

BLACK BANK

Since 1842

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Henry Allen & Wm. McClinton
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By 1890 there was a general store,
post office & Presbyterian Church.

A well known site for annual
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1851



2001

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Black Bank is situated on the 25th sideroad between Con. # 1 and Centre Road. It was first called Britannia but when an application for a post office was submitted they found the name Britannia was already taken. It, consequently, derived its name as the result of a practical joke. Mr. Henry Allen enlisted the help of his friends in Banda to secure a post office for the area. His friends knowing that Mr. Allen did not care for a spot in Ireland called Black Bank filled in this name on the application. It could not be changed later and stands to this day.

In 1866, William McClinton purchased lot 26, Conc. # 1. In 1876, he sold a mill site to Mary Plewes and Mr. Tarbush with the privilege to build a dam across "Dufferin Creek". The flour mill was built and run by James Plewes, Tom Turrell, George Smeal and T. Wallace until the '80's when it burnt down. This was the era of greatest prosperity for Black Bank.

Henry Allen was the first Postmaster followed by John Newell. Mr. Heitman, of Collingwood, built a general store next to the mill.

Some other residents in the 1870's were: Allan, Andrews, Bates, Beatty, Craig, Dinsmore, Dunseath, Gallagher, Hogen, Johnston, Levins, Molington, Moody, Neily, Nelson, Newell, Orr, Perry, Purdy, Quinn, Radford, Rusk, Stewart, Wilson.

By 1890, there was a Presbyterian Church and a school. Hentry Heitman was the Postmaster. The Bellamy, Dick, Hogg, Jemmison, Moffatt, Paughbam, Rinn, Scriver, Shaw and Thirston had joined the community.

Black Bank's close proximity to Ruskview, which was further east around the 2nd line, linked the two communities in many activities.