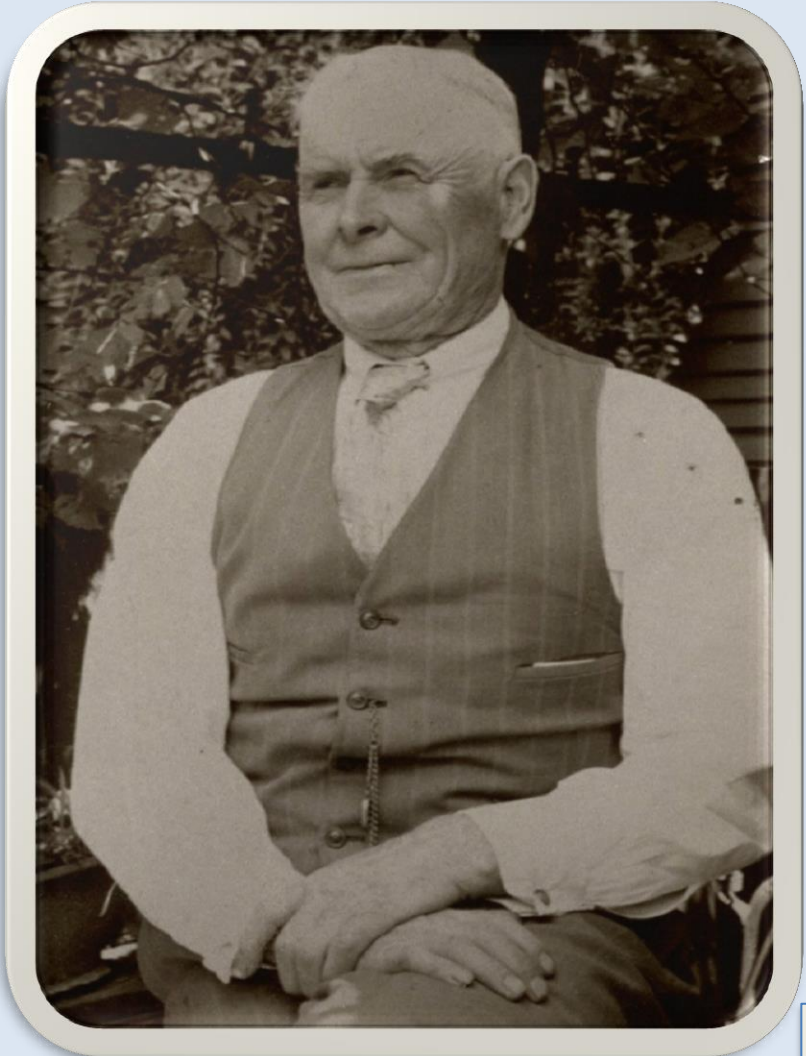
# Charles W. Rath 1944 - 1946

Charles Wilson Rath (1878-1961) was born in North Dorchester. He married Eleanor Spring, also of North Dorchester, in 1906 in Ingersoll.

Charles was a charter member of the Putnam Loyal Orange Lodge and a member of Star Lodge, IOOF Crampton.

Charles also was active with the North Dorchester Agricultural Society and served as its president.

Charles and Ella lived on their farm on Concession 2, SRT, Pt. Lots 2 & 3, until his son, Ken, took it over in 1939, when they moved to Putnam (the house on the south corner of Marshall Street and Putnam Road). Rath Street in Putnam is named in his honour because of his years as Reeve.

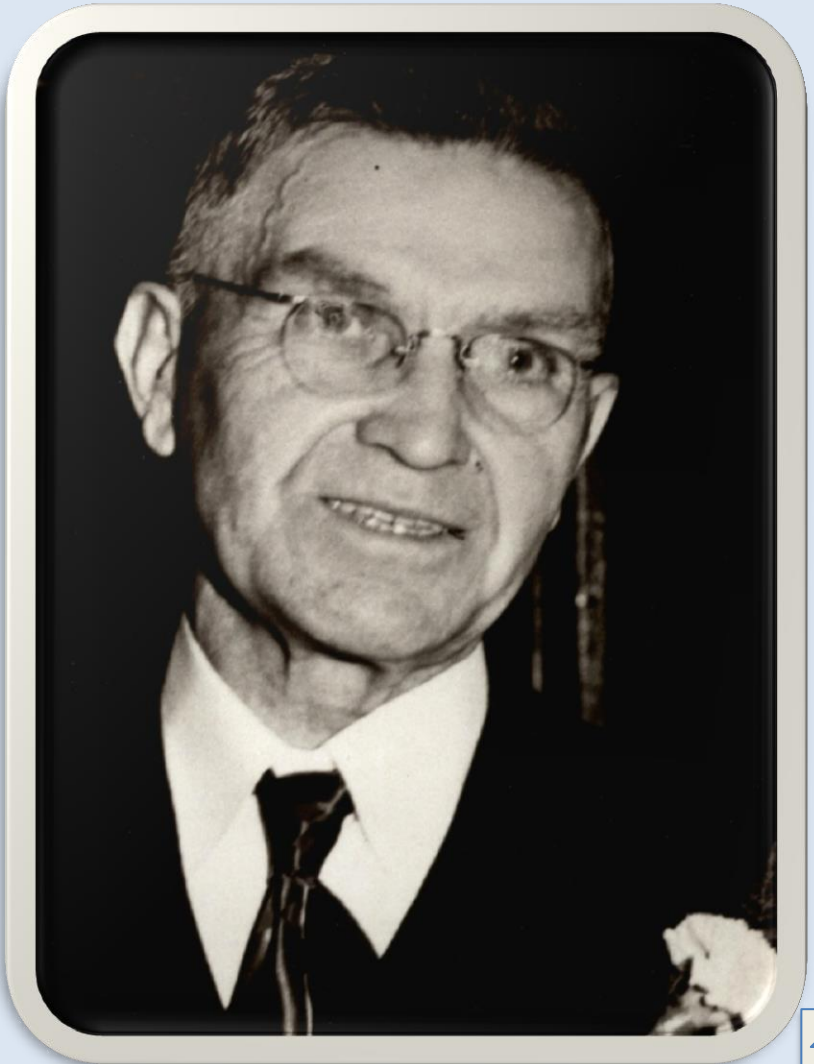


# George Lorne Shackleton 1947 - 1949

Lorne Shackleton (1882-1964) and his wife Maggie farmed and operated the Gladstone Red and White Store for 20 years until 1946, receiving much of their stock by train.

Lorne was Reeve of North Dorchester Township between 1944 and 1949 and cast the deciding vote which approved the building of the Fanshawe Dam in London.

He was a member of Thames River Conservation Authority; the Cheese Producers Association; the Hog Producers Association and the Canning Crop Association.



# George W. Roulston 1950

George W. Roulston (1879-1964)  
emigrated to Canada from Donegal, Ireland  
in 1882.

George married Clara Quait and they had  
four children, living on a farm in the  
Crampton area, Part Lot 3, Concession 4.

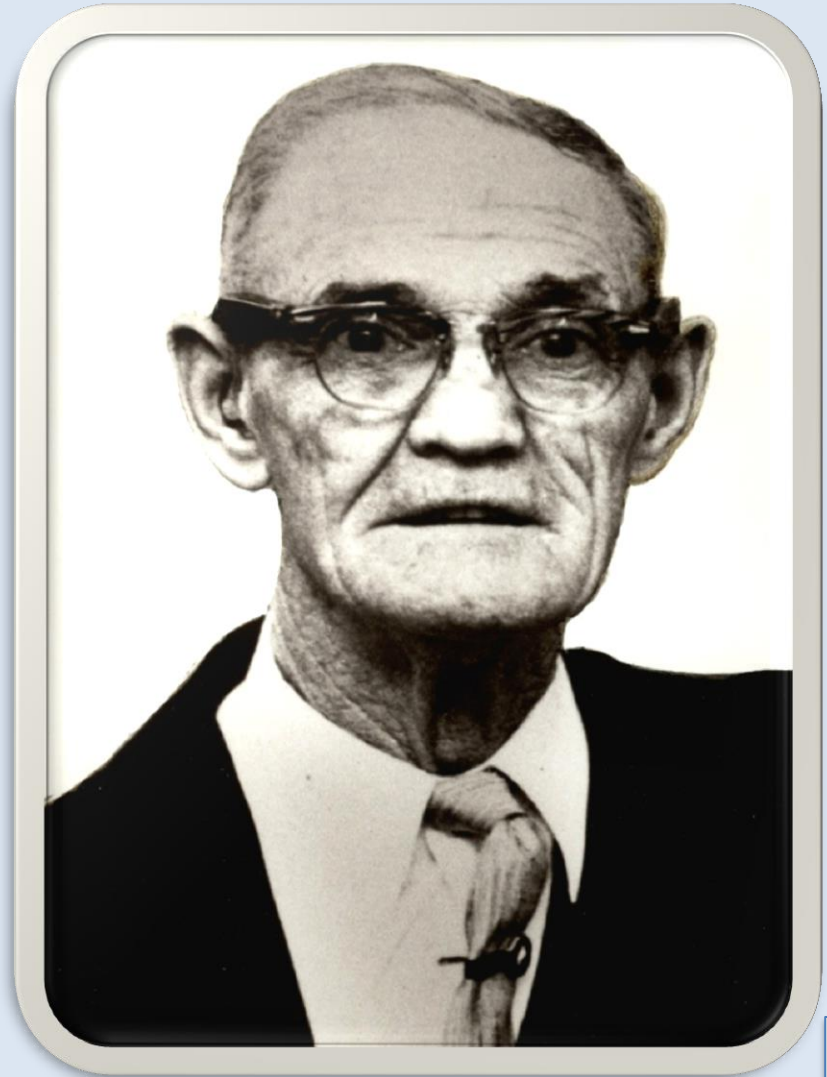


# Charles A. Hoyle 1951 - 1952

Charles Alexander Hoyle (1887-1976) was born in Ontario.

Charlie and his wife Evelena purchased a farm at S 1/2 Lot 5 Con 5 SRT, north-west of Avon and lived there until 1951, then moved to Avon to a two storey white house on the north-west corner of the village.

Charlie was an elder and long time church congregation secretary at the Avon United Church. He was District Deputy Grand Master of the Moffat Masonic Lodge No. 399 in Harrietsville. He served on Township Council for ten years and for some time as Township Reeve. Additionally, Charlie worked on bridge building projects in the area.



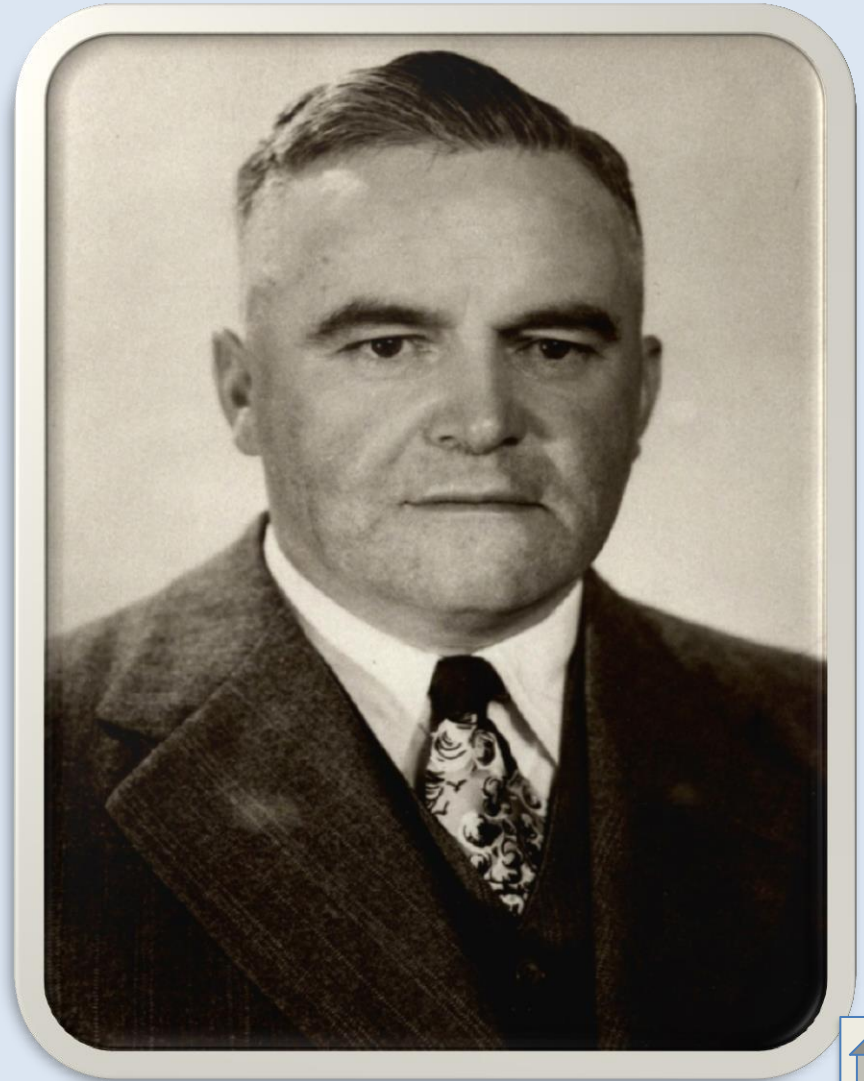


# John Calvin Sutherland 1953

Calvin Sutherland (1901-1955) was Reeve for only one year.

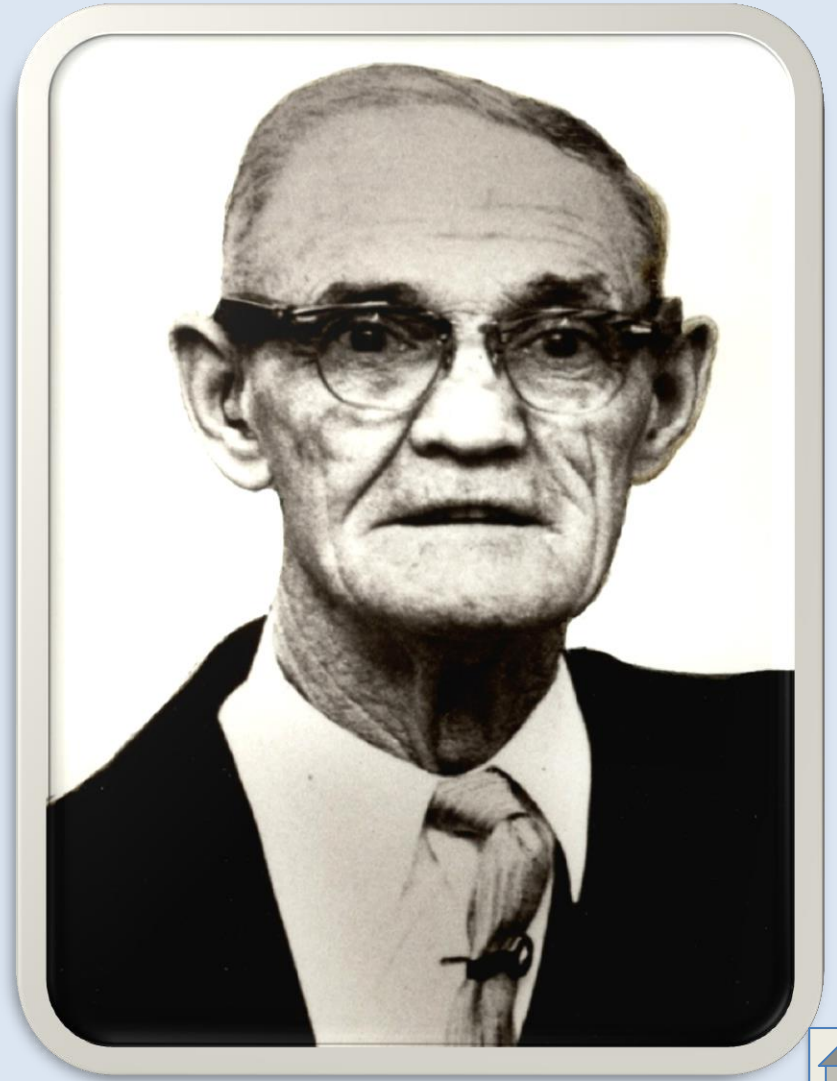
He and his wife Lillian (Hunt) raised three children on their farm at Concession 4, Lot 18, NRT.

Calvin's farm was designated a century farm, as many generations of Sutherlands lived there.



# Charles Hoyle 1953

Charles Hoyle (1888-1976) took over the duties of Reeve for the Township for the year 1953.

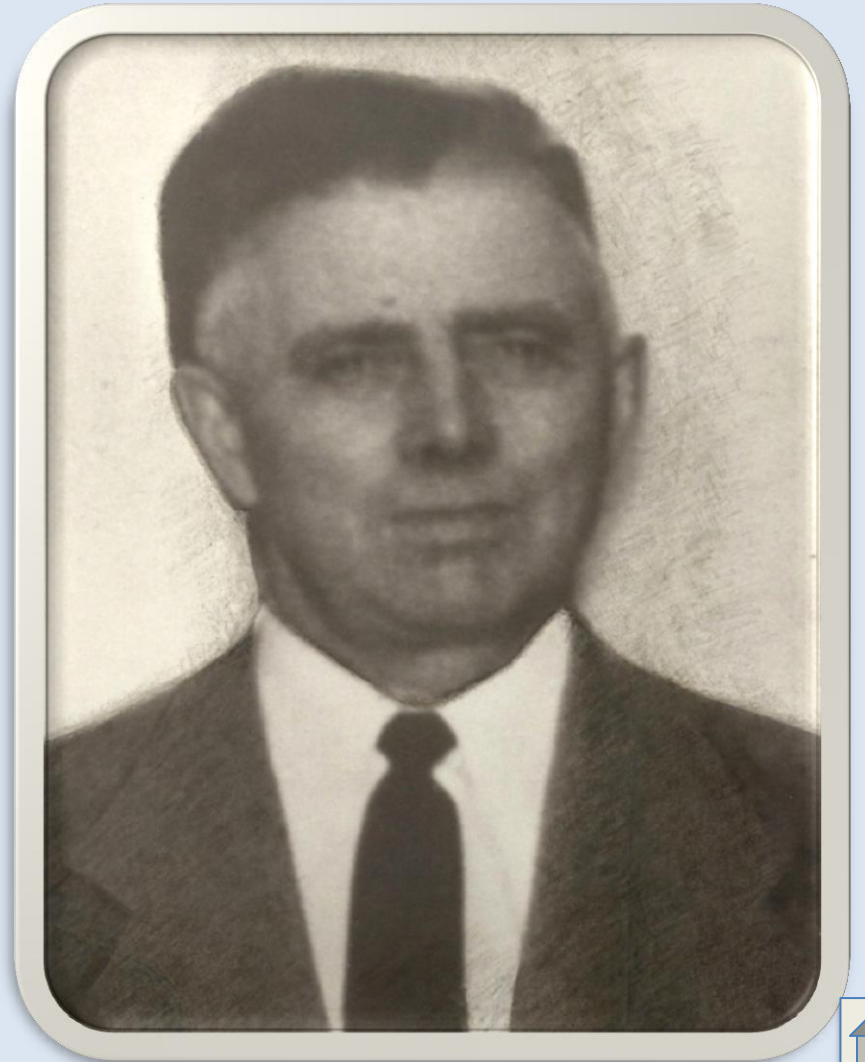


# Andrew S. Cromarty 1954 - 1956

Andrew S. Cromarty (1893-1960) was born in Scotland, emigrated to Canada in 1913 and settled in Toronto. There he married Margaret (Aitken).

Andrew and Margaret and their family (8 children) lived in Toronto, Windsor, Detroit and Blytheswood before coming to Dorchester. In 1948 they purchased the farm on the southwest corner of the Dorchester Road and Con 2 (now called Cromarty Drive), acquired some dairy cattle and began producing milk.

Andrew was involved in the Dorchester community: the Presbyterian Church, the Radio Farm Forum, and the North Dorchester Council.



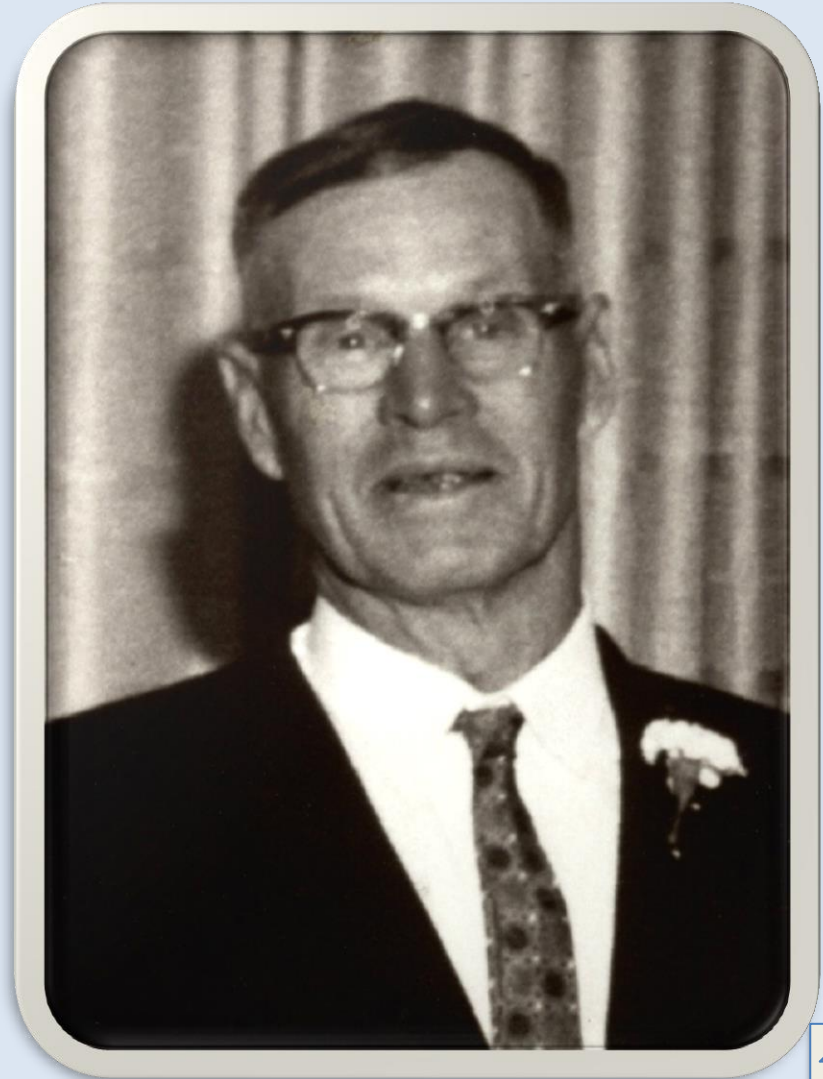
# John J. Wilson 1957 - 1958

John James Wilson (1895-1964) was Reeve of North Dorchester Township from 1957 to 1959.

Born on the family farm (100 acres as Pt. Lot 14, Conc. 2, NRT) and grew up helping with the cows, pigs, sheep and chickens as well as with the big vegetable garden and large orchard. John attended Patterson School on Conc. 1 NRT.

John was drafted into the Canadian Military in 1917 and served for some time. Once back in his community, John met and married Eva Pearl MacIntyre (1923) and had nine children.

John was a member of the Dorchester Presbyterian Church, the Dorchester Fair Board, the Forester Lodge (Banner), the Masonic Lodge and the School Board. He was also a member of the Township Council, serving as Deputy Reeve and Reeve.



# George Forbes 1959 - 1961

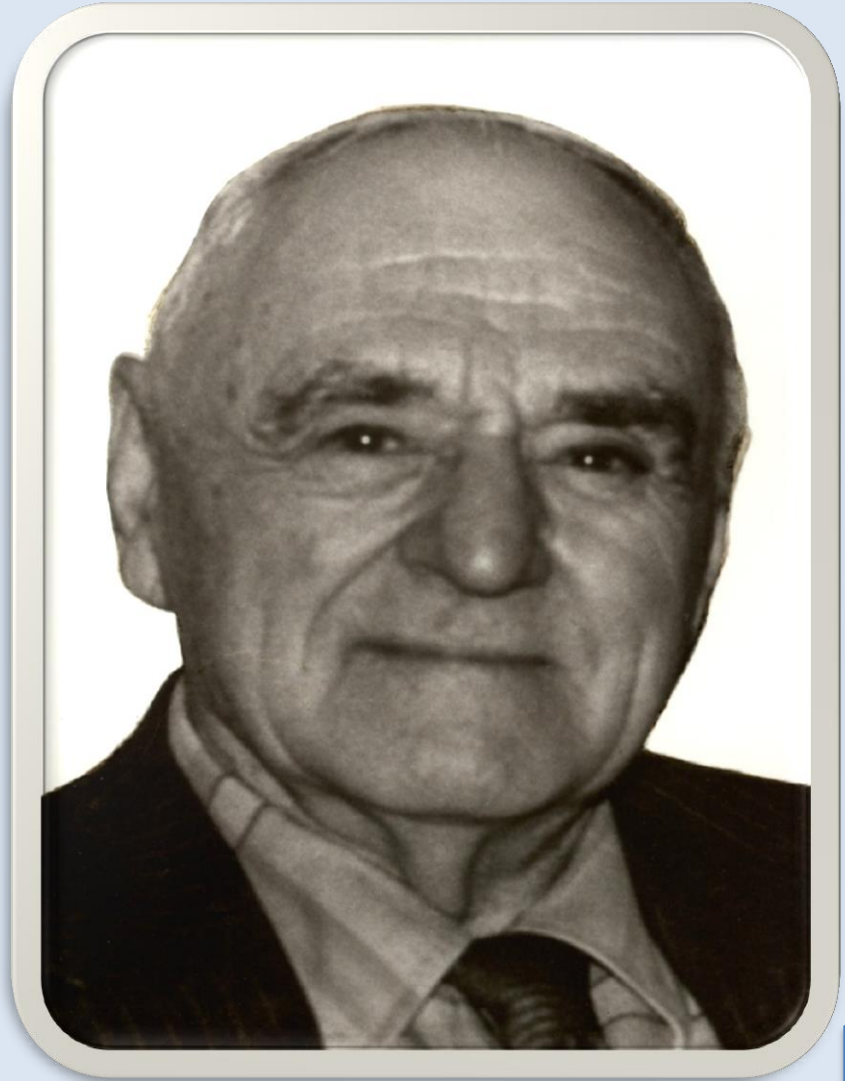
George Forbes (1900-1993) was Reeve of North Dorchester Township from the years 1959 to 1961.

George farmed and was very busy with community sports before getting involved in the political scene.

George was Reeve of the township during the years the City of London was annexing land on the west side of the township.

George and his wife Margaret retired to Thamesford in 1967 with gardening (raspberries and asparagus especially), church activities and lawn bowling keeping them occupied.

Forbes Road, a north-south road east of Putnam Road, connecting Crampton Drive and Cromarty Drive, was named for George Forbes.

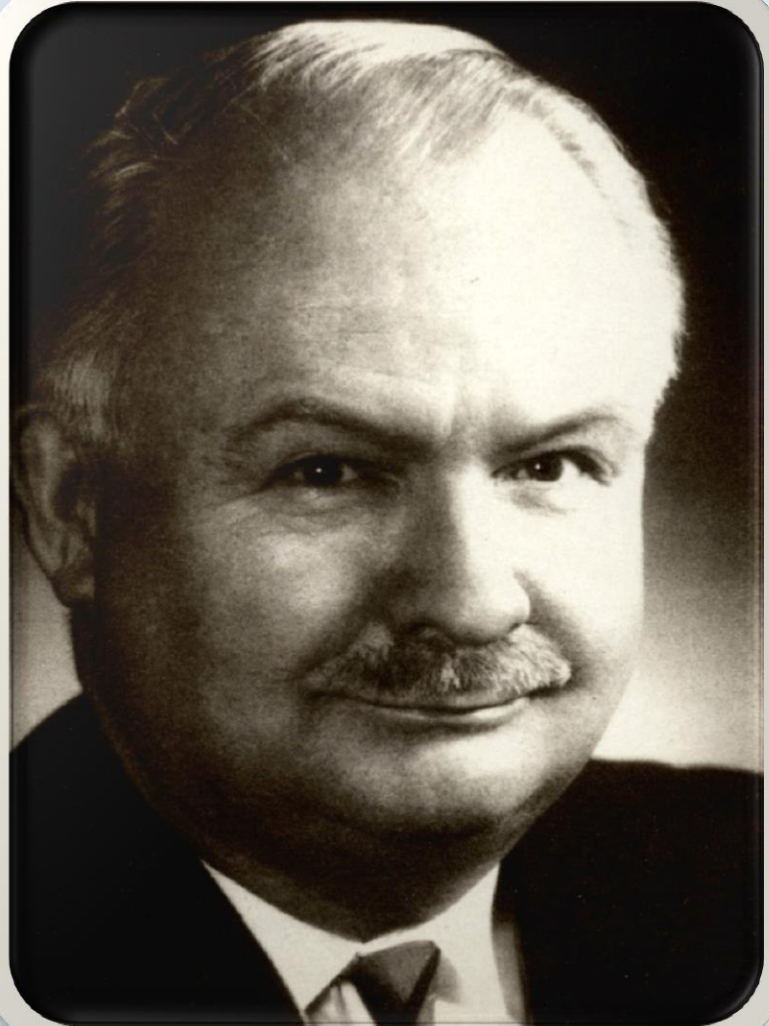


# Leo John Gent 1962 - 1963

Leo J. Gent (1911-1994) was a teacher for ten years before becoming a barrister in Dorchester and London, Ontario. Leo married Evelyn Munro and had one son, Donald.

Leo was very involved in community politics, serving on the North Dorchester Council, the Dorchester Fair Board, the Dorchester High School Board, the North Dorchester Planning Board, the Dorchester Village Trustees, the Dorchester Public Utilities Commission, and the Dorchester Hydro Electric System. Leo was a Middlesex County representative on the Victoria Hospital Board of Trustees. He was also a member of the Cub and Scout Council for many years.

Leo was also a Mason, being a life member of Merrill Lodge Number 344, Dorchester and Nilestown Lodge Number 345.



# Kenneth W. Martin 1964 - 1965

Ken was a principal with Martin & Gow, McFarlan-Martin and McFarlan-Rowlands of Dorchester.

Ken was a member of the original North Dorchester Volunteer Fire Department, joining in 1954 and serving to 1971. Ken held position of Deputy Chief for two years, from 1969-1971.

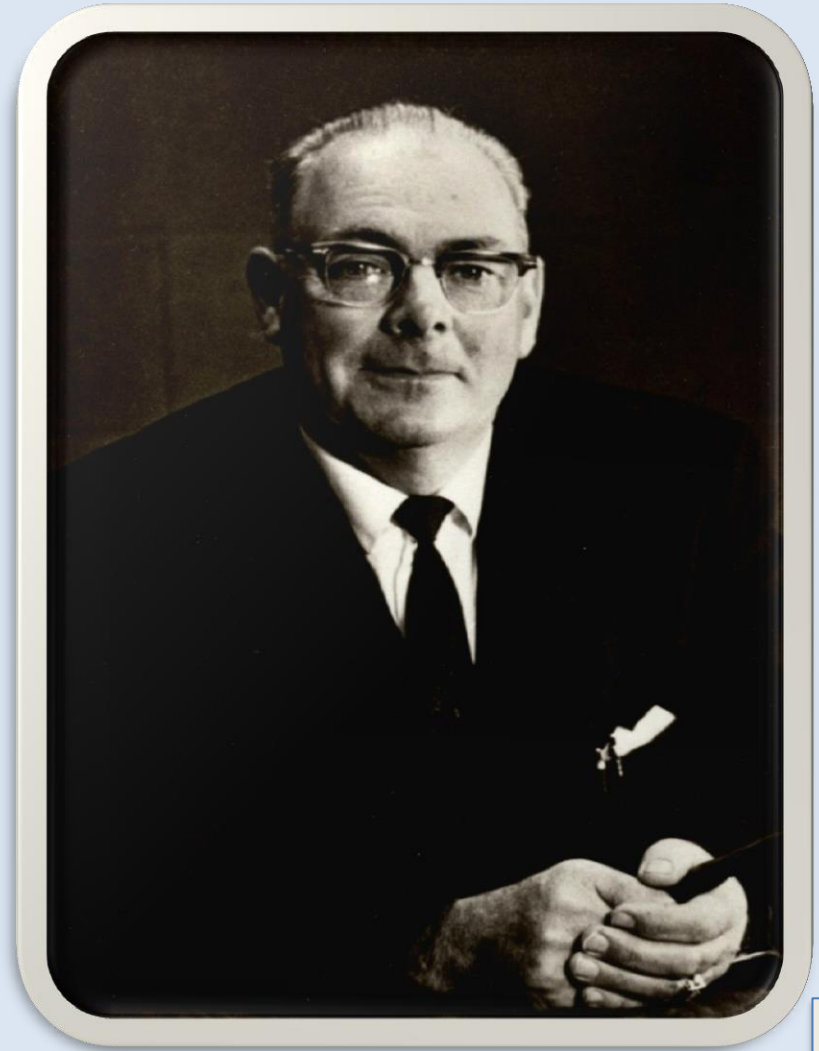


# Cyril Henry Pigram 1966 - 1969

Cyril Pigram (1910-1985) was born in London, England in 1910. He and his family immigrated to Canada in 1911 and Cyril grew up in the Putnam, Crampton, and Avon area. Cyril married Evelyn Corless in 1940 and settled his family on a farm near Avon. He also worked as a representative for the Mount Elgin Feed Company.

In 1970 Cyril built a new house in South Dorchester Township and continued his political interests as a councillor in that township in the 1970s.

The Pigram Road, the boundary road between Oxford and Middlesex Counties, near Avon, was named after the Pigram family.





# Edward Hamilton 1970 - 1975

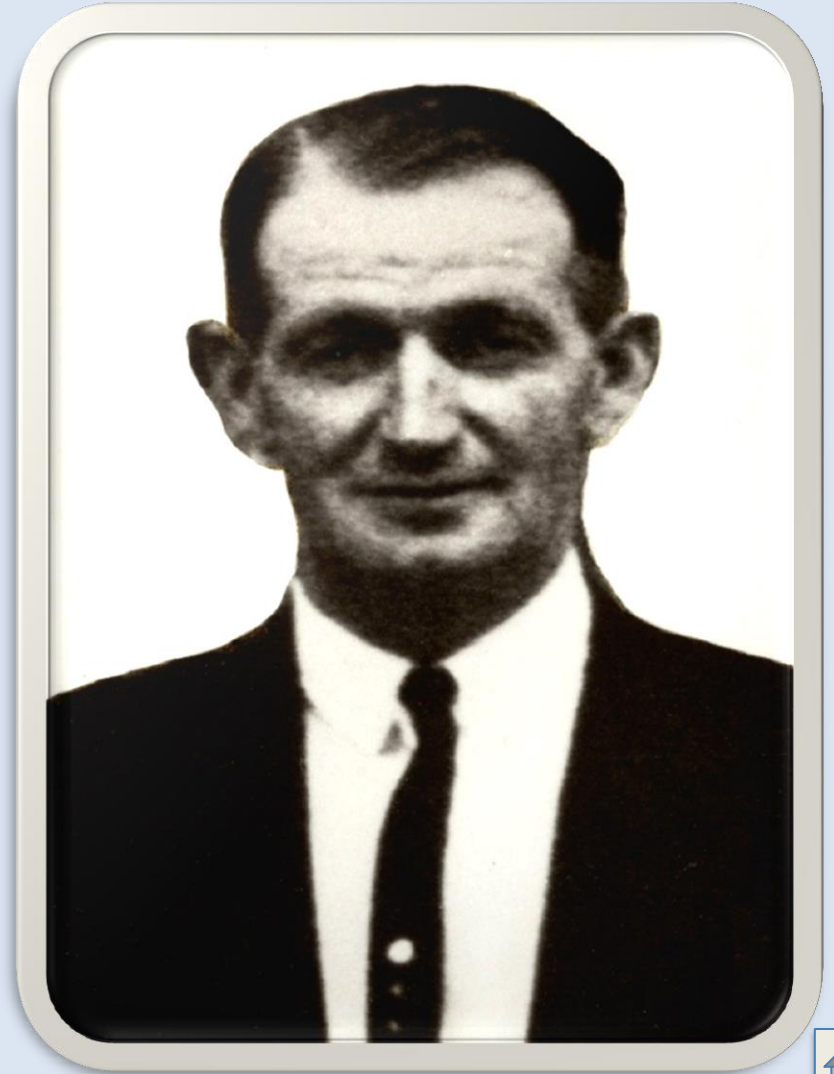
Edward Hamilton (1916-1975) emigrated as a young boy to Canada with his family from Firth of Forth, Scotland in the late 1920s.

Edward farmed on Concession 3 east of Mossley from the time of his marriage.

Edward chaired the North Dorchester 1967 Centennial Celebrations Committee before becoming Reeve in 1970.

Sadly, at age 59 a fatal accident occurred on Richmond Street when his southbound car collided with a train. The CNR crew was installing lines for safety signals when the accident happened. A new annex to the previous Township office was dedicated to his memory.

Edward's main interest was recreation and preservation of parkland.



# William Grieve 1975 - 1977

William (Bill) Grieve (1931) was born in Westminster Township, Ontario. He went to school in London, Ontario, married in 1953 and had 2 children. He grew up farming and became involved with the local 4-H, Junior Farmers, and the Middlesex County Junior Farmers, and the Middlesex Soil and Crop Improvement Association. Bill was the founding President of the Ontario Holstein Branch and a Past President of the Canadian Holstein Association. Bill was also an active member of the Western Fair Association.

His involvement in community politics included being elected as a School Trustee, a North Dorchester Councillor, a Middlesex County Warden, and Chairman of the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority.

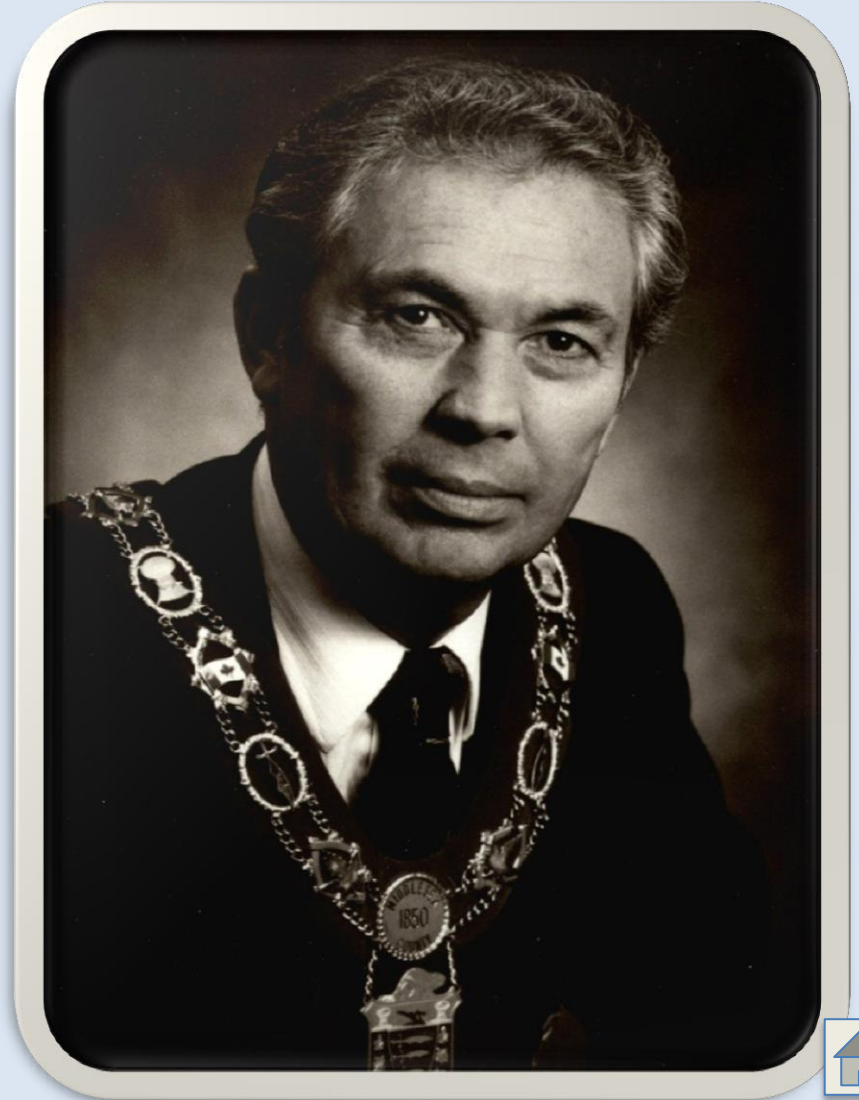


# William L. Lane 1978 - 1987

William Llewelyn Lane (1925) was born in Wales. “Bill” joined the RAF in 1941, coming to Quebec for gunnery training and meeting his future wife Anne (Stewart) who was there with the RCAF. After the war Bill and Anne married and moved to Thames Crescent in Dorchester in 1954.

Bill worked for Ontario Hydro for 35 years. Bill was a founding member and Past President of the Dorchester Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, receiving his 65 year pin in 2014. He was a Past Master of the Masonic Lodge, with 66 years as member. Bill also coached minor ball and hockey in the Dorchester community

Bill was Warden of Middlesex County in 1985. He also sat on the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Board, acting as Chairman from 1991 – 1993. Bill was also on the Dorchester Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Board.



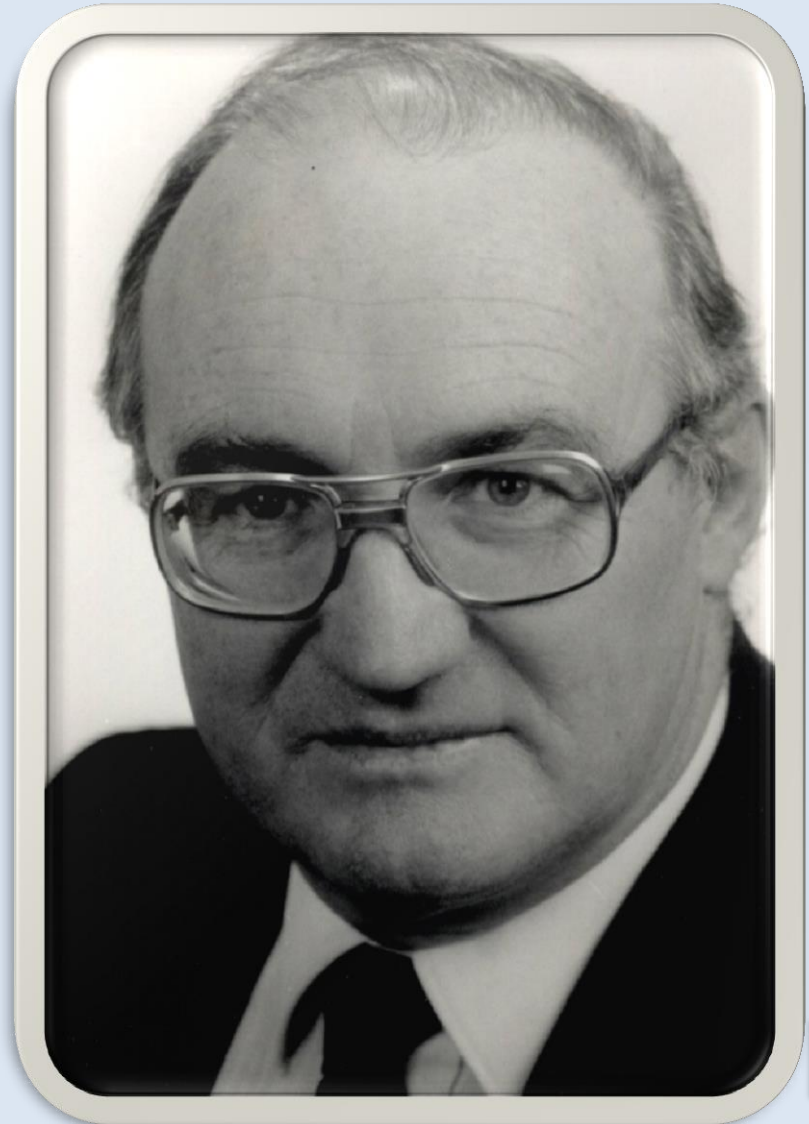
# William C. E. Irwin 1988 - 1991

William C. E. Irwin (1910-1995), known familiarly as Bill, managed a dairy farm with his family on Lot 8, Concession II, SRT. Bill served as Reeve of North Dorchester Township from the years 1988 to 1991.

As Reeve, Bill was very pleased to have been involved in the beginnings of the recycling program, the initial development of the Dorchester Trail, and in gaining access to the Mill Pond.

Representing the township on County Council, Bill was chairman of the Social Services Committee, and worked toward replacing Strathmere Lodge with a new facility.

Bill served as President of the Middlesex Federation of Agriculture in 1992.



# Christene McPherson 1991 - 1993

Christene (Chris) McPherson (1924-2005) was a legal secretary for many years before becoming employed by the former Township of North Dorchester, as Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer. Upon her retirement she continued her involvement with the Municipality, from 1988-1994; first as Deputy Reeve and then by acclamation to Reeve.

Chris was involved for many years with the Central Board of the Dorchester United Church, was Past-President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Donnybrook Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 513, and served on the Board of Directors of the London Middlesex Children's Aid Society from 1988-1994 and the Peel Region Board of Children's Air Society from 1994-1997.



# Alan Marr 1994 - 2000

Alan Marr (1939) served as Reeve of North Dorchester Township from 1994 to 2000. During Al's tenure, the Dorchester Trail was introduced, and the new Library was built. Al served for two years as Warden of Middlesex County (1996-1997).

Al and his wife Sandy managed a dairy farm on Concession 2 (Trafalgar Road) while raising their two children.

Alan has been a proud and active member of the Dorchester Lions Club for over forty years.



MAP OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF NISSOURI  
WEST

**Former Councils of  
West Nissouri Township  
1967 - 2000**



# 1967 - 1969



Doug Hogg (Councillor), Nelson Elliot (Councillor), J.C. Sutherland (Clerk),  
James Duffin (Reeve), Percy Jones (Deputy Reeve), Ken Ward (Councillor)



# 1969 - 1970



Murray Logan (Councillor), Nelson Elliot (Deputy Reeve), Percy Jones (Reeve), J.C. Sutherland (Clerk), Herb Hudson (Councillor), and Charles Nace (Councillor)

# 1971 - 1972



Ken Ward (Councillor), J.C. Sutherland (Clerk), Herb Hudson (Deputy Reeve), Nelson Elliot (Reeve), Hubert Schmidt (Councillor), and Charles Nace (Councillor)

# 1975 - 1976



Harold McCutcheon (Councillor), Nelson Elliot (Reeve), J.C. Sutherland (Clerk), Hubert Schmidt (Councillor), Herb Hudson (Deputy Reeve), and Charles Nace (Councillor)

# 1977 - 1978



J.C. Sutherland (Clerk), Glenn Foster (Councillor), Charles Nace (Deputy Reeve), Bill McDonald (C), Nelson Elliot (Reeve), and Harold McCutcheon (Councillor).

# 1979 - 1980



J.C. Sutherland (Clerk), John Elgie (Councillor), Bill McDonald (Councillor), Harold McCutcheon (Reeve), Glenn Foster (Deputy Reeve), Bill Donnelly (Councillor).

# 1979 - 1980



Brian Parsons (Clerk), Bill Donnelly (Councillor), John Elgie (Councillor),  
Harold McCutcheon (Reeve), Glenn Foster (Deputy Reeve), Bill McDonald (Councillor),  
Crawford Sutherland (Past Clerk)

# 1981 - 1982



Brian Parsons (Clerk), David Glover (Councillor), Herb Ivins (Councillor), Glenn Foster (Reeve), Bill Donnelly (Deputy Reeve), John Elgie (Councillor).

# 1983 - 1985



Brian Parsons (Clerk), Herb Ivins (Councillor), Glenn Foster (Reeve),  
Bill Donnelly (Deputy Reeve), David Glover (Councillor), Allen Budden (Councillor).



# 1986 - 1988



Brian Parsons (Clerk), Tony Nuttall (Councillor), Glenn Foster(Reeve),  
Allen Budden (Deputy Reeve), Peter McBirnie (Councillor), John Goris (Councillor).

# 1988 - 1989



Stewart Findlater (Clerk), Herb Ivins (Councillor), Virginia Clark (Councillor), Peter McBirnie (Reeve), John Goris (Deputy Reeve), Ron Abbott (Councillor).

# 1990 - 1991



Stewart Findlater (Clerk), Virginia Clark (Councillor), Herb Ivins (Councillor), Crispin Colvin (Councillor), Ron Abbott (Deputy Reeve), John Goris (Reeve)

# 1991 - 1994



Stewart Findlater (Clerk), Crispin Colvin (Councillor), Brenda Boyce (Councillor),  
Herb Ivins (C), Ron Abbot (DR), Allen Budden (Reeve)

# 1994 - 1997



Gordon Young (Councillor), Stewart Findlater (Clerk), Ralph Stephen (Councillor), Loretta Smith (Councillor), Peter McBirnie (Reeve), Crispin Colvin (Deputy Reeve)

# 1997 - 2000

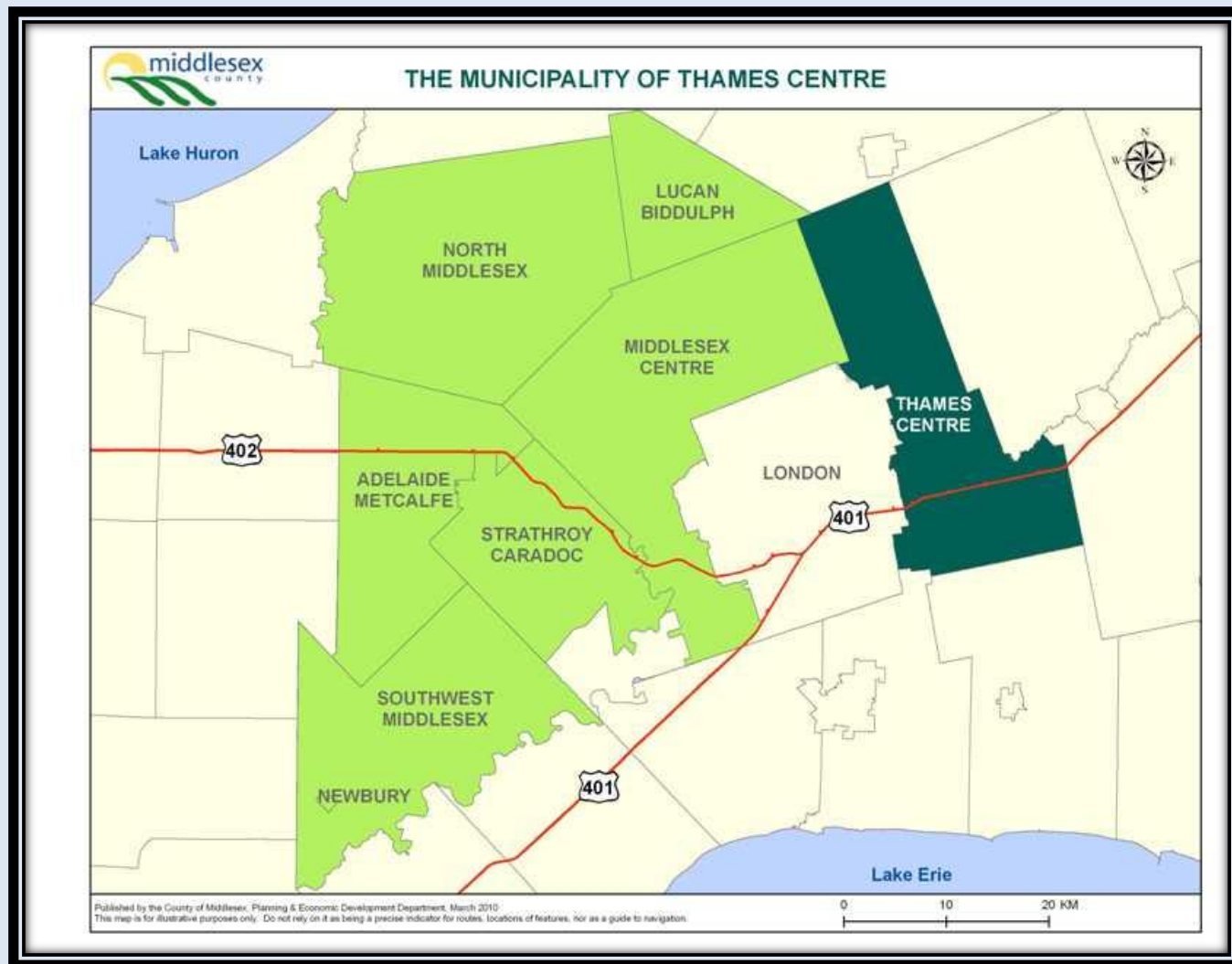


Harold McCutcheon (Councillor), Paul Marchello (Councillor), Crispin Colvin (Reeve), Murray Pickel (Councillor), Kevin Cavender (Deputy Reeve), and Stewart Findlater (CAO).

# Municipality of Thames Centre Amalgamation - January 1, 2001



# Mayors of the Municipality of Thames Centre





# Alan Marr 2001 - 2003

North Dorchester Township amalgamated with West Nissouri Township in 2001 to form the Municipality of Thames Centre.

Al was elected to serve as the first Mayor of Thames Centre.

One of Al's favourite non-political positions was being on the Board of Governors of the Western Fair District and chairing that Board from 2009-2011.



# Crispin Colvin 2004 - 2006

Crispin Colvin has lived in Thames Centre since 1971. He attended Fanshawe College and University of Western Ontario.

Crispin has been involved in municipal politics in both West Nissouri Township, and the Municipality of Thames Centre. He has been elected as a Councillor, Deputy Mayor, and also Mayor. Crispin was elected Warden of Middlesex County in 2000.

Crispin and his wife Marianne have two children. He has coached hockey and soccer teams. Before working in the municipality, he worked as a sales representative for Air Canada and also a bilingual travel consultant. Crispin is currently a board member for Fanshawe College.



# James (Jim) Maudsley 2006 - 2014

Jim entered municipal politics as a Councillor for North Dorchester Township in 1985 and served for three terms. He was elected as the last Deputy Reeve for North Dorchester in 1997. In 2006, Jim was elected as the Mayor of the amalgamated Municipality of Thames Centre. He served as Middlesex County Warden in 2009 and again in 2012. Jim also was a member of the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus.

Jim has played hockey, baseball and other sports through Huff'n Puff organization and the Dorchester Canadian Baseball League in Thames Centre.



# James (Jim) Maudsley 2014 - 2018

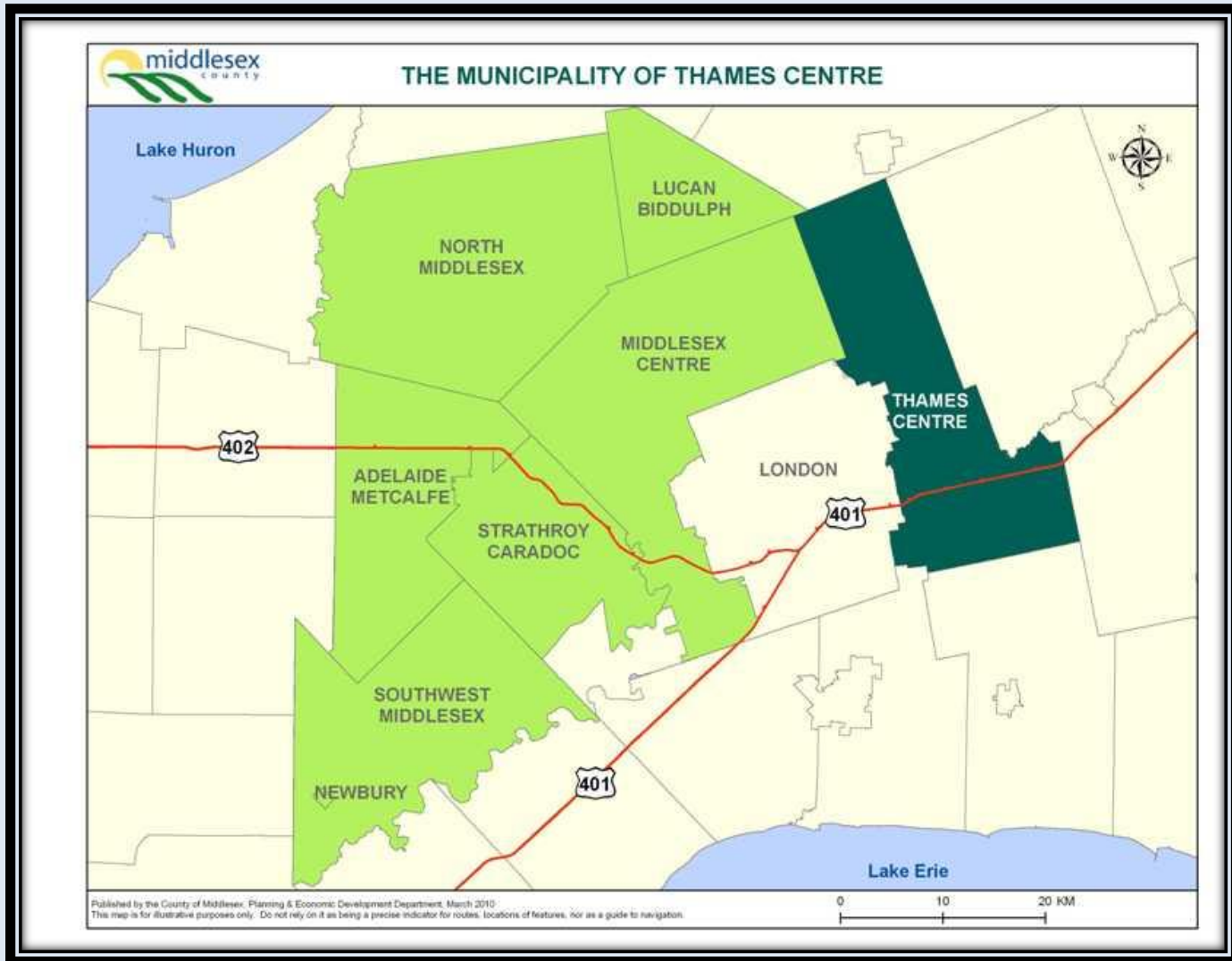
Jim Maudsley has lived in the Thames Centre community for 42 years, with his wife Linda, raising two children there.

Jim served as President of the London Heavy Construction Association three different times, then was made an honorary member. He has been Past-Director for the Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association, Past-Director for the Southwest Economic Alliance, and a Director for South Central Ontario Region (for the development and diversification of the economy).

Jim was also appointed to the Source Water Protection Committee for the Thames Sydenham Region.



# Councils of the Municipality of Thames Centre



# 2001 - 2003



Bill Tigert (CAO), Harold McCutcheon (Councillor), Marcel Meyer (Councillor),  
Dave Jones (Councillor), Michelle Smibert (Clerk), Al Marr (Mayor), Crispin Colvin (Deputy Mayor)

# 2003 - 2006



Ron Harris (Councillor), Harold McCutcheon (Deputy Mayor), Crispin Colvin (Mayor)  
Dick Nieuwland (Councillor), Marcel Meyer (Councillor).

# 2006 - 2010



John Regan (Councillor), Marcel Meyer (Councillor), Mike Bontje (Councillor)  
Jim Maudsley (Mayor), Delia Reiche (Deputy Mayor).



# 2010 - 2014



Chris Patterson (Councillor), Marcel Meyer (Deputy Mayor), Jim Maudsley (Mayor),  
Mike Bontje (Councillor), Angelo Suffoletta (Councillor).

# 2014 - 2018



Kelly Elliott (Councillor), Marcel Meyer (Deputy Mayor), Jim Maudsley (Mayor), Jennifer Coghlin (Councillor), Alison Warwick (Councillor).

# 2018 - 2022



Tom Heeman (Councillor), Kelly Elliott (Deputy Mayor), Alison Warwick (Mayor),  
Chris Patterson (Councillor), Paul Hunter (Councillor).

# Credits

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