

Stauffer, Keillor, Morrison, Foote and Rocke. The back room was the pill room. This house has a Wilmot Township Heritage Designation. A Heritage Plaque, surrounded by a garden, commemorates the founding of New Dundee.

22. The Grist Mill - 42 Mill Street (Site Only)



Behind the Doctors' house was The Mill. Frederick Millar built a grist mill in 1847. It became known later as the New Dundee Flour Mill. It was the first full

roller process mill in Ontario. The Hilborn Family bought the mill in 1901 and operated it for 62 years. The mill changed from a flour mill to a feed mill in 1936. It was operated by water power supplied by the dam. The building was 3 1/2 storeys high, 90 feet long and 40 feet wide. On May 28th, 1980 it burned to the ground, just before the village was celebrating its 150th Anniversary.

The New Dundee Walking Tour was originally a research project that was completed by grade 5 students at New Dundee Public School in 1986. Under the direction of their teacher, Marilyn Sararus and art teacher Trudy Huggins the students sketched the historical buildings pictured in this booklet. In 2006 Marilyn Sararus revived the project for this publication.

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Welcome to
**NEW
DUNDEE**

*Take a Step
Back in Time
and Discover
our Past*

Self Guided
**Walking
Tour**

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John Millar, the founder of New Dundee, was born in Dundee, Scotland. He came to this area around 1824. John and his brother Frederick saw the possibilities of damming the small river passing through the little valley where New Dundee now stands. On June 23, 1846 they purchased the "Mill Property". Together they dammed Alder Creek and flooded the mill pond. After they built the dam they named it New "Dundee" which means "in the hollow by the water".

1. The New Dundee Emporium - 169 Front Street



Built in 1887 by Gottlieb Bettschen and named "Jubilee Block" in honour of the 50th anniversary of Queen Victoria's reign, this building was known for years as the Herman Kavelman store. Mr. Kavelman purchased the building in 1915 and operated it as a general store until 1971. He sold candy for a penny a piece, bulk sugar, coffee, spices and "schnitz" apples among many other things. He stocked the store with floral prints for sewing. The library was located in the building as well. The Emporium has changed hands several times since 1971 but the original shelves, the floor, counters, bins and some of the first gas lights have been kept from the original store and continue to be a vital part of this building. The New Dundee Emporium has a Wilmot Township Heritage Designation.

2. Weber Carriage Works - The corner of Front & South Street (Site Only)

The Weber Carriage Works was founded by John Weber who came to Canada from Germany in 1854 and settled in New Dundee. He and his descendants

served the business community here for six generations. Mr. Weber bought a wood-working shop on South Street which was destroyed by fire in 1880. Mr. Weber manufactured buggies, carriages, wagons, sleighs and cutters. He rebuilt the business across the street from his original business (100 South Street). This building was the home of Big Buck Chick Hatchery and was sold in 1986.

3. The Harness Shop - 181 Front Street



William Spaetzel bought the harness shop on Front Street from Alexander McRae in March 1906. When Albert Fiederlein emigrated from Germany in 1927 he worked for Mr. Spaetzel. In 1934 Albert married Mr. Spaetzel's daughter, Idella, and gradually took over the business. He began to add groceries to the leather business. In 1946 he discontinued the leather work and commenced as a cold storage business. He and his son Robert operated the Red and White Grocery Store until 1991.

4. Hardware Store - 172 Main Street

The former hardware store is one of the oldest houses in New Dundee. It was built by John Millar in 1848 and in 1856 a post office was located there. Mr. Earl Coleman owned the hardware business for 58 years until his death in 1970.



5. The United Brethren Church - 28 Main Street

The United Brethren Church on Main Street was built in 1869. This Church organized the first English speaking Sunday School in the village in 1871. Ivan



Hilborn, a former owner of the New Dundee flour mills, served as treasurer for 52 years. A new foyer and an addition to the back were built in 1958.

6. The Blacksmith Shop - 12 Main St.



Several blacksmith shops operated in the village. The one remaining building was built and owned by Frederick G. Millar in 1847. Joseph Greulich owned this shop for almost 50 years and used it for shoeing horses until retiring in 1950.

7. St. James Lutheran Church - 1177 Queen Street

St. James Lutheran congregation was organized in 1859. The 90 year old original white frame building was dismantled in 1953 and the new church was built on the same site. Herman Kavelman served as church treasurer for more than 50 years.



8. The Baptist Church - 1173 Queen Street



This is the oldest church in the village. Built in 1862, it was supported by Philip Lautenschlager, Samuel Sararas, Andrew Poth and S.B. Eshelman. Each paid \$50 toward the \$200 purchase price. Services were conducted in the

German language until 1910. A brick veneer was added in 1934 and the original white frame building was turned from facing South Street to facing Queen Street. Mrs. Ruby Poth served as church clerk for 40 years.

9. School Number Three - 1531 Bridge Street (Site Only)

The third school was a white brick building built in 1896 on the present Bethel Missionary Church site. It had two classrooms, double desks, outdoor washrooms, a wood-burning stove and concrete front steps. On a cold wintery day in February 1928 it burned to the ground....the result of an over-heated stove.

10. Bethel Missionary Church - 1531 Bridge Street

Bethel Missionary Church is located on the site of the former public school. The church, formerly called Mennonite Brethren in Christ



Church, was built in 1878, on a farm outside of town at the corner of Bethel and Hallman Roads. In 1921 a new church was built at 1439 Bridge Street (now used as a business and dwelling). In 1967 the present church at 1531 Bridge Street was built. Earl Coleman, the former owner of the hardware store, served as treasurer for 43 years.

11. The Poth Furniture Store - 1148 Queen Street



The Poth Furniture business was started in a factory at the corner of Queen Street and Bridge Street by Andrew Poth in 1858. The building included rooms for the family, a furniture store and a factory. They made window frames, frames for couches, wooden sinks and coffins.

The undertaking business was carried on for three generations. The Poth Furniture store and factory was the village's oldest continuously operated business - 128 years.

12. Schools Numbers 1 & 2 Behind the Baptist Church, on South Street facing Square Street (Site Only)



New Dundee's first recorded school was built in 1850 on the land donated by Frederick Millar. The yellow wooden structure, faced east on Square Street,

had four rows of triple seats and a large box stove in the middle of the room. The second school was on the lot west of the original school. It was equipped with double desks and chair seats. The school was of board and batten construction. Both schools were also used as a church and meeting place.

13. The Creamery - The vacant lot on the corner of Queen and Bridge Street

The first creamery was in Ezra Thamer's store on Main Street. A small vertical boiler with a steam engine was used to operate the churn and scald



the utensils. The New Dundee Cooperative Creamery purchased Thamer's butter making equipment for \$575. A new building was opened at the corner of Benjamin and Front Streets in 1908. The annual butter production reached over one million pounds by 1930. In 1951 a roller milk drier was purchased to dry the skim milk, and the cream was used for butter-making. In 1955, cheese making began. The creamery closed in 1998 and was dismantled in 2005, ending a 90 year long history.

14. Former Bethel Missionary Church & Community Centre - 1439 Bridge Street



In 1921 a new church, costing \$13,000 was built on Bridge Street. In 1967 the congregation decided to relocate and build a modern brick church on Bridge Street West. In 1968 the community raised funds to purchase this building which was used as a Community Centre until 1988 when a new centre was built on Queen Street South. Presently the church has been revitalized and is used as a dwelling and a manufacturing business of hot air balloons which are shipped around the world.

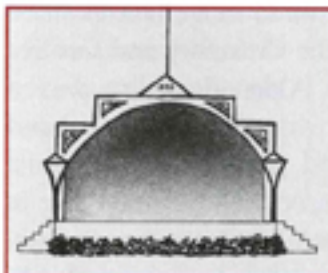
15. New Dundee Public School - 1430 Bridge Street

The fourth school, built by Anson Hallman, had four rooms and opened November 1928. The top storey classrooms housed the Continuation School. The two lower classrooms were the primary grades.



In 1955 Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School was opened at Baden. The older students then attended W.O. and all four classrooms were used for the elementary school. An addition to the original school was opened in 1966 when the amalgamated school board was formed.

16. The New Dundee Park



In 1934 a New Dundee Community Park association was formed. Three and two thirds acres of land were purchased from Aaron Duench for \$410. Expenses were met by

staging Garden Parties. In 1944 the bandshell was made of rock finish cinder blocks and was constructed by the citizens of the community. In 1946 a fund was started for the memorial gates. The gates were built in memory of the men from the area who lost their lives in World War II. The historical plaque commemorates William J. Wintemberg, an outstanding Canadian archaeologist, born in New Dundee in 1876. He gained international recognition as an authority on Iroquois Indian history.

17. The James Brown House - 328 Main Street



The house was one of the first built in the village in 1832 by John Millar in which he operated a store. This house is a Georgian two and one-half storey. It is believed that Mr. Millar built a school on this property. Although remodelled, it still stands on the farm of James Brown on the east side of the village.

18. Alder Lake - Main Street

Alder Lake was created in 1830 by the Millar brothers when they dammed the creek and opened their sawmill. A new bridge was built in 1916 and flood gates were installed in 1934. The lake was popular for skating, fishing and ice fishing. In the early 1900s curling and horse races with cutters were popular winter sports. Ice cutting was big business in those days too. The blocks were stored in ice houses filled with sawdust and used by the Creamery and farmers in the area. At one time Alderside Point was a Park and drew large crowds for summer band concerts, garden parties and picnics. The Optimist Club of New Dundee purchased 10 Alderside Drive in 2002 to establish parkland once again on this beautiful lake.

19. The Buck Lautenschlager Store - 190 Main Street (Site Only)

The Buck and Lautenschlager Store, a large frame building built in 1877, was located near the dam. Its first owner was James Wing who maintained a tailor shop where men's made-to-measure suits and ladies' bonnets were designed and hand sewn. Mr. Wing was the post-master when the post office moved to his store. In 1904, when Ezra Thamer took ownership, the store was the site of the first Bell Telephone exchange in New Dundee. It was here that Mr. Thamer started the first creamery. The store burned down in 1931.



20. The Bakery Shop - 179 Main Street



The Hill Brothers operated a bakeshop in this red brick house until the early 1940s. Mr. Karl Koch continued the business for the next ten years. He was well known for his horehound, candy canes and Easter eggs. The building reflects Waterloo County Georgian architectural styles with two and one-half storeys and turned back eaves.

21. The Doctor's House - 27 Mill Street

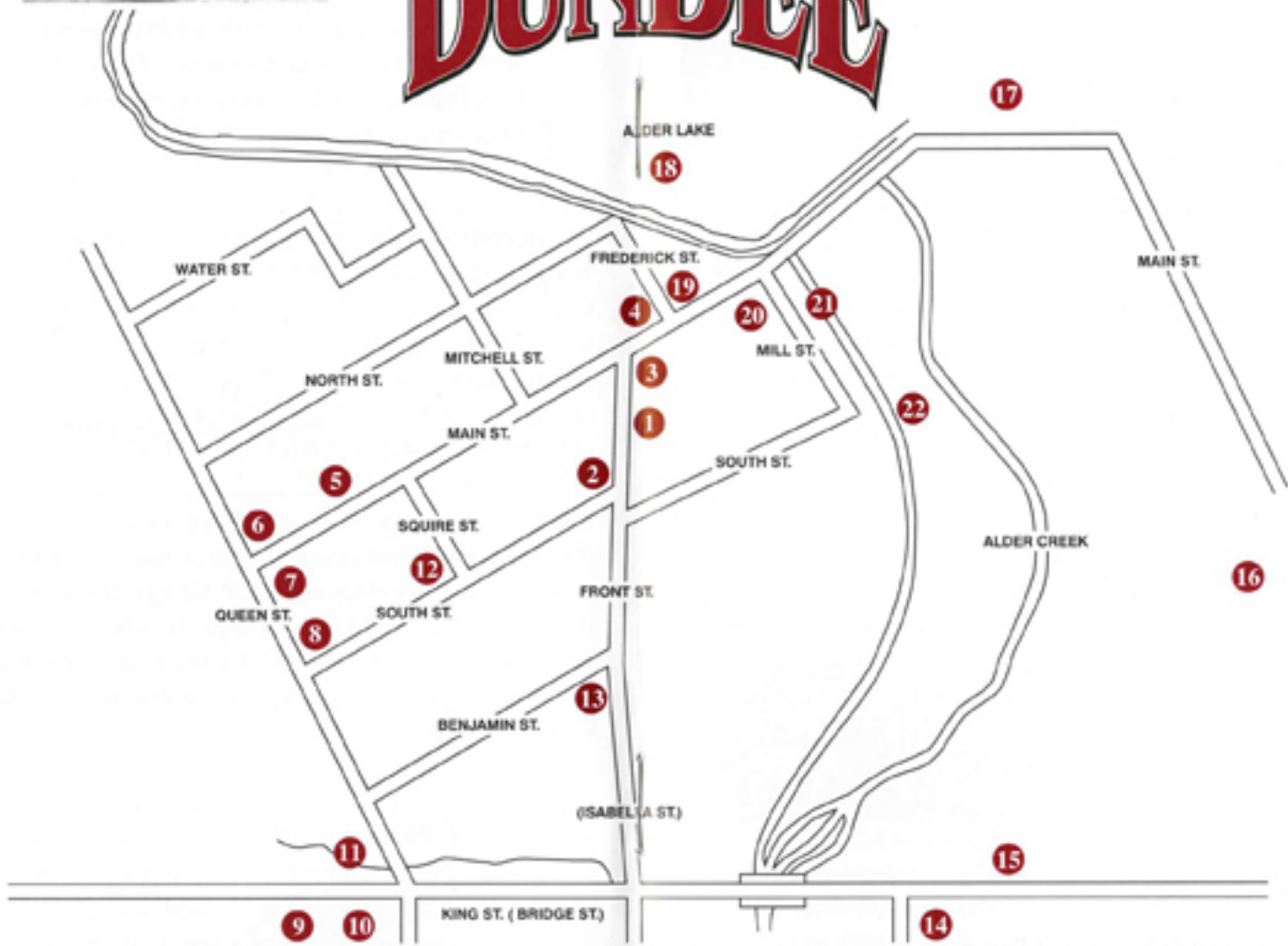
The Doctors' House was built by Frederick Millar around 1850. It has a board and batten construction - a design introduced in Canada in the early 1800s.



It is a fine example of Carpenter Gothic architecture. The doctors who lived there were Miller, Ratz, Rice,



NEW DUNDEE



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