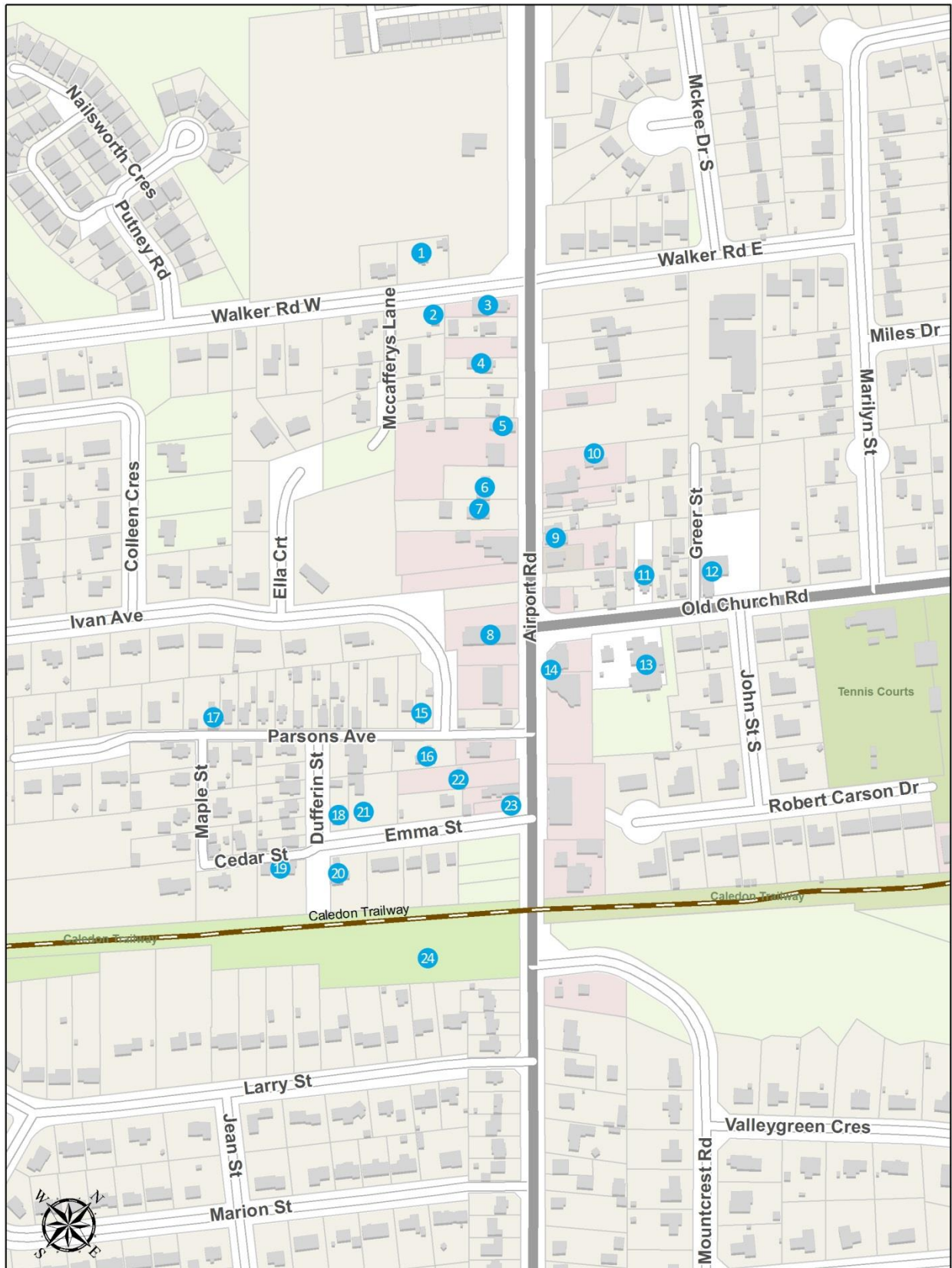


# *Heritage Caledon Walking Tour Series*

## **Caledon East Tour**



*Please respect private property*

*Last Updated: January 25, 2021.*

## ***A brief history...***

Caledon East is a village located in the Town of Caledon, nestled among the picturesque Caledon hills, in the Regional Municipality of Peel. It is the seat of municipal government for the Town of Caledon.

The first settlers arrived in the area in the early 1820s, the earliest of whom were Elisha and Elizabeth Tarbox. They drew the land on which the future village of Caledon East sits and the settlement was known as Tarbox Corners. It later became the hamlet of Paisley. The Hamilton & Northwestern Railway was built through the thriving village in 1877 and a Plan of Subdivision was registered that same year. In its heyday, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, Caledon East boasted three hotels, several general stores, livery stables, harness makers, churches, a Masonic Lodge, an Orange Lodge, a creamery and other industries typical of an Ontario village. The railway was an integral part of the village for 83 years until rail service ceased in 1960.

Caledon East has much to offer in the way of beautiful scenery and is a pleasant place to live, still embodying a great deal of the pioneer spirit and the feeling of Ontario country-living, a short distance from the sprawling urban metropolis of Toronto.

### ***\*Designated under the Ontario Heritage Act***

1



*Photo courtesy Jean Proctor*

#### ***5 Walker Road West*** The Tarbox House *circa 1840s*

In 1821 the first settlers of the village, Elizabeth and Elisha Tarbox settled on this 200 acre grant of Crown Land to which Elizabeth had claim as the daughter of a United Empire Loyalist, Richard Lawrence. The original settlement was first known as Tarbox Corners. This early timber frame dwelling is believed to have belonged to them and is still a private residence.

2



*Photo courtesy Anne Allengame*

#### ***4 Walker Road West*** Henry Swinton House *circa 1875*

This 1½ storey frame Ontario Cottage, with a centre entry flanked by symmetrically placed windows, peaked centre gable and gothic window, was built by Henry Swinton. This is a simple form of Victorian Gothic architecture, locally referred to as Rural Gothic or Carpenter's Gothic. The house which is clad in roughcast plaster, scored to look like stone, was extended to create a butcher shop called 'Swinton and Son.' Cattle were slaughtered on the property. The house is a private residence.

3



*Photo Courtesy Jean Proctor*

#### ***16078 Airport Road*** \*Knox Presbyterian Church *circa 1860*

This is the oldest church in Caledon East. Reports suggest that the frame building was improved and moved to this location in 1885. Large rectangular replacement windows may date to renovations in 1900. Circa 1925, the church was extended by 10 feet to the east, a porch sheltered the new entry and red brick was veneered over the original exterior wood cladding. Rear additions were built in the mid-1900s, the earlier one in rusticated concrete block. Knox Presbyterian closed its doors as a congregation in 1992 and the building has since housed a variety of businesses.

4



*Photo Courtesy Peter Elms*

**16060 Airport Road** James Donaldson House 1907

This house was built for James Donaldson using rusticated concrete block, a popular early 20<sup>th</sup> century building material. The house has elements of Edwardian Classical style including an asymmetric floor plan, pyramidal hip roof and dormer attic window. Donaldson ran an undertaking business from this establishment, selling coffins and fine furniture until 1940. Since then, it has housed various business enterprises and is now a private residence.

5



*Photo Courtesy Betty Ward*

**16048 Airport Road** Bradley Building circa 1870

This frame building was built in 1870 and was purchased by Susannah Bradley in 1892 as her residence. Over the ensuing years, it was used by Masonic Lodge members as a meeting place, housed an insurance business, a radio club, a farm implement dealer's office and an insurance/real estate business. The main floor is still in commercial use. The front façade of the building has been altered and was re-clad with brick in the early 1900s.

6



*Photo Courtesy Betty Ward*

**16036 Airport Road** Dr. Allison House circa 1891

This Victorian Gothic house was built using local Caledon East yellow brick. Initially built for Dr. Samuel Allison, it became home to the George W. Berney family for many years and is still a private residence. Berney was a tinsmith and in 1918, he took over the local hardware store which his family operated as 'Berney's Hardware' until it closed in 2012.

7



*Photo Courtesy Betty Ward*

**16024 Airport Road** \*Thomas Cranston House circa 1880

This Victorian Gothic house was built for Thomas Cranston and is another example of the use of local yellow brick. The L shaped house has a front bay window and wrap-around verandah. It was sold to the Methodist church in 1918 for use as a manse. After 1974 it was used as a business and private residence.

8



*Photo Courtesy Bob Cannon*

**16000 Airport Road** Burrell's General Store circa 1896

This timber frame Victorian commercial building is located at the crossroad of the village and is a local landmark. First established as a general store in 1896, it was operated by the Burrell family from 1902 to 1927 and then by the Cannon family until 1991. Since then, it has been leased to the LCBO.



9



Photo Courtesy Betty Ward

**16041 Airport Road** James Ward House *early 1890s*

This house is an early example of Edwardian Classical style and has a characteristic asymmetric floor plan, pyramidal hipped roof, dormer window and verandah with classical column supports. In 1893, John Kingsborough sold the house to George H. Evans and in 1920 James C. Ward bought it from widow Sarah Evans. Ward operated a Massey Harris and Beatty Farm Supply dealership and repair shop from the premises until 1937. Using his generator, he also supplied the first electricity to several stores on Main Street.

10



Photo Courtesy CEHS/E. McKnight

**16023 Airport Road** Imperial Bank of Canada *circa 1890s*

This two storey, frame, end gable building has housed various owners and tenants. In 1915, the Imperial Bank of Canada opened for business on this site three days a week. In 1956 the building was used as a medical office for Dr. Friend and later as a dental office for Dr. Sylvia King. It has been renovated and now houses caterer and food purveyor, 'Gourmandissimo.'

11



Photo Courtesy Betty Ward

**6028 Old Church Road** Masonic Hall *circa 1950*

Members of True Blue Peel Lodge #468 met in two other locations in the village before this hall was built in 1950. Characterized by the simple entry portico with ionic column supports, the current hall remains in active use.

12



Photo Courtesy Anne Allengame

**6046 Old Church Road** Methodist Church *circa 1880*

Caledon East Primitive Methodist Church was built in 1880 of frame construction with a roughcast plaster exterior. In 1901, the building was clad with red brick. In 1909, Sadie White and Louis Swinton were married at the church, at a time when most weddings took place at the bride's home. As a result of church union in 1925, this became Caledon East United Church. The Sunday School addition was built in 1963. The church continues today as a place of worship.

13



Photo Courtesy Marion Proctor

**6025 Old Church Road** St. James Anglican Church *circa 1901*

The history of the Anglican Congregation in Caledon East dates back to 1843. The present church, built by local builder Joseph Proctor in 1901, is a beautiful example of Gothic Revival style. St. James Church has been enlarged in recent years and is an active community church.

14



*Photo Courtesy Donna Davies*

***South of corner of Old Church Road and Airport Road***

Commemorative Plaque: The former Albion Hotel, built in 1851 by Joseph Carter.

15



*Photo Courtesy J.N. Proctor*

***Parsons Avenue***

*circa 1880*

Parsons Avenue, named after John Parsons, was originally called Cottage Lane. Parsons was an early property developer and builder who built four small cottages within his newly registered 1877 Plan of Subdivision. The single storey three bay cottages with hip roofs, reminiscent of the earliest form of the Ontario Cottage, still remain although they are somewhat altered.

16



*Photo Courtesy Betty Ward*

***2 Parsons Avenue***

John Parson's House

*circa 1877*

In response to rapid village growth following the arrival of the railway, builder John Parsons registered a Plan of Subdivision and built this frame house, for himself, the first within the new subdivision. The house retains most of its original features and one of the original spruce trees still stands. The house remains a private residence.

17



*Photo Courtesy Anne Allengame*

***23 Parsons Avenue*** Neoclassical Style house *circa 1892*

Local builder Joseph Proctor built this frame house in 1892. In 1914, an addition to the rear was constructed using rusticated concrete blocks made by Proctor and White Mills. The house was later purchased by George Evans who erected a barn in the back and ran a milk route in the area until 1940. This is a private residence.

18



*Photo Courtesy Donna Davies*

***15 Emma Street***

\*St. James Parsonage

*circa 1879*

Local builder, John Parsons, built this 1½ storey frame, Victorian Gothic style house within his 1877 registered Plan of Subdivision. Decorative brick cladding was completed in 1897 by Black and Son of Bolton. The house served as St. James Anglican Church parsonage from 1882 until 1926. It was purchased circa 1928 by stationmaster Frank Myers who lived here with his wife Margaret until her death in the late 1970s. Renovations and additions blend seamlessly with the original structure. The cedar tree in the front of the house is over 100 years old. This is a private residence.

19



*Photo Courtesy Betty Ward*

## **2 Cedar Avenue**

R.W. Burrell House

circa 1880s

This Victorian Gothic frame house was built for the Burrell family in the 1880s. The Burrells ran the General Store at the crossroad of the village and their house was the first in the village with a flush toilet. Originally clad in wood siding, the house has been re-faced with cement board, a modern material which replicates wood cladding and has a long lifespan. This is a private residence.

20



*Photo Courtesy Peter Elms*

## **14 Emma Street**

Temperance Hotel

circa 1878

This frame structure was built as a hotel in 1878 by John Parsons shortly after the Hamilton & Northwestern Railway came through Caledon East in 1877. The hotel had a series of owners starting with Dr. Samuel Allison. The hotel, now a private residence, still stands facing what were the railway tracks (now the Caledon Trailway) and is the only remaining example of the once thriving hotel business in Caledon East.

21



*Photo Courtesy Donna Davies*

## **9 Emma Street**

Louis Swinton House

circa 1909

Built in 1909 for Louis Swinton and his bride Sadie White, this is an example of the use of rusticated concrete blocks in houses built in the village in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The blocks were manufactured at Proctor and White Mills which was situated on the south side of Emma Street. Note the use of red mortar which is a local characteristic of these houses. Swinton was a cattle drover and also held cattle auctions in a building at the back of this property. This is a private residence.

22



*Photo Courtesy Betty Ward*

## **15964 Airport Road**

Methodist Church Manse

circa 1878

In 1878, John Parsons, a local builder and developer, built a Victorian Gothic style frame manse for the Methodist Church Congregation on a half acre of land. The total cost, land and building, was \$1,100. It was used as the church manse until 1918. Since then it has been used for both residential and commercial purposes and has been much altered.

23



*Photo Courtesy Betty Ward*

## **15954 Airport Road**

Frame Store

early 1900s

Around 1903 or '04, blacksmith, Thomas Duke, did business in this end gable frame shop on the corner of Emma Street and Airport Road. Prior to 1918, George W. Berney rented it for a time before he moved his tinsmith business uptown to what had been the Cranston General Store. It was operated as a very successful Hat Shop by the Shore sisters until 1935. Over the years, this building has housed many enterprises and tenants, changing with the times.



24a



### Caledon Trailway

established in 1992

This branch of the Canadian National Railway (originally the Hamilton & Northwestern Railway) was closed in 1960 and its tracks removed in 1982. Subsequently purchased by the Town of Caledon, the rail bed, part of which followed an ancient channel formed when glaciers melted, has become the Caledon Trailway and extends from Terra Cotta through Palgrave to Highway #9. The trailway is part of both the Trans Canada Trail and the Greenbelt Cycling Route.

24b



*Photo Courtesy Jean Proctor*

### Caledon Trailway Pavilion

This Pavilion was the first, across Canada, to be located on the Trans Canada Trail and it sits on the former railway station lands. The station was built in the late 1870s and was dismantled in 1971.

24c



*Photo Courtesy Jean Proctor*

### Caledon Walk of Fame

Adjacent to the pavilion is the Caledon Walk of Fame which was initiated in 1999 to honour past and present Caledon residents who have made significant contributions to the quality of life locally, nationally and internationally. A stone is placed in honour of each recipient during a formal Walk of Fame ceremony, held annually when there is a qualifying nominee. The first recipient was local resident and international filmmaker, Norman Jewison.

### Other Points of Interest



*Photo Courtesy Nathan Hiller*

### 16626 Airport Road James McCarty House 2 km. north

This 2½ storey stone farmhouse, uniquely set into the hill, is on land that was part of a 200 acre free land grant given to widow Elizabeth Vanderburg, daughter of a United Empire Loyalist. The property was acquired by Denis McCarty circa 1833. The stone farmhouse was built by his son, James McCarty, during the 1850s, replacing the original log home that stood on the property. Three generations of McCartys farmed the land before they sold it to William and Elizabeth McKinley. In 1920, the McKinley's son, Wilfred, took it over. The property was sold in 1945 to two WWII veterans and their wives, Don and Daphne Lingwood and Leslie and Shirley Matheson. In 1967, Mr. and Mrs. John Brown bought the farmhouse, along with 25 acres, converting it to a dining establishment, now known as 'Villa Caledon Inn and James McCarty Pub.' Note: Daphne Lingwood was known across Canada as a sculptor and painter of leather artwork. She was a founder of Caledon Arts & Crafts for Youth. (CACY).



*Photo Courtesy Town of Caledon*

**15995 Innis Lake Road \*St. James Cemetery      circa 1852**

This cemetery was established on land given to the church by William Matthews where a frame structure, known as St. James Church, was built by the congregation. It replaced an 1843 log church which once stood across the road. Elisha and Elizabeth Tarbox were the first settlers in Caledon East and he is buried here. An interesting tombstone is that of Isaac Taylor who died during what is believed to have been the last duel in Ontario.

*Note: The date of 1837 on the cemetery sign pre-dates the establishing of the cemetery and probably reflects the death of Rebecca Bracken who died in 1837. Her remains were later re-interred in this cemetery.*

***A 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project of Heritage Caledon in 2016***

*Information and photos, courtesy of Caledon East and District Historical Society, are from Revisiting History – a Self-guided Tour of Significant Historical Sites, published by CEDHS to celebrate 25 Years.*

*Technical, mapping and heritage support from the Town of Caledon*

