

ROSEMONT

Since 1846

First settlers were Morrison and Gilmore families. By 1860, there were 2 hotels, post office, stores a blacksmith shop and 2 churches.

1851



2001

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This community had the unique fortune to be situated at the corner where four townships met; highway # 89 and the town lines of Mulmur, Mono, Tosorontio, and Adjala. Its history is closely woven with the earlier settlement of Mulmur's Corners, one concession to the west.

Captain John Little and his wife were the first white inhabitants of Mulmur's Corners and thus the Rosemont area. They were joined by Hugh Morrison, The Gilmore Family, Robert Henry, George McManiss, Alex Irvin, Captain Little's brother and his wife, Robert Murphy, J. Reid, John Hoey, Thomas Irwin, Thomas Langley and William Ryan.

In 1824 The Littles came from York and settled on a crown land grant of 200 acres on the 7th concession. Part of this property is still owned and inhabited by the Little family.

Mr. Fletcher acquired 100 acres from Captain John in trade for a pair of Indian leather boots. This is now the Murphy farm.

J. Gilmore acquired land through a crown deed in 1846 and opened a store. 1857 saw the opening of a general store by George Cummings in Morrison's hotel. After his marriage, he built his own store and later sold it to E.J. Nichol. This store was two storied and featured a landing space for millinery.

There is still in operation today a general store and gift shop in Rosemont.

1857 was the year Robert McDowell arrived in Rosemont area to settle land on concession # 1 Tosorontio. He was followed on this land by son Alex and his wife Norah.

At this time mail came from Gilford by stage and was then delivered north by George Cummings to Mulmur through Stanton, Mansfield and Perm and south to Mono by way of Parker Mills (later Sheldon Mills).

In 1860, Mr. Cummings was appointed Post Master, Commissioner for Bench of Simcoe in 1866, Commissioner of Marriages in 1870, Notary Public in 1875 and High Court Justice in 1883. Subsequent Post Masters were Thomas Hannah, Hubert Reburn, Norman Palmer, Wilbur Law, Mrs. Law,

Isaac Bird Rouse (who was also a salesman and law clerk).

A Methodist congregation was formed under Rev. Garner.

St. Luke's at Mulmur's Corners built a stone church to replace the log one in 1860, under Rev. McLeary's leadership, and was debt free by 1865. In 1927 the congregation built a new brick church in the Rosemont village area on the site of the McCartee Hotel which had burnt down.

The Presbyterian congregation, started in 1839, drew Mansfield members to Rosemont to worship. This building burnt in 1901 and was rebuilt in 1902. It was sold and torn down in 1944.

The United parish built on land donated by Robert Thompson and erected a building in 1872. Peter Addison was the minister.

Orange Lodge # 9 was issued a warrant in 1830 but because it was lost or burnt reissued in 1845 to Brother W. McCracken.

Meetings were held at Master W. McKee's and the membership in 1860 was between 40 and 60.

Orange Lodge # 86 was formed in 1848 by John Quigley and Brother J. Cumberland. They also met in the master's house.

They built a hall in 1862. The two lodges joined together in 1922 with about 74 members and a new hall was built in 1930 using lumber from the two older halls.

Situated as it was on the road between Alliston and Shelburne, Rosemont was a boon to travelers. A hotel had been built in 1830 by Thomas Henderson on the south west corner of the village. The Globe Hotel's present building was built in 1859 and hosted guests until 1955. John Law became the hotel keeper in 1902. During this era the McCartee Hotel across the highway caught fire and stories tell that the Globe's owner's wife guarded the well on her property with a shotgun and would not allow the firefighters to save the opposition's building. This well is still in evidence today on the corner outside the current hotel.

In 1968 The Needles Family, Dorothy Jane and William purchased the site. For several years it remained vacant until 1971 when the Needles began restoration work and it reopened as a restaurant in 1973. Its popularity and reputation

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for great food still exists today having passed through the management of the Niklaus Family to the present owners, Beth Hunt and David McCracken. Another hotel was built on the south east corner of Mulmur township by Charles Amess in 1873, sold it to Thomas Wright. Three hotels flourish at one time: Henderson's, McCartees (burnt in 1905) and Morrisons. Two liquor stores were also open for business.

Rosemont attracted many skilled trades. John Law opened a blacksmith shop. His first one burnt but he rebuilt and it still stands today. He was joined by John Morrison, John Brown, James Alexander & James Robb. John Lackey opened a veterinary practice, Dr. Bailey moved to Rosemont from Hockley.

In the 1870's the court house at Mulmur's Corners burnt and was rebuilt at Stanton. McBride's store also burnt and so they relocated to the Rosemont corners and reopened in Mrs. Thompson's stand (fancy jewellery). George Cummings opened a store, Mr. McCall a tailor shop, Michael Irwin was a boot and shoe maker, Mr. Phillips operated an ashery for butter tubs, wooden pails and barrels, John Hillock ran a stage line to Shelburne and a cheese factory opened. The Cummings store was sold to Mr. Foucar, in 1904 to William McCracken and in 1907 he bought Cumberland's store.

The village grew and prospered, consisting of 10 stores, 2 blacksmith shops, a painter and decorator, carriage shop, an undertaker, veterinarian, 2 hotels, 3 churches with ministers and a doctor. Rosemont also became well known for its fairs and cattle shows.

Rosemont today is an active community with two churches, the Orange Hall, The busy Globe, the General Store and Gift Shop, the volunteer fire hall and boasts of a family orientated subdivision of its south east side while still being home to many "oldtimers".