

# HONEYWOOD

*Since 1848*

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First settler: Elijah Broderick.  
Called 'Yorkshire Settlement' for  
the pioneers who left Yorkshire  
England. The hamlet became a  
prosperous village with 2 stores,  
2 churches and 3 banks. Pioneer  
descendants still farm here.

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1851



2001

## **HONEYWOOD**

**This village is located in the north western corner of the township, on the 2nd line west of Hurontario Street, on lots 25 & 26 and the 25th sideroad of Mulmur.**

**The name Rosewood was chosen by Mr. Wood of Toronto who had received a large tract of land for military services rendered. His wife's name was Rose and then his own surname. It was discovered that this name had already been taken and so he substituted Honey for Rose, Honeywood.**

**It was a heavily wooded area with rich farm land but was ignored because of the hazards of frost. In 1842 Elijah Broderick secured land from the crown on the south east corner of lot 25. At this time the area was in Simcoe County. Dufferin County didn't exist until 1875. In 1848, many from Yorkshire, England sailed to Canada. Among those was John Foster who settled in Peel but two of his sons Ralph and William journeyed further to secure lands in this area. Others who followed included Robert Grey, George Siddall, Robert Mortimer with sons Manuel and Mark, John Corby, James Wilson, Rueben Storey, George Anderson, R. Bell and Ben Lister. In the early 1850's Jonathan Copeland, Jerry Lamper, Abraham Ralph Foster, Thomas Hunt and William Brooks all settled in the area. Acres of bush were cleared to make way for the agricultural section that followed.**

**The early years saw settlers travel to Horning's Mills to the south for their mail. In 1865 the village of Honeywood received its own Post Office and Dr. Robert Lawrence was its first Post Master. At this time a hotel was built by Joseph Broderick, son of Elijah and a small store was operated by William Noble. George and Theodore Lawrence came from Lavender and purchased the Noble store. Their brother Dr. Robert Lawrence opened a medical office and a chemist shop in the store. Attention was then directed to a cemetery for all creeds and colours and the building of a log school. In 1855, The Public**

## 2.

School Act deemed it necessary to build a log school on the south west corner of the cemetery where it stood for many years, with the stipulation that it could be used by the clergy of every denomination as a meeting place.

In 1870, the Methodists built a frame church which was replaced in 1901 by a brick building and is now used by the United Church. The Anglicans followed in 1884 with a brick church. By 1871, a new school was built on the Prince of Wales Road. This was soon too small and a brick school was built in 1883 on the sideroad one-half mile east of Honeywood. Several years later another school was built on the Upper sideroad and the Prince of Wales Road building was closed. The first teacher in the old log building was Angus Bell. He was followed by Robert Reid in the brick school.

The village is now a thriving place and residents were served by Mr. Bowers, Mr. Ripley and Mr. McConachie at the general store. William McCracken, tailor, W.J. Finley, shoe repairs, blacksmith Mr. Joseph Tupling, a planing mill run by the Siddall Company joined the businesses of Honeywood.

In 1873, eight hotel licences were granted: W. Gilbert, T.E. Bates, J. Brown, E. Henderson, W. A. Beaty, J. Sullivan, R. McCracken.

The community of Honeywood has many families that trace their history back to the early days of the area; Broderick, Copeland, Foster, Siddall and Tupling, just to name a few. Community spirit is alive and flourishing today in this friendly village.