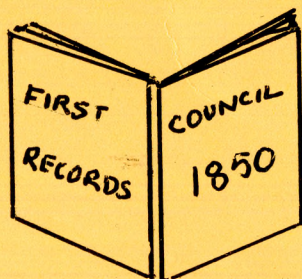
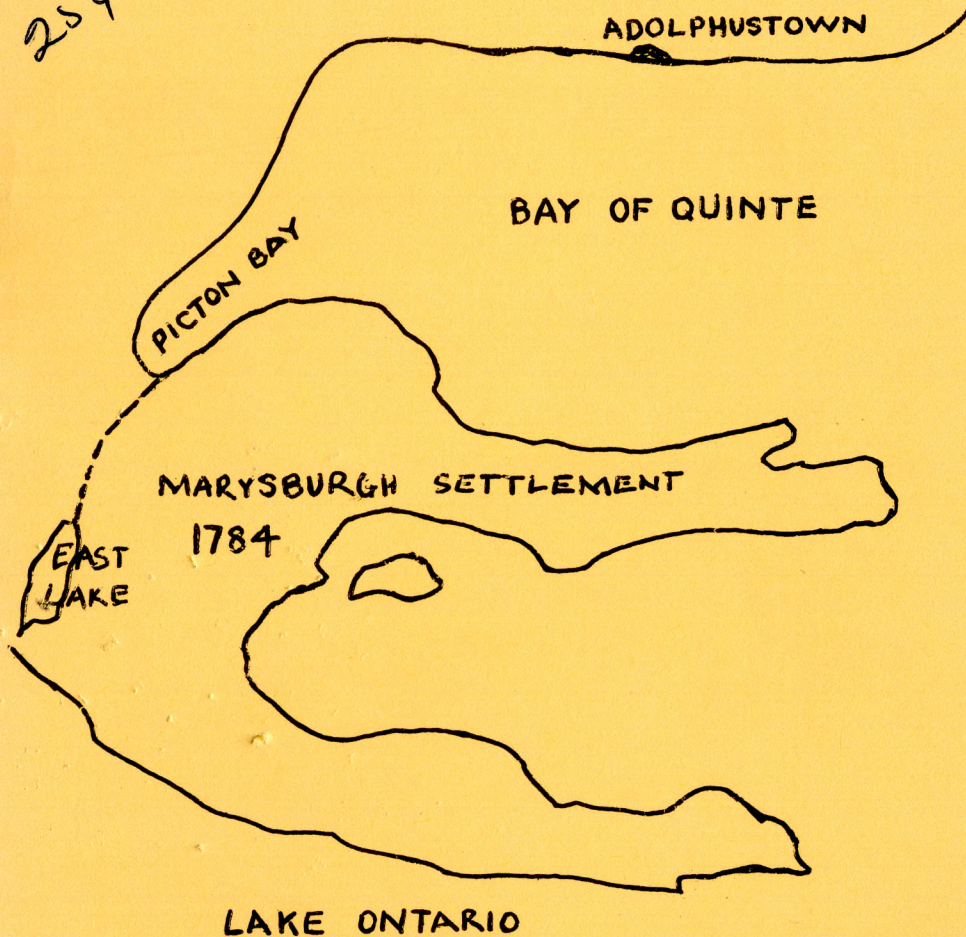


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Through the Courtesy of the Regional Tourist Association
and Marysburgh Museum Board

"THE SETTLEMENT OF MARYSBURG - 1784"

The American troops were in a disorganized and pitiful state after the siege of Quebec in May 1776. On the other hand Carleton had considerable re-enforcements as several regiments had arrived from Ireland and England to swell the British forces and were commanded by Major-General John Burgoyne. Besides more than four thousand German troops furnished by the Duke of Brunswick and the Prince of Waldeck and commanded by General Riedesel, were scheduled to arrive in Canada later in the season of that year. This is the source from which we got our first German settlement in Upper Canada.

The British government had during the war procured some foreign troops from German principalities upon the Rhine, mostly from Hesse, Prussia and Brunswick. This Foreign Legion was under the command of General de Reidesel of their own country. The British governments of the principalities and the men did not volunteer but were pressed into service. These soldiers were drilled before leaving their own country and were composed of infantry, artillery and rifle companies - "Green Yongers"! They were embarked for Canada by way of Portsmouth and reached Quebec in time to join the British Army and meet the enemy at Stillwater. They accompanied Burgoyne on his eventful campaign, were at the Battle of Ticonderoga and many were taken prisoners at Saratoga. They were taken down to Virginia and there retained as prisoners of war for nearly two years. Being released on parole, many of them were conveyed back to Germany, but some having the alternative offered to the disbanded troops preferred to remain in America to share with the Loyalists in grants of land.

The German troops of whom there had been ten battalions or detachments quartered in the province, were embarked for Europe early in August, 1783, in a fleet of twenty-five ships leaving behind them about forty-eight who preferred to become settlers in Upper Canada.

Prince Wilhelm Von Hesse had sold the small Hanau Regiment to England. After the war, the twenty-nine men, seven women and nine children and three servants came with Lieutenant McDonnell's settlers to Fifth Township (Marysburgh) to form the first German Settlement in Upper Canada.

From "Papers and Records Vol. 1 - Ontario Historical Society P. 16 - the following names are listed:

David Abraham	John Benth	Seigman Bouman
Ernest Claprod	Gaspard Claus	John Daudorf
Martin Desider	Bernar Englehart	Eberhart Fride

William Gerbig	John Greenwater	Peter Hailman
Gootfr. Heh	Henry Heineman	Henry Homerman
Goteleb Malb	Mames Melsah	John Mermel
Philip Keller	John Konig	John Lotz
Fred Meinacke	Andrew Moeller	Fred Michwald
Gottlieb Saupe	Nicholas Schlutz	Christopher Sonnerthat
James Vanert		

and the German leader Baron de Reitzenstein.

Along with the Hessian regiment were the tag ends of other Regiments who were assigned to Fifth Town under Lieut. Archibald MacDonell of the 84th Regiment. This Foreign Legion along with the Loyalists and other disbanded British Troops had been stationed at Three Rivers, Sorel and the Cedars waiting for spring when the river would be navigable. In June 1784, they arrived at Adolphustown (4th Town) after a very wearisome journey up the St. Lawrence mostly by batteaux. They had to remain there until Fifth Township was surveyed. It was October before they were able to proceed across the Bay and take up their land allotted to them.

The two following letters will describe best their desperate circumstances. In a letter dated August 1, 1784, Baron de Reitzenstein describes to General Haldimond the unhappy situation of the Hessians "qui est a tout egard infiniment plus dure que celle des Loyalistes Les Loalistes, estant pourvus du gouvernement des couvertes et res Hardes, quoiqu'ils etoient auparavant mieux fournis de ces effets que les pauvres soldats, aiant eu l'avantage d'avoir leur menages en ordre, puisqu'ils etoient depuis un tems considerable dans un endroit fixe, sent en etat de se garantir de la rigueur du tems, et aux mauvaises vapeurs, que la tene apres la plute et les brouillards se frequent par ici, exhalent."

The pitiable condition of these settlers is described in Lieut. Archibald McDonnell's letter to Sir John Johnson, dated Sept. 20, 1784. He states: "The British Disbanded Troops settled on the west side of the Bay of Kenty will, in cold weather, be reduced to the greatest distress for want of clothing; some of them have not even a blanket to cover them from heavy rains and pinching frost or to hold out the damp of the ground they lie upon. Another object of great consequence to them is the want of a blacksmith to make and repair their axes, hoes, and agricultural implements. They are at a great distance from any immediate relief, some of them at thirty miles distance by land, exclusive of three miles by water."

It is impossible to state the exact number of Germans who settled here; but judging from accounts and the names taken from the Grantee's List, it is surmised there were about forty. In this army of mercenaries were also a number of Dutch.

Owing to the fact that they spoke the German language and intermarried they were all regarded as Germans in this country.

The following is a list of a few whose descendents have remained in this area with the Loyalists and the other Disbanded British Troops.

Under Lieut. McDonnell they formed the nucleus of the German settlement:

Conrad Bongar (Bungar)	Christopher Peterson
Fred Lewis	Henry David
Charles Minaker (Meinecke)	John Kroekel
Casper Mouck	Henry Smith (Schmidt)
Philip Keller	Henry Davis
Edward Powers (Powess)	Andrew Hesse
Jeremiah Storms	Henry Heineman
Andrew Moeller	Tobias Snyder
Henry Zimmerman	Sigismund Bowerman (Borman)

On a map of Marysburgh compiled by Dr. C. E. Stothers of Islington from a collection of the Ontario Department of lands and Forests maps last year show the original Marysburgh with the lots and the names on them for the year 1784. Map "A 26" in the collection of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests shows settlers' names written on each lot. The group of maps labelled "C 37" in the Ontario Archives present some variations. Map "A 26" shows Marysburgh as a part of the District of Mecklenberg while Map "C 37" shows it to be part of the Midland District as it was later. Map "A 26" shows the boundaries of Marysburgh as a line through Picton Bay extending to East Lake and through East Lake. This means that parts of Hallowel and Athol and all of North and South Marysburgh were in the Marysburgh of 1784.

There is no difficulty in showing the exact lot on which the German settlers named in this article are located.

The Hessians were not Loyalists and they were often made to feel this by not receiving the same allowance of land and by the behaviour manifested toward them by the Loyalists. They received land gratis but when the title deed was given a sum of £5 was demanded, being the amount of expenses involved at the time of their enrollment into the service. This was protested against on the floor of parliament but to no avail.

Concerning the religious life of the Hessians an historian of the district says "but while few, or no books of a secular nature were brought by the settlers, a large number true to their conscience, carried a copy of the Bible, even many of the disbanded soldiers had one, especially the Lutherans. These were in the German language. Some of these venerable and

sacred relics we have seen, one in German which belonged to Bongard of Marysburgh". The same writer says further concerning this Lutheran man, "Conrad Bongard became the servant of Surveyor Holland. Bongard married a widow, by the name of Carr, whose husband had been in the 24th regiment of Royal Fusiliers, and had died while a prisoner in Virginia. He eventually settled in the fifth township, where he died January 1846, aged 89 years. His wife, Susan, died February 1846, aged 98 years. Both were members of the Lutheran Church which was situated on Lot 16 west of The Rock, Marysburgh. The Rose Homestead now known as the Marysburgh Museum is on the same lot.

The youngest daughter, Christiania, of Conrad and Susan Bongard married Peter Rose on whose farm the Lutheran Church was situated. The following is an excerpt taken from a newspaper clipping some years ago entitled "Pioneer Woman". (Christanna Bongard Rose) - born 1794. "She received some education enabling her to read both the English and German languages freely, both of which she could use well. Her teacher was a Lutheran minister named Myers who followed the scattered members of his flock from their homes on the Hudson to their abode in the wilderness, and on the very farm which afterwards became the property of her second husband and her present home, had erected a church where he taught this subject along with the children of the Hessian settlers of that neighbourhood - "The Rock", "North Marysburgh".

Anglicans, Methodists and Lutherans had in the meantime brought in their own pastors and built churches at Hay Bay and Bath. Langhorn, the first resident Anglican clergyman, is known to have preached to the people of this area in the Old Log Church. Weigandt, or Wiant as he was sometimes called, and Myers both Lutheran ministers served the settlers of this area. Their sermons were delivered in the German language. The Rev. Frederick Myers, a son of the former, received his training under his father. He married a daughter of Henry Smith (Schmidt) and went to Morrisburg to serve the Lutherans there. Weigandt also left this area.

Many of the Lutheran adherents who were Anglican and Methodists went to join members of their own churches. The Lutheran congregation became too small to carry on. The church was closed and used for other purposes for a few years.

When the owner of the property, namely Peter Rose, wanted to build a house, he tore down the log building that had been a church and used the twenty-four foot spare logs for the framework of his house. There some of them may be seen to-day in the "Marysburgh Museum". Directly to the south, near the shore is the "Rose Cemetery" or what used to

be know as the "Old Dutch Burying Ground." Here lie the remains of some of the first German soldiers who died, along with the first Loyalist settlers and their descendants of this area. (Marysburgh).

The wooden markers have long since diisappeared and we have only the word that has been passed down from one generation to another.

Geographically the site of the Old Lutheran Church and the Burying Ground is the centre of the First German Settlement in Upper Canada. This was the reason for establishing the Marysburgh Museum at this particular place.

Compiled by
Mrs. Malcolm Love
Picton RR4, Ontario
North Marysburgh Township of Prince Edward County

References from:

1. Canada's Soldiers 1604-1954 by G. F. G. Stanley.
2. Wm. Canniff - "Settlement of Upper Canada".
3. Edwin C. Guillet - "Early Life in Upper Canada".
4. Papers and Records - Vol. 1 - Ontario Historical Society.
5. Maps from Dept. of Lands and Forests.
6. Maps from Ontario Archives, Toronto.

MARYSBURGH RECORDS

1850 - First Township Council.

Milford

First council to succeed the district councils - 1850.

Reeve - Andrew Wycott.

Councillors - James Clapp, John Hicks, E. Wright, Alexander Shannon.

Clerk - Palen Clark.

Auditors - Henry Dingman, Thomas Cook.

School Superintendent - Dr. Robert Whitley.

Tax Collector - John Rose, (Stephen Clark last).

Treasurer - Thomas Welbanks.

Assessor - John Dingman.

By-Laws to Establish Rules of Procedure.

Opening or closing roads.

Running at large of animals.

Height of fences (4'4"), 5" between rails for 3' and 8" between rails above 3').

Duties of Assessor and Collector.

Rules for Statute Labour on roads.

Relief for Indigents.

Overseers of Highways (Pathmasters) for 1850:

Fegan Welbanks	Lewis Minaker	Geo. Williams
Thos. Welbanks	Henry Dingman	Robert Carson
John Minaker	Wm. Griffith	Daniel McLaughlin
Jas. Rose	Phillip Keller	Samuel Farrington
Martin Vanblaricum	Patrick McCauley	Thos. Wattam
Peter Mouck	Calvin Carson	Herman Spafford
Henry Fluke	John Palen	Jacob Starks
Jas. Shepherd	Frederick Pringle	David Spafford
Bernard MacAvoy	Frederick Rose	Jas. Gallagher
John Palmatier	Garrett Dingman	Nemiagh Brown
Michael Mouck	John McCaw	Fred'k Hill
Samuel Anderson	Wm. Minaker	David Welbanks
Robert Thompson	Bernard Demore	Andrew Dulmadge
Allen Dame	Dorland Clark	John Ellis
Samuel Carsan	Peter Denard	Francis Dunning
Robert Miller Sr.		

Poundkeepers for 1850

Benjamin Blakeley	John Harrison	Conrad Bongard
Frederick Bongard	Philip Dulmadge	John Palen
Joseph Grooms	David Hudgins	Bernard Demore
Henry VanVlack	George Mouck	John Ellis
Samuel Nugent	Lewis Minaker	Francis Dunning
Joseph Clapp	John Hinerman	Charles Anderson
Elias VanVlack	Henry Ackerman	Spencer Richards
James Rose	Andrew Minaker	Daniel Carson
John Johnson Sr.	Andrew Denard	Frederick Hill
Wm. Turner	John Prinyer	William Wattam
Thomas Whattam	Athen Martin	John Kerr Sr.
Matthew Hicks	Andrew Kerr Sr.	Willet C. Denard
James Collier	Nicholas Lighthall	Garrett Garrison

Fence Viewers for 1850

Allen Dame	Peter David	Alexander Vanalstine
Robert Thompson	David Spadford	Richard Lobb
Robert Taylor	Jacob Rattan	John Thompson
L. W. Nichols	Rowlen Jackson	David Hicks
Stephen Clark	Nelson Dodge	John Cannon

Marysburgh Council - 1851

(By-law licensing taverns)

Reeve - Palen Clarke

Councillors - Andrew Wycott
Edward Wright
John Hicks
William Kerr

Clerk - Richard Lobb

Collector - James Ackerman (£6/5/0)

Treas. - Hazelton Richards (£6/5/0)

Election expenses - £3/19/10.

Wards-Rock, Mountain, Island, Milford, Long Point.

Notes from Marysburgh Council 1850

First Meeting Jan. 21st, 1850

Jan. 21st, 1850

Dr. Robert Whitley appointed Superintendent of Common

schools for the Municipality of the Township of Marysburgh for the year 1850.

Division Court was held at Bongards Corner.

That every by-law shall be introduced by a motion for leave specifying the object of the by-law or by a motion to appoint a committee to prepare and bring it in.

Jan. 26th, 1850

That all petitions or other papers addressed to the Council shall be prepared by a member who shall be answerable that they contain no impertinent or improper matter.

That all meetings shall be open to the Public but no person present shall be allowed to speak or make a noise or in anyway disturb or to interrupt the proceedings of the Council or to behave in a riotous, disorderly or unseemly manner, and any person who shall do so shall be liable for the first offence to be fined not less than three shilling and six pence nor more than five shillings.

For the Second offence to be fined not less than five shillings nor more than ten shillings, for the Third offence to be fined not less than fifteen shillings to be recovered by Distress and Sale of the offender's goods by warrant from under the hand and seal of the Township Reeve, and in default of payment or no distress to be imprisoned in the County goal of the County of Prince Edward for a period not exceeding ten days.

Andrew Wycott - Reeve
Palen Clark - Clerk

That whereas according to the statement of the Collector of the Township of Marysburgh that the said town ship contains more than five hundred inhabitants. There it is resolved that Mr. John Hicks be appointed as Deputy Town Reeve for the Township of Marysburgh according to the provision of Statute 12 Victoria Cop8!

SALARIES FOR 1850 COUNCIL

John Rose - Collector - £6.

John Dingman - Assessor - £2/6/0.

Robert Whitley - Supt. of Education - £5.

Palen Clark - Clerk - £5.

Thomas Welbanks - Treasurer - two per cent on all money paid out.

STANDING RULES FOR COUNCIL

1. Council Meets at 9 o'clock - names taken down.

2. Reeve takes chair - minutes read - corrections? - approved.
3. Reeve shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide all questions order subject to an appeal to the Council.
4. That every member of the Council previous to his speaking shall rise from his seat and address himself to the chairman as Mr. Reeve and that while he is speaking no member shall hold discourse so as to interrupt or otherwise annoy him.
5. That every Counsellor present shall vote when any question is put unless he is interested in a pecuniary way.

Items of interest taken care of at the Marysburgh Council Meeting Mar. 4th, 1850

Mar. 4th.

Mr. Hicks moves, Seconded by Mr. Shannon:

That whereas five shillings per week was granted for the support of an Idiot Boy of one McLaughlin we think to be too much - we therefore move that the aforesaid sum be reduced to the two shillings and six pence.

Mar. 6th.

That whereas James Cooper of Marysburgh merchant was in the year 1849 assessed for a store-house and merchant shop and paid taxes for the same which in the opinion of this Council was unjust as the store-house and shop was situated in the same building. Be it therefore resolved that for the current year 1850 the said Jas. Cooper shall be assessed for a merchant shop only notwithstanding any law or by-law to the contrary.

Mar. 8th.

Mr. Wright from the Committee to whom was referred the Petition in favour of granting relief to certain Insane and Destitute Persons within the Corporation of the township of Marysburgh beg leave most respectfully to make this their report.

That on the Petition of Alexander Vanalstine and others paying an allowance for James Gerolamy and his wife. Your Committee after taking into consideration the present infirm state of the said James Gerolamy and his wife your committee after taking into consideration the present Infirm State of the said Jas. Gerolomy together with the very Efficient Services he has heretofore rendered in defence of this Colony from the invasion of a Foreign enemy are warranted in believing that their is no person within the Receipts of the Corporation possessing a stronger claim to your Bounty. Your Committee will therefore recommend that the sum of six shillings and three pence per week be paid out of the funds of the Corpora-

tion towards the support of the said James Gerolamy and his wife.

Fences.

And be it enacted that all and every fence or fences within the corporation shall be four feet four inches high and the same shall be built with good sound material and shall not appear to be over five inches between the rails or timbers with which the same shall be built for the height of three feet from the bottom of the fence, above the height of three feet to the height of four feet four inches to be eight inches between the rails.

Nov. 19, 1850.

Resolved that the petition of George Wright and others paying a grant of money to repair the sawmill bridge near John Palen's.

(Bridge over Creek at McConnell's Waupoos on which was situated the Aaron Conner Saw Mill.)

Recommended 10 shillings for repairing of building the bridge at Connor Saw Mill which said sum will be expended by Nelson Dodge and Wm. Kerr and paid by the Treas. of the Corporation to their order.

Your Committee would also recommend that the property of Authorizing the said Wm. Kerr and Nelson Dodge to carry the said work on until the same be made complete and draw upon the Corporation from time to time for a sum sufficient to liquidate the expenses of the said work and report from time to time to the Township Council of the Township of Marysburgh.

MARYSBURG COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 1851

Council meetings shall be held alternately at Milford and Wm. Pierce's Tavern at Waupoos.

(3 sessions held during the current year 1851)

There shall be no more than 3 licensed Taverns, Inns, or Houses of Public Entertainment.

Public Houses.

House owned by Jos. Kelly in Milford be liable to pay the sum of 40 shillings currency and no more.

House owned by Oliver Church at Stone Mills to pay 60 shillings.

Each and every one of the aforesaid Houses shall have not less than 3 rooms and 2 spare beds for the accommodation of travellers and stabling sufficient for 8 horses over and above his own. Together with a convenient shed with sufficient enclosures, and a sufficient quantity of Provenda on hand at all times to supply customer. And that there shall be no

gambling of any kind allowed or countenanced by the Inn-keeper of the houses above named and that there shall be no spiritous liquors vended after 10 o'clock on Sat. evening, until 6 o'clock on the Mon. morning following and that they shall not allow any person to be maltreated while occupying his or their House or Houses.

And it be further enacted that each and every individual who shall claim a Certificate from the Inspector of Public Houses of Public Entertainment shall satisfy them that he has entered into Bonds himself in the sum of £50 and 2 surities in the sum of £25 each, conditioned to observe and keep their rules and regulations prescribed by the various By-Laws and Statutes that are now passed or that may hereafter be passed for the government of such houses.

Palen Clark, Reeve

Richard Lobb, Clerk

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR YEAR
ENDING DEC. 1850

Township of Marysburgh

Resolved that the following sums be paid by the Treas. of the Corporation to the under mentioned persons respectfully and that the Township Clerk is hereby directed to furnish said Treasurer with a Certified Copy of this Resolution.

TO	£	s	d
Palen Clark for Services as Clerk and Extras	12	10	0
David Barker for 4 scrapers (Barkers Foundry) ..	6	0	0
Peter Danard for excess of taxes		4	8
Lewis Minaker Sr. in payment of land taken for road	5	0	0
Chapman & Striker 50 copies of Municipal Manual	4	3	4
H. Thompson - Constable - for Services		7	6
Moran & Striker for Printing		10	0
John Rose for Rolls furnished Returning Officer		15	0
Thomas Donelly for Printing	7	17	6
Peter Graham - Constable		5	0
John Dingman - for taking Assessment	2	5	0
Dr. Whitly, Superintendent of Common Schools ..	6	5	0
James Clapp for keeping Solomon Fisher a Pauper & Sundries	9	12	6
Wm. Cook for Stationary, etc.		9	0
Thomas Welbanks as Arbitrator		5	0
Thos. Cook - Returning Officer		10	0
Jas. Rose for keeping Solomon Fisher 12 wks. to Jan. 1851	3	0	0
John McCarroll for Stationary		5	0
Thos. Cook, Esquire as Auditor	1	0	0
John Bongard for use of House for Public Business & Candles	1	0	0
Nelson Dodge for 3 days services as Arbitrator @ 5/ per day		15	0
Wm. Pierce for use of House and Candles etc. (Tavern)	1	5	0
Making in all the sum of	<u>64</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
			currency
All of which is respectfully submitted.			
E. W. Wright, Chairman			
Also to Andrew Wycott for sundry expenses	1	5	6
	<u>65</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>

