



Historic Gloucester

Newsletter of the

**GLOUCESTER
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

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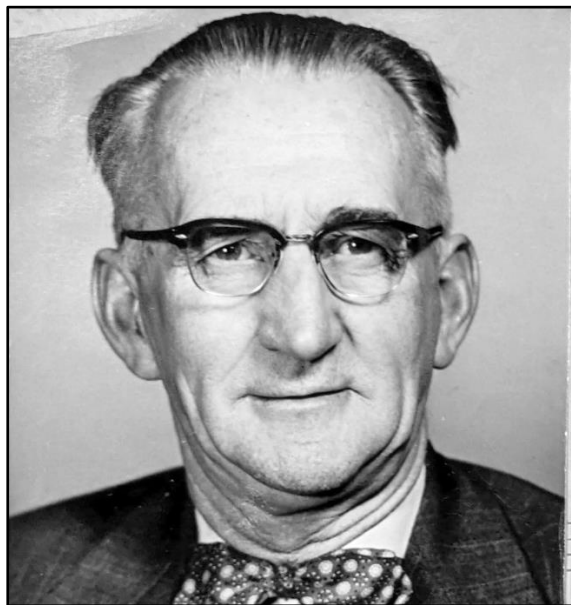


The South Gloucester Orange Lodge Hall on Rideau Road, just east of Albion, now demolished. Note the 1891 date above the door. This was the second hall. Gloucester Photo Collection 0080026901.



The Gloucester Historical Society acknowledges financial assistance of the City of Ottawa.

President's Message	Glenn Clark ...2
The Other Gloucester Temperance Halls	Glenn Clark ...4
Ramsayville Holiness Movement Church	Glenn Clark...13
Green's Creek Holiness Movement Church	Glenn Clark...15
Cutts Motor Sales	Glenn Clark ...16
Membership form	22



James Emerson Spratt



Eleanor Annie James, wife of James Spratt

President's Report

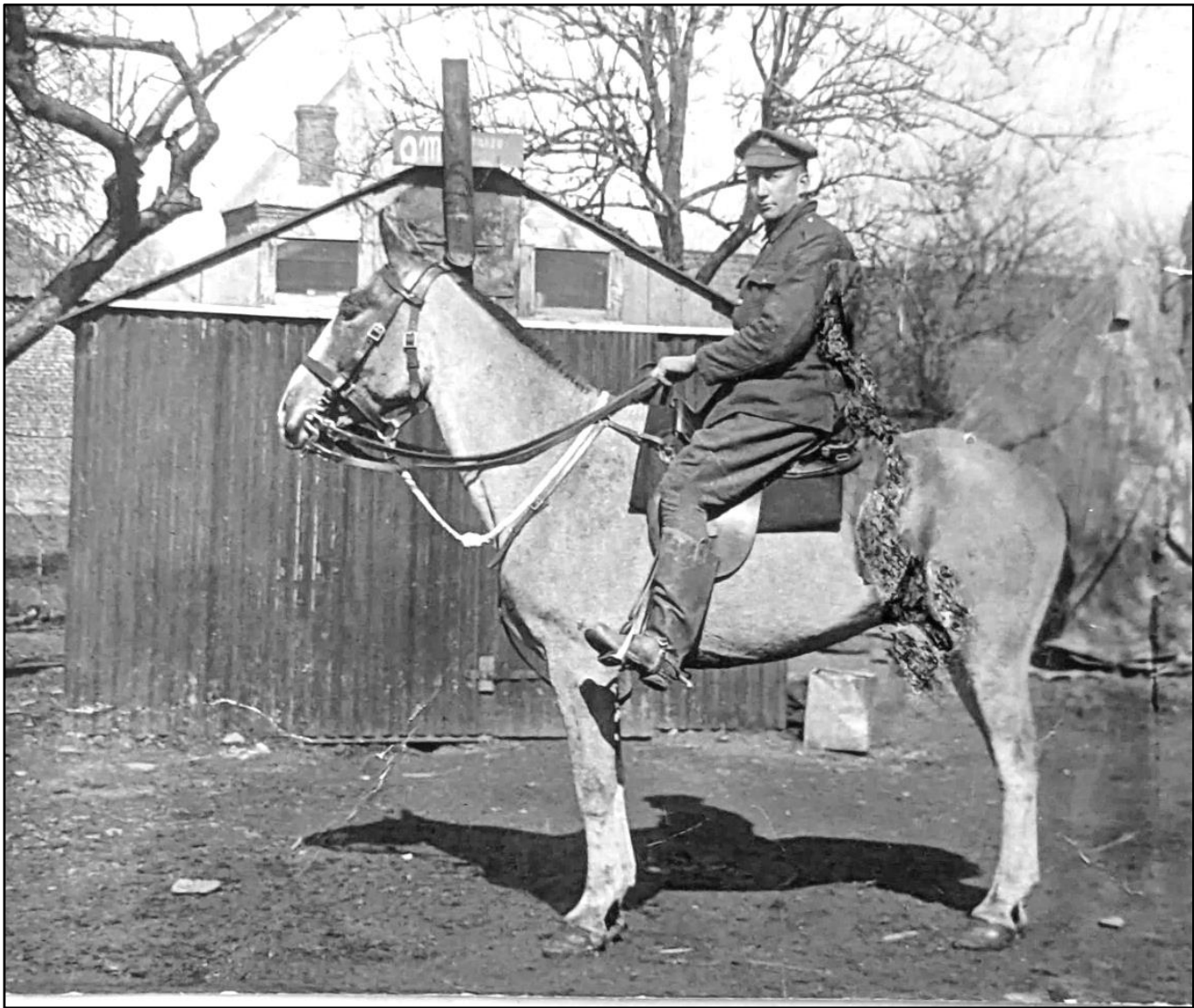
By Glenn Clark

My story on Temperance Hall at Billings Bridge that appeared in the Summer and Fall editions of Historic Gloucester has spread its tentacles throughout Gloucester. That small building has resulted in many discoveries, and related stories had to be told. These stories include many parts of Gloucester including South Gloucester/Johnston's Corners, Ramsayville, Green's Creek/Glen Ogilvie and Quarries/Montreal Road. Please read on to discover the other Gloucester Temperance Halls and Holiness Movement Churches.

I have also updated a story on my cousin's business, Cutts Motors, formerly in Old Ottawa South and at Billings Bridge. It was originally written for the family several years ago but has now been refined and updated. I thought I should share it with you.

Also nearing completion are stories on two now demolished motels and other nearby businesses formerly located on Bank Street between Blossom Park and Leitrim in the Greenbelt. Watch for these later in 2026.

I am also embarking on writing the story of the longstanding Gloucester business, W.O. Stinson & Son Ltd. and the Stinson family. Their family arrived in Ottawa before Colonel John By, and their story relates to many parts of the Ottawa area, including Carp, Bell's Corners, City View, and Woodroffe Avenue in the vicinity of Barrhaven. Their connections to Gloucester are also diverse.



James Emerson Spratt during World War I

They resided in many parts of the township including Green's Creek, Ramsayville, Billings Bridge, Ridgemont and today in Leitrim. Watch for this story coming soon.

We are also preparing to tell the story of our founding President, Grace Johnston. She was a "hat lady" and one of her hats has been selected to be part of an exhibition titled "Beyond the Brim" to take place at the Trinity Gallery in the Shenkman Arts Centre sometime this winter. We are awaiting the final details.

We have also found a few additional photographs of James Emerson Spratt, one of our World War I soldiers, whose story was published in *Historic Gloucester*, Volume 25 No. 3, Fall 2024. They are sourced from the Hawthorne Tweedsmuir

History, part of the Gloucester Historical Society collection, now housed at the Ottawa City Archives.

The GHS Welcomes Photograph Donations

In our recent newsletters, I have put out an appeal for specific photographs. Do you have any interesting photos to share? We are always looking for past street scenes in Gloucester, Vanier, Rockcliffe and Ottawa, east of the Rideau River, as well as past Gloucester residents, soldiers in uniform, construction sites or demolitions. We are also interested in old pictures of schools, churches, commercial buildings and class photos (with names if possible). We welcome digital copies, and they can be sent to english@gloucesterhistory.com. We will be so very thankful for anything that you are willing to share.

The Other Gloucester Temperance Halls

By Glenn Clark

South Gloucester

Only one news story refers to a South Gloucester Temperance Hall, putting into question whether it was misnamed in the story. The following appeared in the Ottawa Citizen on November 16, 1891.

“Good Templars

The District Meeting to be Held at South Gloucester.

The meeting of the District Lodge of the I.O.G.T. (Independent Order of Good Templars) will be held in the Temperance Hall at South Gloucester on Friday, the 20th inst., commencing at 10 a.m. Lodges are expected to have their credentials sent into the district secretary previous to the meeting. The representative from the various lodges in the district are expected to prepare beforehand any business they wish to bring before the meeting so as to economise time; also questions for the Question Box to be ready and deposited into it during the forenoon in order to give the committee ample time to answer them properly.

The members of Excelsior Lodge at Bowesville and Gloucester Lodge at South Gloucester will furnish lunch and tea at reasonable prices to all who will attend. In the evening, a public meeting will be held under the auspices of the District Lodge, at which a collection will be taken up. Brother John L. Robertson, Grand Chief Templar, the official head of the order in Ontario, and one of the best temperance workers in the country, will be present during the day and the evening. As this distinguished member of our order will be present, the meeting promises to be one of the most interesting and instructive that has been held for some years. Next week, Brother Roberston, G.C.T., purposes paying an official visit to the lodges in the city.”

My assumption was correct as the following also appeared in the Ottawa Citizen on November 24, 1891, Page 4: *“The District Lodge, No. 1, I.O.G.T., for the City of Ottawa, and the Counties of Carleton*

and Russell, met and held their session in the L.O.L. Hall at South Gloucester, on Friday, November 20th.” It was correctly the Orange Lodge Hall.

The Independent Order of Good Templars (I.O.G.T.) also supported Temperance causes, but it differed from The Sons of Temperance by welcoming both genders. ‘The Sons’ was founded as a fraternal male only organization but in 1866 it also began to welcome women members.

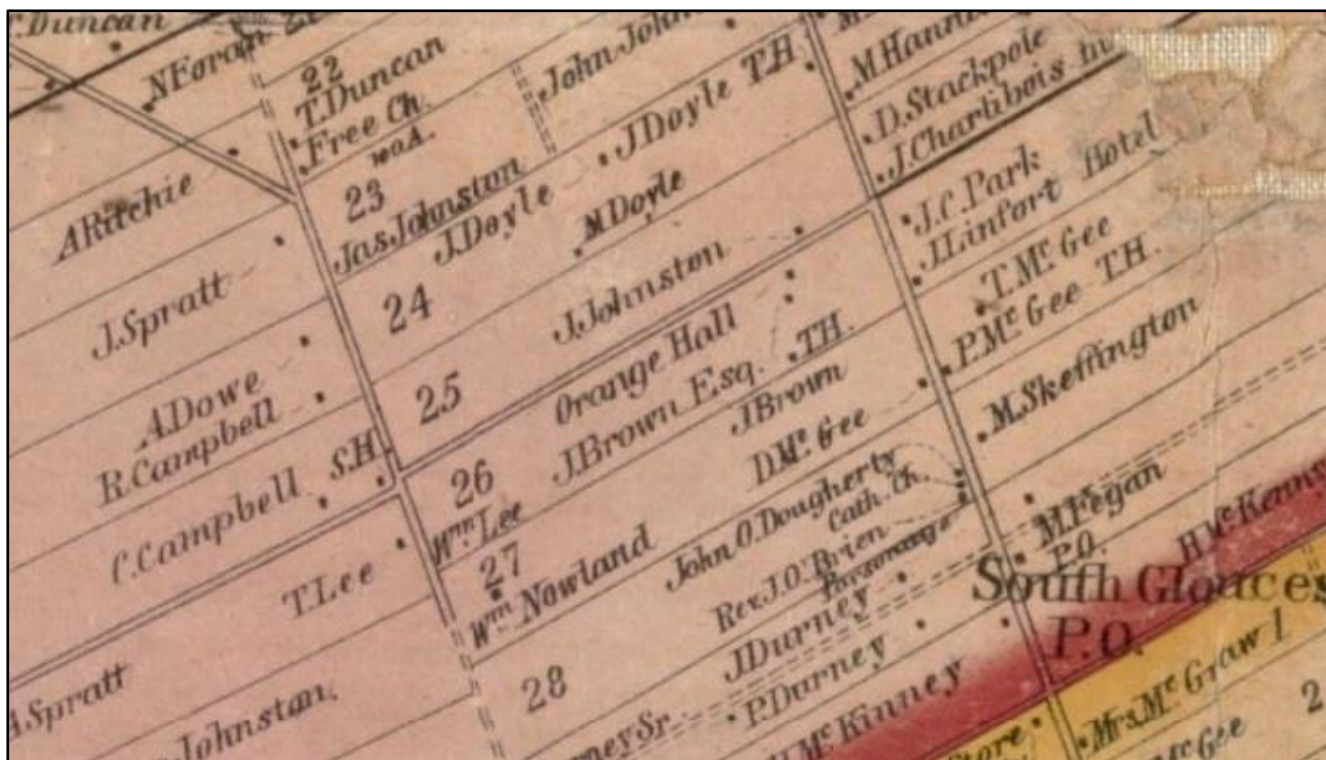
A Brief History of the Orange Lodge at South Gloucester

The original Orange Lodge serving South Gloucester was No. 222 founded on January 15, 1850, with James Ellis (of Albion Road) being the first Worshipful Master and James Johnston (of South Gloucester) being the second. This lodge split into two with the founding of Lodge No. 757 in the fall of 1856.

As of November 1856, No. 222 began meeting at the residence of Robert Eccles (Lot 7, Concession 4, Rideau Front, Bank Street near today’s Jewish Cemetery). A 99-year lease with a yearly rental of one penny took effect on August 4, 1864, relocating the lodge slightly south to the farm of Leonard Wood (Lot 8, Concession 4, Rideau Front on the west side of Bank Street). At this location, there was a separate lodge building.

Over the coming years, Lodge No. 222 meetings became less and less frequent until on September 6, 1872 the following motion was passed: *“Moved by Brother J.H. Murphy, seconded by Brother Isaac Brouse that a committee of H.O. Wood, John McKenzie, Robert Eccles, and the mover be appointed to examine into the matter of changing this lodge to Billings Bridge and if a place can be procured for the lodge to meet and report at the next meeting.”*

On June 27, 1874, which was the next meeting, a further motion was approved: *“Moved by Brother R. Gooding and seconded by Brother Robert Eccles that Brother Hiram Wood be authorized to sell the drum, flag and whatever other furniture of the lodge that can be spared.”*



Original location of the Orange Lodge Hall No. 757 – 1863 Walling Map

On July 11, 1874, the following motions were passed:

- “Moved by Brother R. Gooding, seconded by Brother P. Goodman that the warrant and books of this lodge be handed over to the county Master.”
- “Moved by Brother J.H. Murphy and seconded by Brother J. Goodman that Brother H.O. Wood take possession of the drum and flag and other saleable property belonging to this lodge as security for \$12.50 lent to the lodge and that he has power to dispose of the same and any surplus to be divided amongst the members.”

Lodge No. 222 next met on October 16, 1876, at Billings Bridge as reported in the Ottawa Citizen 2:

“New Lodge. – Loyal Orange Lodge No. 222 was duly instituted yesterday evening in the Temperance Hall, Billings’ Bridge, by the County Master of Russell and the District Master of Dalhousie. There was a large attendance of visiting brethren present from L.O. Lodges Nos. 37 and 221, Ottawa; Nos. 407 and 1,257 Gloucester; and 1,312 New Edinburgh.

Amongst the officers elected and installed were the following: Brother H.O. Wood, W. Master; Brother J.W. Argue, Deputy Master; Brother W.J. Parry, Chaplain; Brother G. Garrett, Secretary; Brother James Ellis, Treasurer; Brother James Sieveright, J.P., 1st Committee Man. The next meeting of this lodge will be held (special) on Thursday, 26th inst., for degree purposes, etc.”

In accordance with the terms of the 1864 lease agreement, the previous lodge building on the Leonard Wood farm, reverted back to farm ownership.

Meanwhile, the 1863 Walling Map above shows that an Orange Lodge Hall No. 757 was located on the south side of Rideau Road, west of Bank Street. This location was on Lot 26, Concession 4, Rideau Front.

On December 16, 1890, 3,000 square feet were transferred by Robert Goth to Andrew Spratt at Lot 25 Concession 4, Rideau Front. Andrew Spratt was the ‘Worshipful Master’ of the Loyal Orange Lodge No. 757 of South Gloucester in 1890 ¹. This was located at the northeast corner of Rideau and Albion Roads, opposite from South Gloucester United

Church, originally a Presbyterian Church. This provided land to build a new hall in 1891, as shown on the photograph appearing on the cover of this newsletter. When the lodge finally closed, the land was transferred back by the Trustees of the Lodge to William Clarke Goth on June 11, 1976. Mr. Goth died on August 4, 1976. He was a descendent of Robert Goth.

References and Further Reading

1 – Ottawa Citizen, July 14, 1890, Page 4
<https://www.newspapers.com/article/ottawa-daily-citizen-billings-bridge-ora/97553587/>

2 - Ottawa Citizen, October 17, 1876, Page 4
<https://www.newspapers.com/article/ottawa-daily-citizen-orange-lodge-no-22/176964802/>

Gloucester Quarries, Montreal Road

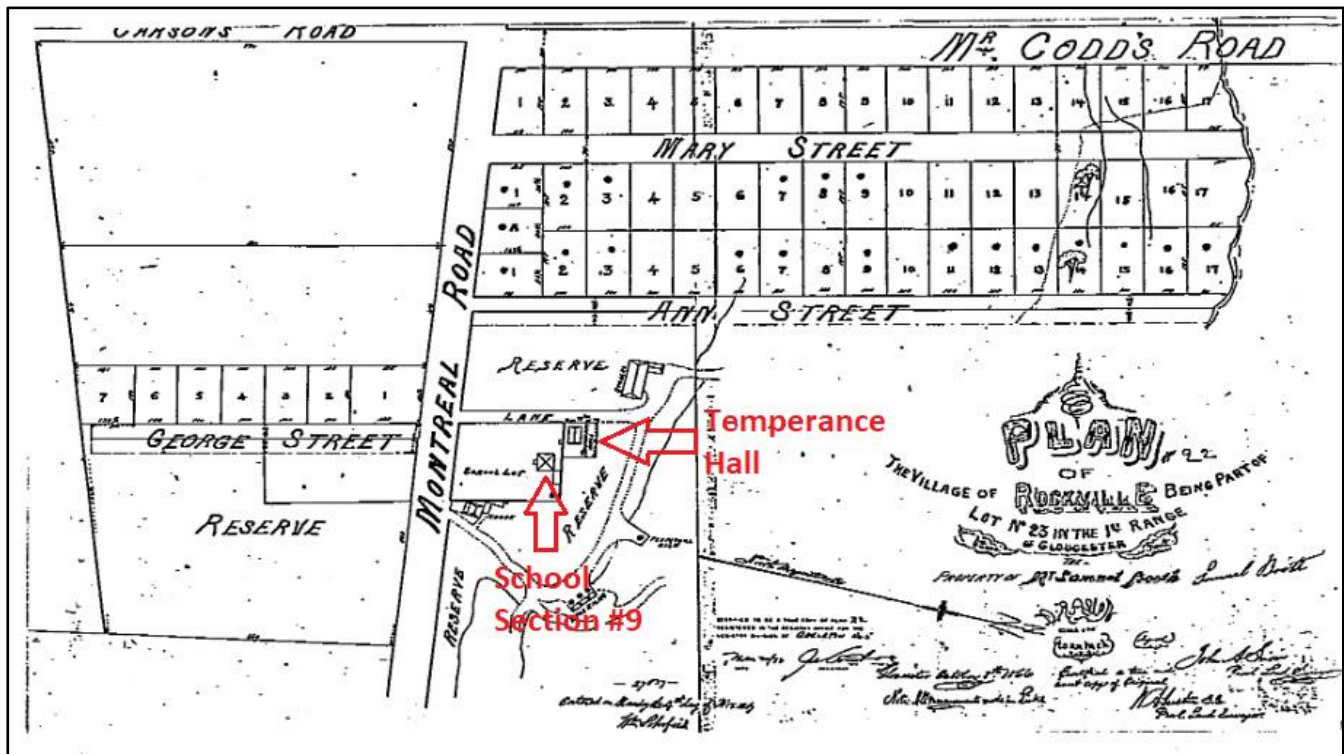
As was the case with the Billings Bridge Temperance Hall, it was built by men who were members of The Sons of Temperance. It was located at Lot 23, Concession 1, Ottawa Front, just north of Montreal

Road, behind Quarries School (Gloucester School Section # 9) and accessed by a laneway. Tax Assessment records indicate that the building sat on 1/10 of an acre. The Hall appears on tax rolls over several years including 1909.

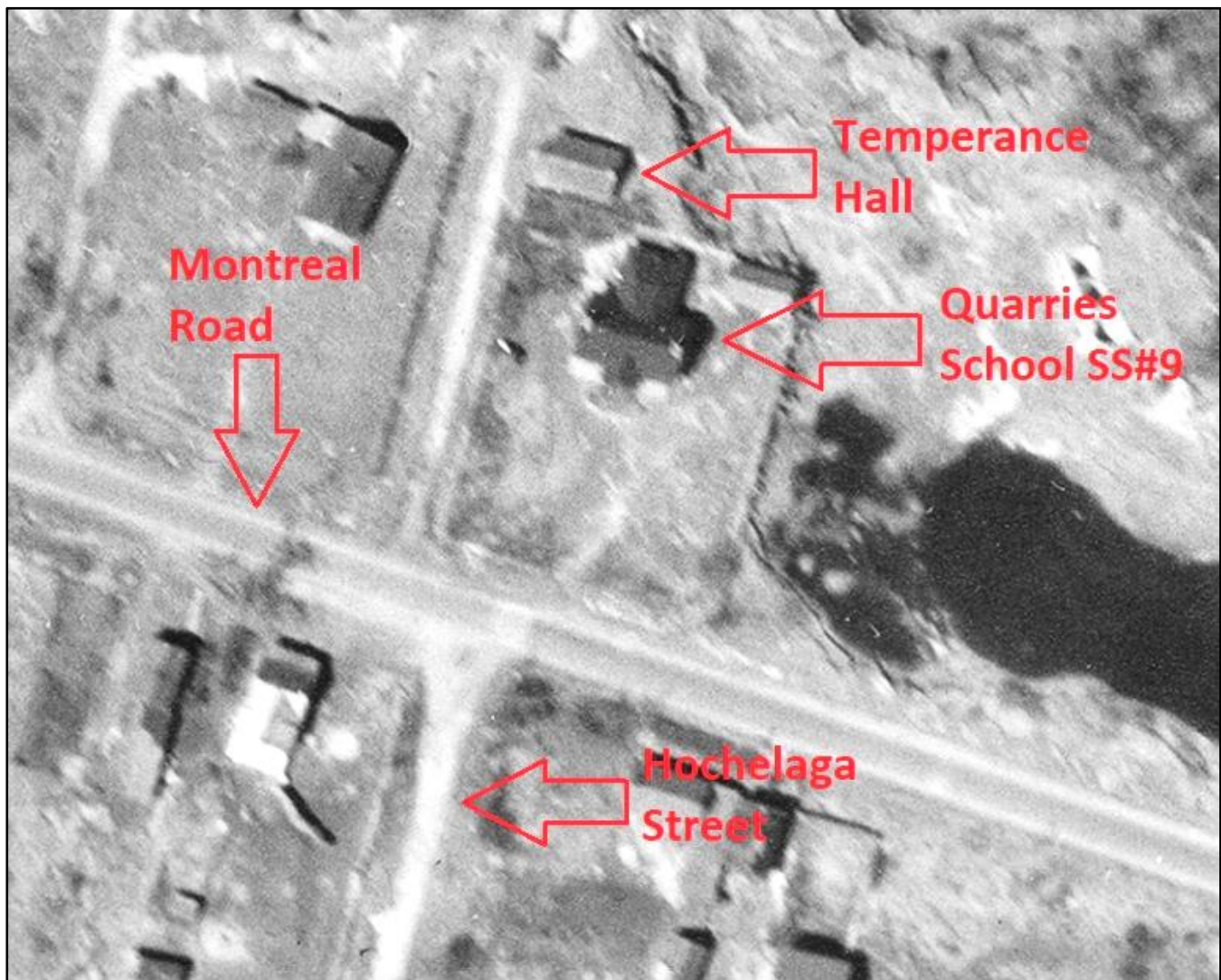
The exact location is shown on the Subdivision Plan 22 map and a 1933 air photograph on Page 7. A story appearing in the Ottawa Citizen dated December 8, 1865,¹ listing delegates from the Quarry Division of the Sons of Temperance No. 225 includes Robert Hopkins and Samuel Booth.

Samuel Booth was the proprietor of Subdivision Plan 22 and he owned the adjacent property including Temperance Hall as of July 13, 1865. He officially transferred property to the “Quarry Division” on November 12, 1867. The hall dated back to at least 1865.

Samuel Booth (1820-1898) also operated the Gloucester Lime Works ³, which was adjacent to the school and hall. He passed the property to his son John (1845-1888) on October 30, 1868. It appears



Rockville Plan 22, October 8, 1866



1933 Air Photograph

that Samuel left Canada at this time, possibly destined for Brooklyn, New York, where daughter Elizabeth gave birth to her first daughter Minnie. Elizabeth and Minnie returned to Ottawa in 1871, while Samuel appears to have returned to his native Nottinghamshire, England, where he spent the rest of his life. Samuel was born in Skegby, Nottinghamshire and had arrived in Gloucester by 1860.

Without an officially recorded transfer, the property including Plan 22, passed to George and James Young. The circumstances have been lost to time. Samuel's daughter Elizabeth (1848-1884) married to Stephen Breary Slinn on March 27, 1872. Mr. Slinn later became a well-known Ottawa baker and a city alderman, and uncle of William Harmon Slinn, who was a World War I soldier, and the subject of an

article in Historic Gloucester, Volume 25 No. 2, Summer 2024.

The hall served as a community centre for the village of Quarries, originally named Rockville. The village was on Montreal Road, just to the east of Codd's Road and Carson's Road. In addition to hosting meetings for the Sons of Temperance, it was also used for social events, including dances, religious services for the Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist churches, and was a polling station during elections.

The Ottawa Citizen from May 22, 1871 provided an example of early hall events: "*A Ladies Bazaar will be held on the 24th inst., in the Temperance Hall, Rockville, at the Gloucester Quarries, under the*

supervision of Mrs. Lang and Mrs. McFarlane, Miss Lang and Miss McFarlane; the proceeds to be devoted to the purpose of getting a Sabbath 'School Library' for the children of that place. To excursionists and lovers of country scenery, it will be a delightful tour, being only about three miles east of the city, along the macadamized road. Friends of Temperance and religion please patronize this purely philanthropic work."

Another early entertainment was reported in the Ottawa Citizen on September 15, 1879: "On last Thursday evening, according to announcement, a very large, respectable and intelligent audience assembled in the Quarry Division Temperance Hall, at Rockvillage, Gloucester, for the purpose of mutual entertainment. Brother George Lang, W.P., acting as Chairman. The following programme was well carried out: - Opening Ode: Chairman's preliminary remarks: solo by Mrs. S.D. Thompson, *My Cottage by the Sea*; an essay by Brother W. Tyndall, *Intemperance as a Vice*; song by W. Ogilvie, P.L.S. (before his exploits into the Yukon during the Klondike gold rush and as Yukon's Commissioner), *A Minister's exposition of Samson and the Foxes' tails*; a duet by the Misses Abbot's, *Fret not for Tomorrow*; a reading by Brother Benjamin Rathwell (Rothwell), *Tecumseh*; recitation by Mr. Clarke, *Burial March of Dundee*; solo by Miss Abbot; a reading by Sister Sarah Lyndall, *A Mother's Lament for Her Dead Son*; a solo by Mrs. S.D. Thompson, *The Officer's Funeral*; reading by Brother J. McGee, *King O'Toole and Saint Hevin*; story by Mr. Wm. Ogilvie, *The Frenchman and the Wasp's Nest*, which caused much laughter and applause. Mr. Ogilvie displays great tact in telling stories so as to please his audience. The closing ode followed and thus ended a very pleasant evening."

Temperance Meeting Features National Leader

The Quarry Division received an important guest at a meeting on January 15, 1880. The event was

published in the Ottawa Citizen on January 26, 1880, and featured a presentation by Sir Leonard Tilley who was the Past Most Worthy Patriarch of the Sons of Temperance for the National Division covering all of North America. He was also a Father of Confederation representing New Brunswick. Part of the news story follows:

"Sir Leonard Tilley at Quarry Division

A Successful Temperance Meeting

Rockvillage, 20th. – On Thursday evening, the 15th inst., the members of Quarry Division, No. 225, Rockvillage, Gloucester, had the honor of two distinguished visitors from the city of Ottawa, at their opening meeting – the Hon. Sir Leonard Tilley, P.M.W.P. of the National Division of the Sons of Temperance for North America, and Brother J. Howe, G.W.P. of the sons of Temperance for Ontario. The latter acted as chairman for the evening. The hall was well filled, and the meeting was opened by singing the opening ode of the order, Mrs. George Lang presiding at the melodeon. After the usual preliminary remarks of introduction, the chairman called upon Brother W. Tyndall, who came forward, and read a paper on behalf of the members of the division, welcoming their distinguished guests, also congratulating them on the high and noble positions they occupied in the order, to which they were truly entitled by their devotion to the temperance cause, which had for its only aim the happiness of all mankind. The paper also informed them of the status of Quarry Division"

**-- Ottawa Citizen,
on Sir Leonard Tilley**

Sir Leonard Tilley's speech gives a glimpse into the temperance movement at the time and society in general, which was reported as follows:

"Sir Leonard Tilley, upon coming forward, was received with applause. He said he was pleased to meet with those present, many of whose faces were familiar to him from having seen them eight or nine years ago, when he visited this hall, and spent a very pleasing and social evening. A friend met him not long ago, and referred particularly to that pleasant



Sir Samuel Leonard Tilley (1818-1896)

evening, and said he remembered something he (Sir Leonard) had said upon that occasion. He was glad to find one who remembered some of his sayings so long ago. But when he questioned his friend to know what it was that so impressed him, he said it was an anecdote which was related by him (Sir Leonard) that he intended to relate himself; but he had forestalled him. (Laughter).

He had not time to make the necessary preparations which a lecture required, as he had so much business to occupy his mind in his department. He wondered if any present remembered any of his sayings in this hall eight or nine years ago. He doubted very much if they did. He asked them to reflect upon the history of their division, what it had done for the good of the people in this immediate neighborhood; he had no doubt its members would be amply compensated by the pleasure of being able to lay their hands upon many whom they had rescued, who were on the brink of ruin.

Society was made up of small rivulets like the great rivers which, when they came together,

produced mighty results. There were temperance organizations here and there, scattered all over the land, composed, some of them, of 60, 70, or 100 members each, as the case might be, but so cemented by fraternal bonds in a common cause that they produced marvellous effects. If we were to refer back 33 or 34 years, and compare the times then with the present, what a wonderful change for the best would be seen.

Our social gatherings had brought together and linked in the bonds of harmony large numbers of all creeds and nationalities; they had produced a sympathy among the people to which before they were entire strangers. We met, not only for our own safety, but for the welfare of our children. He would therefore more particularly appeal to the young men present, who were not members of the temperance organization, to become so at once, and pointed out as an inducement that when seeking employment there was no better recommendation than a card of a son of temperance. He knew instances when it was present, wherein it had the effect of getting the desired position when all other recommendations had failed.

In 1854, he had for the first time visited England, and as he was a member of the National Division, with other things, he brought his regalia, as he intended to visit some of the brethren in the Mother Country. As customary, the Customs officers searched the trunks and other luggage of the passengers, but on opening the lid of his trunk and finding the regalia, they at once stopped the examination. They must, therefore, have respected the owner, and concluded he must be a person of trust.

He therefore would advise all young persons not to let a day pass if they valued their own welfare, before they were united to a society which had so many important advantages. He hoped we could find employment for our young men and retain them in our own country. Prospects looked brighter now than a year ago, but, if our young people desired to go, he would advise them, by all means, to take up their abode in the "Great Northwest", where millions of acres of the most fertile country in the world only awaited the cultivators of the soil to make them rich, happy and contented. No matter what part of the world they went to, they would find the order of the Sons of Temperance of the greatest and most lasting benefit.

If he owed to any one thing his own success in life, he would ascribe it to being placed out of the reach of temptation by being a member of the teetotal army. When a young man of 18 or 20 years of age, the custom of pledging each other in the wine cup was prevalent, and the only method by which he safely avoided it was by becoming a member of the temperance organization. There was no temperance organization, he thought, to which anyone could attach himself where more sympathy and true sterling worth were to be found than in the organization of the Sons of Temperance, the beautiful ceremonies of which contained influences of the highest order.

As many ladies were present, he would especially appeal to mothers present to train their children not to touch the wine cup. He would appeal to that Heaven-born virtue to be found. In true womanhood, to all that was noble in her character, to induce husband and children to become members of the temperance army, wherein so much good and pleasure were to be found. He thought it highly necessary to organize bands of cadets.

He had made his own two little sons become the first to sight a list, so that, by their example, they would not only encourage others to do likewise but be saved from the evil of ever knowing what the taste of intoxicating beverages was. It was necessary to avoid the taste of strong drink, for when it had once taken possession of the person, as to produce a craving for it, the unfortunate individual was willing to sell both body and soul to satisfy his burning desire for stimulants.

The cities of St. John and Fredericton, in New Brunswick, had shown an example in the temperance cause worthy of imitation. It was with pleasure he could point out to those present the large social gatherings, conducted on temperance principles, which usually took place in those cities. The division to which he belonged numbered 500 members, all zealous in the noble cause. To the Province of New

Brunswick was due the honor of carrying the first prohibitory law, although at first it had received so strong an opposition that he lost his election by sustaining the movement in 1855. To that province also belonged the honor of being the first to carry the "Scott Act" into effect. There was some dispute about the legality of enforcing that act, but a decision was to be arrived at next month by the Supreme Court.

*"He would appeal to that
Heaven-born virtue to be
found ... In true womanhood,
to all that was noble in her
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and children to become mem-
bers of the temperance army,
wherein so much good and
pleasure were to be found."*

*— Ottawa Citizen,
on Sir Leonard Tilley*

We should not be in too great haste to have a prohibitory law passed and carried into effect, as it required slow, steady and persevering efforts to train the masses in that true, moral education necessarily required to produce the desired reform. Neither must we rely too much on legislation, as we must have a large majority to sustain any such law. No law could be carried into effect without the greater part of public sentiment being in its favour.

There were two great political parties in the country, and he felt that each had for its object the happiness and prosperity of the people; but those parties differed about the manner of accomplishing these noble purposes. It was necessary to give employment to the people, and as far as it lay in the power of the Government it should be done; but, at the same time, they had the right of demanding that men's money be properly expended, and not in such a way as to entail misery not only on themselves and families, but on their employers and the whole community to which they belonged. How many instances were there of men, after being paid, not returning to their work at the proper time, having not only their "blue" Monday but their "blue" Tuesday too?

The honorable gentleman argued, that if the vast amount expended in intoxicating beverages in Great Britain and Ireland had been spent properly, there would be now none of that appalling distress felt in the old countries. The relief fund of £25,000 sterling was but a mere drop in the bucket compared to the enormous amount improperly expended.

He thought that the Northwest country was ahead of Great Britain and Ireland. In this respect, as there was a prohibitory law so strictly observed and enforced in that country that even a "Governor General", when visiting it sometime ago, could get nothing stronger than a "pain killer". (Laughter).

What a great blessing to the people who inhabited the great Northwest, if they could keep that law on their statute book, and continues to so strictly enforce it. It would add to the glowing descriptions of the beauty and fertility of that noble country, by producing a harmony and unity found in no other country inhabited by mankind.

He urged upon all the necessity of setting forth the claims of temperance, and asked them not to be afraid to stand up as the advocates of so noble a cause; true eloquence consisted not in purity of diction or grandeur of gesture, but it proceeded from the heart, for what a man really felt he made others feel. This accounted for the success which generally attended the efforts of men who had become reformed from any particular vice, as they felt and knew the fatal consequences.

The honorable gentleman concluded with a very eloquent peroration and took his seat amid great applause."

Another story of a meeting on January 2, 1880, 2 provides the list of officers of the Quarry Division, who were notable residents of the area. They include Peter Thomson (Worthy Patriarch), Agnes Hopkins, W. Tyndall, Harriet Haliday, Samuel Rothwell, Robert Hopkins, J. Frith, Edward Tyndall, Mary A. Watson, George Lang, Joseph McGee and Benjamin Rothwell.

Temporary Religious Conflict

There were occasionally religious differences as explained by the Ottawa Journal on March 6, 1899 (Page 3):

"To Build for Themselves

Temperance Hall Rented to Other Denominations but Refused to Anglicans, Hence this Action.

The Anglican church people who live at the Quarries on the Montreal road will shortly be

independent of all other creeds so far as a place of worship is concerned. Endeavors have been made to rent the Temperance Hall at the Quarries for the purpose of holding Anglican services, but the proprietors of the hall refused to rent it to the Anglicans. This morning an Anglican minister told a reporter that some of the proprietors opposed the renting of the hall to the Anglicans while they rented to the Methodists, Presbyterians and also to the Baptists. The reason for this action on their part is not known;"

Whatever the original reason, the hall was later rented for Anglican services.

For a number of years, Robert Hopkins (1842-1916) was the main contact person and Treasurer for the hall. His obituary published on February 8th in the Ottawa Journal (Page 9) described him as "a very zealous champion of the temperance cause, and as License Commissioner for Gloucester some years ago, he was instrumental in obtaining a very considerable reduction of the liquor licenses in that municipality."

Important Township Political Meeting

In 1926, there was considerable discontent with Gloucester township leadership, which led to activism to replace the township council. A meeting took place on December 18th at Quarries Hall to elect a committee to act on behalf of ratepayers. The news story on this meeting was published on December 20th in the Ottawa Journal 4. The full story is linked in our list of references at the end of this article, but a portion is quoted below.

"Want New Men, Council Board in Gloucester

About 125 residents of Gloucester Township gathered at the Quarries on the Montreal Road Saturday night and elected a committee of 28 men charged with the responsibility of drawing up a slate of candidates to oppose the present members of the Gloucester Township Council. Practically all the men who addressed the meeting declared that the present township council should be removed from office.

While the recent provincial audit in Gloucester was not discussed at any great length, it was the subject of several references. Charles Pinard thought

that Mr. Billings should be suspended until the whole matter resulting from the audit was cleared up.

The small hall behind the Quarries school was filled for the meeting which was said to be representative of the 14 polling subdivisions in the township. Some were present from the Billings Bridge district and from as far as Carlsbad Springs.

Want a New Council

Some of the speakers grew heated in their discussion of the actions of the present township councillors and practically every speaker declared that they considered it was time for a change and for a new council to gain control of the township.

Finally, the meeting elected two delegates from each of the 14 subdivisions and these 28 men are supposed to meet in the Township Hall at Billings Bridge this evening at eight o'clock. The five candidates are to be chosen by this committee. Some of the ratepayers considered that if the committee thought some of the present councillors should be included in the new slate, it might be wise to endorse them. This suggestion did not find much favor.

Saturday's meeting at the Quarries was the result of the formation recently of the Ratepayers' Protective Association of Gloucester."

Longstanding township clerk-treasurer, Hugh Braddish Billings I (1861-1934) was subsequently suspended, fired and found guilty of misappropriating township funds. Most of township council was replaced at the next township election.

The Last Hurrah

One of the last news reports mentioning the hall appeared in the Ottawa Citizen on October 30, 1937 (Page 20):

"The October meeting of The Quarries Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. N. Lane. The roll call was answered with exchange of Canadian magazines. A paper on rock gardens was given by Mrs. J. Firth (Frith), Jr.

Mrs. Brownlee and Mrs. Davis were appointed to attend the project on whole wheat to be held on November 8 and 29 at the Ontario of Agriculture board room in Ottawa. A report of the Ottawa convention

*was given by Miss Evelyn Kelly and an account of the tea and lecture at Government House by Miss Sylvia Warnock. Plans were made to hold a dance at the **Quarries Hall** on November 4. At the close of the meeting, refreshments were served by the hostess."*

Sale and Demolition

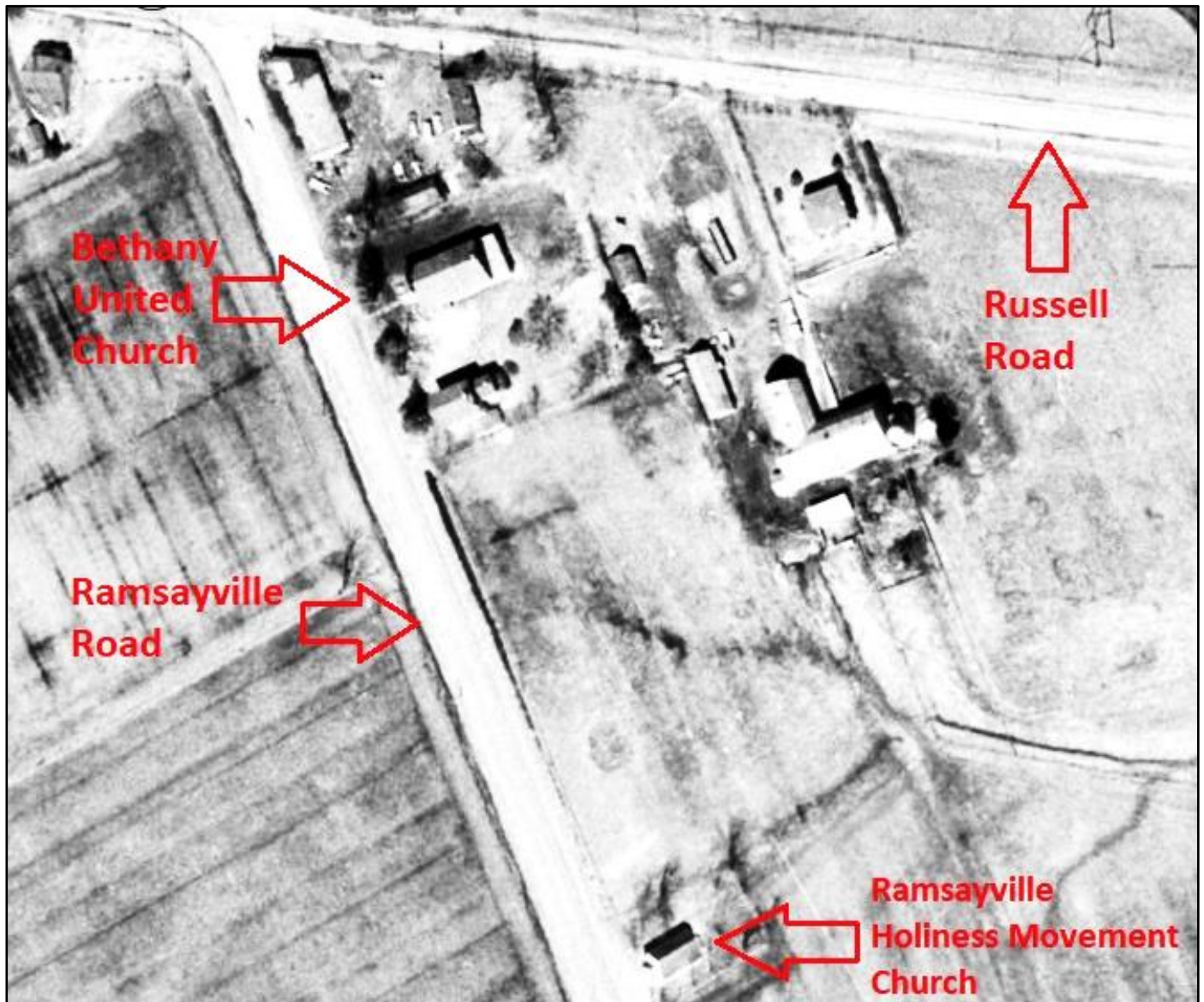
Times were changing. Transportation was becoming easier. Public transit was extended into the nearby Rockcliffe base. World War II was changing society with many men overseas, and women in the workforce. Meanwhile, Temperance Hall was an aging tiny building no longer meeting modern expectations. On May 1, 1943, the Ottawa Citizen (Page 26) included the following ad: "*Temperance Hall, Quarries, log and clapboard construction, 20x26. Apply stating offer to D.M. Sorley, R.R.1, Ottawa.*"

This gave some valuable insight regarding the dimensions and construction of Temperance Hall and that it was certainly the original building dating back to 1865 or earlier. This was the end of the hall. A 1945 air photograph shows that Temperance Hall had been demolished.

Does anybody have a photograph of this building?

References and Further Reading

- 1 - Ottawa Citizen, December 8, 1865, Page 2
<https://www.newspapers.com/article/ottawa-daily-citizen-sons-of-temperance/183384448/>
- 2 - Ottawa Citizen, January 8, 1880, Page 1
<https://www.newspapers.com/article/ottawa-daily-citizen-quarry-division-son/185957178/>
- 3 - Ottawa Citizen, July 20, 1866, Page 3
<https://www.newspapers.com/article/ottawa-daily-citizen-gloucester-lime-wor/186013792/>
- 4 - Ottawa Journal, December 20, 1926, Page 2
<https://www.newspapers.com/article/the-ottawa-journal-quarries-hall-meeting/186064293/>
- 5 - Ottawa Citizen, January 26, 1880, Page 4
<https://www.newspapers.com/article/ottawa-daily-citizen-quarry-division-son/185953958/>



1965 air photograph showing the exact location of the Ramsayville Holiness Movement Church.

Ramsayville Holiness Movement Church

By Glenn Clark

I have just written about Temperance Hall at Billings Bridge, which became Hornerite Hall in 1896. It was also known as Billings Bridge Holiness Movement Church. My research revealed that two other Holiness Movement churches existed in Gloucester. This covers the church located in Ramsayville. While the Billings Bridge church faded away during World War I, the Ramsayville church had a much longer life.

Ramsayville Holiness Movement Church first became apparent when examining tax assessment records from the 1930s. All Gloucester churches were listed. It was located in the west half of Lot 20, Concession 5, Ottawa Front. This placed the church on the east side of Ramsayville Road.

An examination of a 1965 air photograph provided the exact location.

Past Gloucester Historical Society President, Mary Boyd, confirmed that the church was south of

the village of Ramsayville, which was centred around the intersection of Russell and Ramsayville Roads.

Property records tell us some of the history of the church.

On November 28, 1908, Robert and Sarah Ramsay sold 3,400 square feet for \$25 including premises to the Trustees of the Holiness Movement Church at Ramsay's Corners including David Johnston, William Tomkins, David Baskerville, George Ramsay, and Mary Ramsay. The fact that premises were included suggests that the church existed prior to that date on the Ramsay farm.

Numerous stories appeared in the newspaper archives from 1910s until the 1950s, mostly covering funerals and marriages. Then on November 8, 1960, the Trustees of the Holiness Movement Church transferred the property to the Trustees of Ramsayville Independent Church for \$1. This did not last very long as Greenbelt expropriations were already proceeding. On September 25, 1962, the Trustees of Ramsayville Independent Church sold their property and the church to the National Capital Commission for \$5,000.

The air photograph on the previous page shows that the building was still present in 1965 but there is no concrete information when the church closed. A 1976 air photo shows that the area was decimated

by Highway 417 construction. The church was gone as was most of the village of Ramsayville. Property was transferred from the Crown to the Department of Transportation and Communications for 'Designation of a highway as the King's Highway by Order-in-Council OC-852/72 based on Department of Transportation and Communications plan P-6067-24'. The church location is now on the westbound lanes of Highway 417.

Does anybody have a photograph of this historic church?

Pastors

1913 – Reverend Mr. Smith, Reverend Mr. McMillan

1921 – Reverend R. Winter, Reverend T.O. Roe

1930 – Reverend Johnston Price

1936 – Reverend W.A. McCracken, Reverend C.F. Bowen

1941 – Reverend Stewart (Stuart) William Woodland (1893-1980)

1943 – Reverend Stewart (Stuart) William Woodland (1893-1980)

1946 – Reverend R.L. Mainse

1949 - Reverend Stewart (Stuart) William Woodland (1893-1980)

1959 – Reverend Stewart (Stuart) William Woodland (1893-1980)

HOLINESS MOVEMENT CHURCH

RAMSAYVILLE, Ont.

Sunday 10.30 a.m., 2.30 and 7.30 p.m. and special services each evening during the week, except Saturday, at 8 p.m.

A cordial invitation to all.
Rev. T. O. Roe, Evangelist.
Rev. R. Winter, Pastor.

*Ottawa Citizen,
March 12 .1921
p.19*



1933 air photo

Green's Creek Holiness Movement Church

By Glenn Clark

Not much is known about this church.

On November 16, 1904, 4872 Square Feet was transferred by James Nelson and wife to the Trustees of the Holiness Movement Church, Green's Creek, Gloucester circuit for \$1. The trustees included Adam Kemp, Adam Scharfe and Robert Armstrong. It was located on Lot 20, Concession 3, Ottawa Front, on the south side of today's Innes Road immediately above the west side of the Green's Creek gully.

In its first year of existence in 1920, the Glen Ogilvie Women's Institute had the following action: *"A delegation was formed to meet with the trustees of the Hornerite Church on Cyrville Road at Green's Creek to see if the vacant church could become a Community Hall. Our members were not successful."*

While this church still appeared on topographical maps until at least 1950, nothing has been found in

the newspaper archives during any time period, it was not included in the list of churches in Gloucester Tax Assessment rolls during the early 1930s and the 1933 air photograph above shows that the church was already gone.

Not even property records provide any information on what became of the church property. The GHS book "Blackburn – Glen Ogilvie Centennial History 1867-1967" offers one further detail on Page 27: *"East of the Kehoe farm, Sam Kennedy bought a 200-acre farm in July 1873. Green's Creek cut across the northwest corner leaving a small piece of land beside Cyrville Road. In the 1880's, Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson kept store here for a number of years. Later a Hornerite Church was built on the same site. When the church was abandoned, the land went back to the farm."*

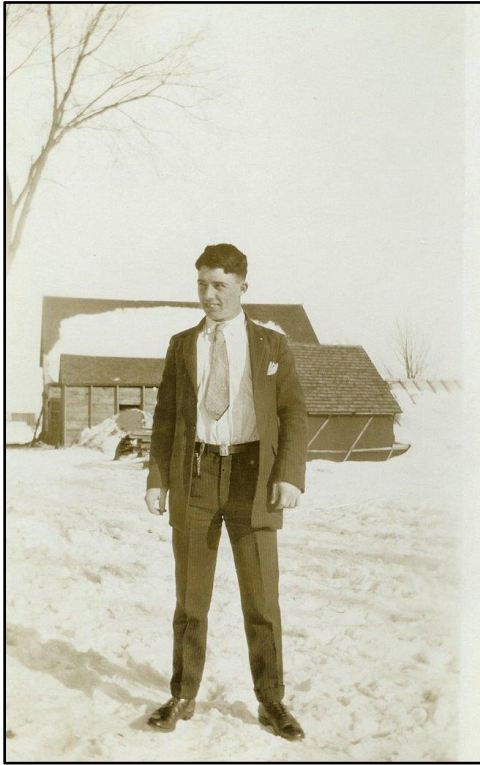
Note that Cyrville Road is now known as Innes Road.

Does anybody have a photograph of this church?

Cutts Motor Sales, Billings Bridge 1949 – 2003

Part of Our Family Heritage, Part of Our Community History

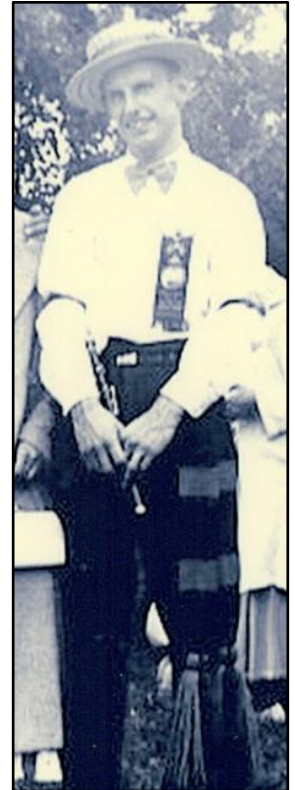
by Glenn Clark, Updated November 9, 2025



David Cutts



*Walter Cutts and Florence Clark.
Photo supplied by Garry Cutts.*



*Russell Cutts.
Photo supplied by Linda
Deschenes.*



*Rev. William
Wright and David
Cutts in front of
Cutts Motor Sales
in September 1959
with Lawrence
Hardware across
the street.*

Photo supplied by Linda Deschenes



The Original Cutts Motors Sales, Bank and Chesley Streets, 1957. Photo supplied by Garry Cutts.

I first wish to thank Garry Cutts for most graciously allowing me to interview him about the history of the family business

It all started in April 1949 when brothers, Walter, David and Russell Cutts established a business at the corner of Bank Street and Chesley Street in Old Ottawa South. It was a service station and a used car



Ottawa Journal, April 23, 1949, p.37

lot, with the used car lot opposite the garage on the next block to the south. The building was leased from McCredie Brothers of Shawville, Quebec and was known as the South End Garage Ltd at the time. The name, Cutts Motor Sales, first appeared in the Ottawa City Directory in 1950. At first, the service station operated under the brand name McColl-Frontenac, but it changed to Texaco when the former company was taken over in the 1950s. During these early years, another brother, Charlie, also helped out with the bookkeeping. As can be seen in the photograph, this gas station had a unique design, and you drove directly under the building to reach the gas pumps.

Eventually, Russell left the business, and the used car lot was closed. During the early 1960s, the Cutts brothers attempted to purchase the building, but an agreement could never be finalized. Finally, Hitsman's Bakery bought the building and the Cutts' lease was terminated in early 1964. Hitsman's Bakery opened following a renovation on July 2, 1964.

A new location for Cutts Motors had to be found! By the way, the original building is still standing, and it is now Bond's Décor. The building remains owned by the Hitsman family in 2025.

Before leaving the original site, I will provide a brief history of the building prior to the Cutts era. A building was first constructed at 1242 Bank Street in 1916. It remained vacant for a while but in 1918 it first served as a garage operated by Walter C. Joy. The 1920 city directory indicated that Milton L. Loney, Mrs. Evelyn Wintle and Bernard J. Woodruff were residents at this address, but this is certainly a typo. They were residents of the neighbouring two-storey apartment building. The following year, it was a garage operated by Richard E. Spratt. In 1924, it became the McCredie Brothers Garage and then South End Garage Ltd. in 1937, which was the name used until the Cutts brothers took over in 1949.

The new location at 1335 Bank Street was at the corner of Riverside Drive. It was only a few blocks to the south and right next to Billings Bridge. This had been the site of J.L. Brulé's General Store known

as Brulé's Quality Foods until 1952 and Brulé's IGA Food Market until 1955. Len Brulé still owned the property. When Billings Bridge Plaza opened in 1954 with a Loblaws supermarket, the days were numbered for Brulé's. A gas station opened on the site in 1956 and at first operated under the brand name 'Regent'. It later changed to a 'Texaco' station and was known as Monette's Service Station. Rights for use of the property were complicated by the fact that it was leased by Texaco and then sublet to the owner of the gas station. By the time of the move to this location, the business was owned by David and Walter Cutts while son Garry and son-in-law Joe Cooney were then working there.

By the mid-1970s, David and Walter had retired, and Garry and Joe became the owners. The new generation attempted to purchase the property from Mr. Brulé, but the lease and sublease arrangement created complications while also negotiating a new sales arrangement with Texaco. Eventually, the purchase was successful and was finalized on November 3, 1980.



1242 Bank Street in February 2008. Photo supplied by Glenn Clark.



The second site for Cutts Motors before the Cutts family took over. Circa 1957. Photo supplied by Garry Cutts.

In 1975, Petro Canada was founded as a Crown Corporation in response to the 1973 Arab Oil Embargo and the corporation took over most BP (British Petroleum) Gas stations in Canada. The Crown Corporation also took over Gulf and Fina stations a little later. This presented a new opportunity as negotiating a new sales agreement with Texaco was proving very difficult. With a better deal offered by Petro Canada, the switch was made. Petro Canada was still a new company at the time; and the brand name had still not arrived in Ottawa. As a result, Cutts Motors was branded for a short time as a Fina station. It then became the first independent Petro Canada gas station in the city.

The arrangement with Petro Canada continued for several years but a switch over to the MacEwen Petroleum Inc. brand took place in the late 1980s. Finally in February 2003, the business was sold and Garry Cutts retired. Joe Cooney continued to work as a mechanic at the garage under new ownership for a short time, but he also soon retired from the business.



Joe Cooney, Walter Cutts (front), Garry Cutts – 1989. Photo supplied by Garry Cutts.



Excerpt from National Air Photo Archive HA20 - 1922



*Cutts Motors
in 1994; Photo
supplied by
Garry Cutts.*

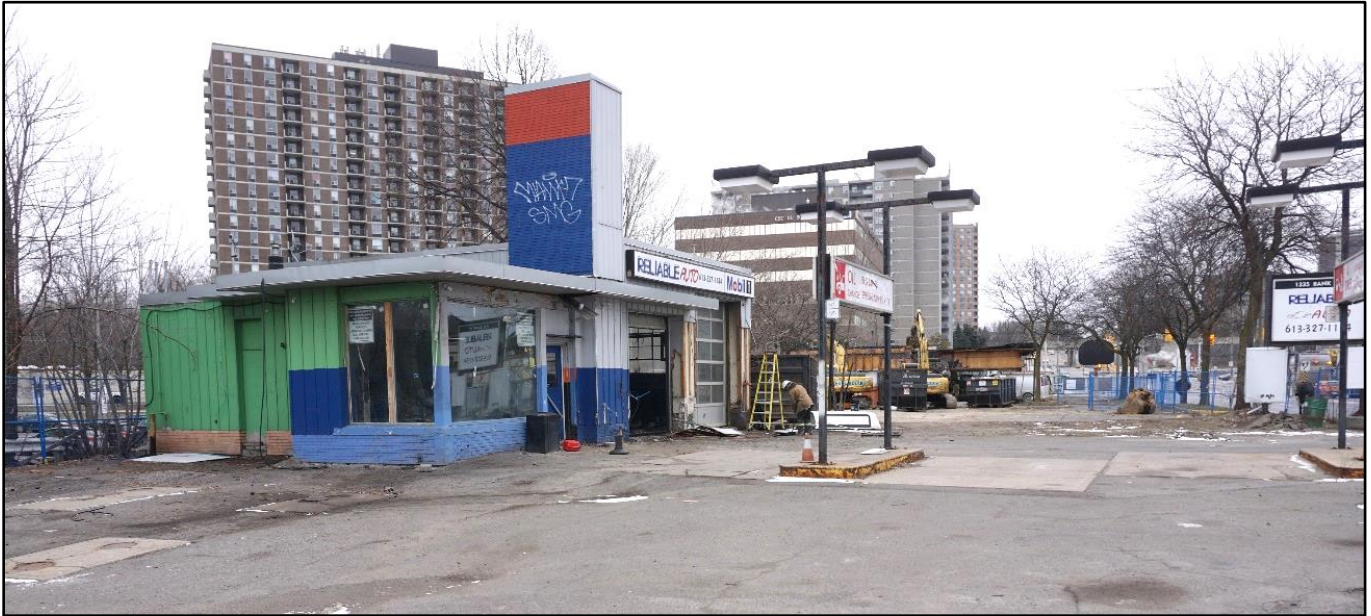


Riverside Gas in February 2008; Photo supplied by Glenn Clark.

In the aftermath, the new owner, Jamal ‘Jimmy’ Jahabi was involved in a near fatal fire on January 1, 2005. While repairing a gas tank, some gas leaked onto the floor of the garage and onto his clothes and when a lamp bulb exploded it set off a blaze that engulfed the owner’s clothes. A passerby had to help to put out the burning clothes by rolling him in a nearby snowbank. The owner was very seriously burned, to the point that he was given a 1% chance of survival when he reached the Toronto Burn Unit. He eventually recovered with obvious disfigurement. During Mr. Jahabi’s lengthy recovery, the gas station

remained closed, but it re-opened under the new name Riverside Gas. By 2012, it was MD Service Center, and Morales Auto & Gas in 2014. The gas station closed, and it was a used car lot named Reliable Auto in 2016. This continued in operation until 2020.

It and the neighbouring Harvey’s Restaurant were demolished in December 2020 with plans for high rise development on the site. It remains vacant in November 2025. Garry Cutts passed away on July 26, 2021.



Demolition, December 16, 2020, Photo supplied by Glenn Clark.

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(Membership year runs from April 1 to March 31.)**

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NAME: _____ E-mail address _____

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