

IT'S ABOUT TIME...

Newsletter of the Port Hope Archives

History Issue ~ Spring 2008

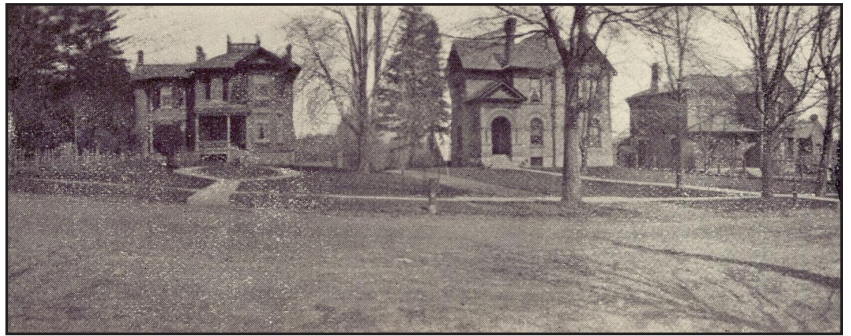
What's in a name?

Every street name in Port Hope has a story behind it. With a little knowledge of Port Hope's history, the origin of street names such as Walton, Smith, Arthur, Trefusis and Heneage become obvious. But what about some of the other names? What is the story behind them?

AUGUSTA STREET

The street was named after Augusta Louisa Woodworth (1813-1907), the second wife of John David Smith (1786-1849). When John David died, Augusta was named one of the trustees of his estate. It was after his death that his large property holdings were surveyed to become the Smith Estate Plan. Sale of the subdivided lots provided for his widow and fourteen children

The Wall & Forrest map of 1853 shows Augusta Street extending to Victoria Street. However, in 1851 when the right angle turns were constructed at Thomas Street, council minutes state that Augusta connects with Sherborne Street.



Bedford Street, ca. 1904

BEDFORD STREET

Bedford Street's namesake was Luke Bedford, who was active in town affairs in the 1840s and 1850s. Luke was a grandson of Jonathan Bedford who settled at Dale in 1797.

BROWN STREET

The land for this street was given by John Brown so that those attending the Methodist Church could have easier

access. The church at that time was on the opposite side of the street from the present church. According to the town minutes, Brown Street was to be made passable for wagons in 1837.



Brown Street, ca. 1905. The side of the Methodist Church (built 1878) is visible on the left.

John Brown came to Port Hope in 1818 and spent the rest of his life here. He ran a store, distillery, blacksmith shop, flour and grist mills. He was the president and principal owner of the Harbour Company and was frequently elected to the Board of Police (equivalent to municipal council at the time). He served as MP for Durham in 1830 and 1835.

CRAIG STREET

Craig Street, located off Cavan Street, was named after the tannery operated by William Craig Sr. and William Craig Jr.

The Craig tannery was in business on Cavan Street as early as 1858. In the 1871 business directory they were listed as “wool pullers and leather dealers.”

William Craig Sr. and William Craig Jr. lived on Bedford Street.



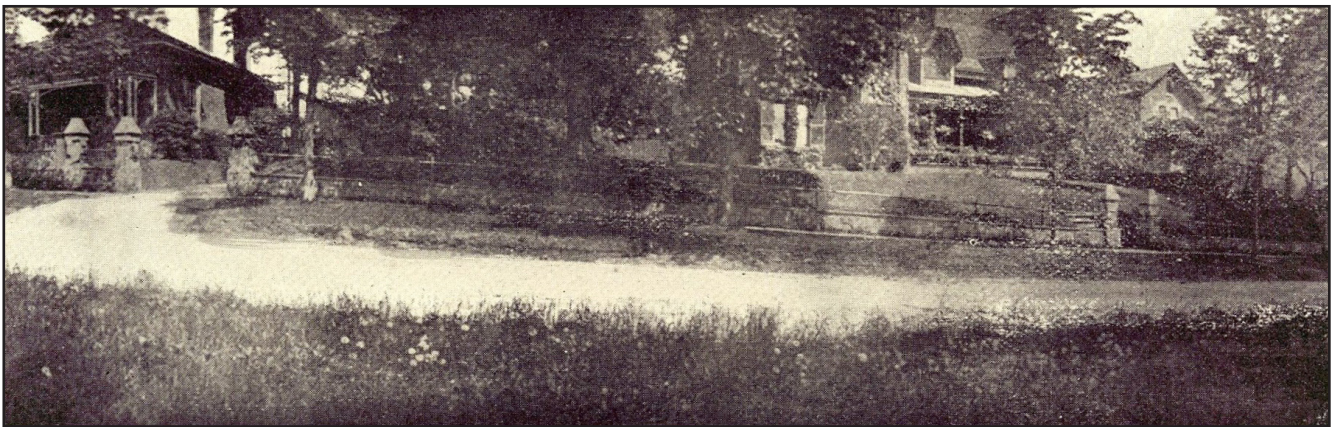
The Craig Tannery on Cavan Street, ca. 1901

DORSET AND SHERBORNE STREETS

Dorset and Sherborne Streets were named after Sherborne, Dorsetshire, England the birthplace of Thomas Ridout (1754-1829).

Dorset Street was originally known as Base Line. The Base Line was the line from which the township was surveyed. This name appears on the earliest maps of Port Hope and was in use until ca. 1857. When Mary Ridout, widow of Thomas, sold a lot on this street in 1859, the street name of Dorset was used.

The name “Sherborne” was given to the Ridout estate in Toronto and also to the street on which it was situated. The name was transferred from Toronto to the street in Port Hope by Thomas Gibbs Ridout. The spelling of the Port Hope street name was eventually changed to *Sherbourne*.



Dorset Street West ca. 1904.

ROBERTSON STREET

The street was named after James Robertson (1793-1871), an Englishman who came to Port Hope in 1819. His tannery and house were located at the corner of John and Robertson Streets. The Robertson family operated a store on Walton Street.

Harold Reeve's research found that James had a dispute with John Brown over the boundary line of stores he was building on the south side of Walton Street. The walls put up during the day were pulled down by Brown at night. This problem was solved by Robertson patrolling with a shotgun.

Catalogue of Streets.

from the 1856/57 Port Hope Business Directory

Ashford-street,	runs from Hope street to Cavan street.
Armour Lane,	" Ward to King.
Augusta street,	" Victoria to Elias.
Base Line,	" Victoria to Nelson.
Bedford,	" Cavan to Yeovil.
Bramley,	" Base Line to Cumberland.
Brown,	" Walton to North.
Bruton,	" Victoria to Pine.
Caldwell,	" King to Hope.
Catherine,	" Base Line to Harris.
Cavan,	" Walton to Hope.
Charles,	" Victoria to Julia.
Cumberland,	" Victoria, east.
DeBlacquire,	" the Lake to Town Line.
Elias,	runs from Robertson, north.
Elizabeth,	" Hay to Catherine.
Elgin,	" the Lake to Town Line.
Ellen,	" Creek to Ontario street.
Gage,	" John to Mill.
Gifford,	" Pine street, west.
Green,	" Walker to Cavan Road.
Harris,	" Hay to Catherine.
Harcourt,	" Ward to Hope.
Hayward,	" Pine street, west.
Hay,	" Harris to Elizabeth.
Hill,	" Bruton to Bedford.
Hope,	" Caldwell to Town Line.
John,	" Marsh to Walton.
Jones,	" Walker to Cavan.
Julia,	" Ridout to Yeovil.
King,	" Madison to Ward.
Madison,	" Mill to King.
Margaret,	" Creek to Ontario.
Marsh,	" Pine street, west.
Mill,	" Ontario st. to east Pier.
Nelson,	" the Lake to Town Line.
North Market street, . .	" Elias to Queen.
North,	" Pine to Cavan.
Percy,	" Catherine to Smith.
Peter,	" Queen to Nelson.
Pine,	" West Pier to Town Line.
Queen,	" Gage to Walton.
Ridout,	" Victoria to intersect'n, Walton.
Ross,	" Pine street, west.
Seymour,	" Bedford to North.
Sherborne,	" Victoria street, east.
Shuter,	" Queen to Hope.
Sculthrope,	" Catherine to Smith.
South,	" Pine to Cavan.
South Market street, . .	" Elias to Queen.
Strachan,	" Victoria street, east.
Smith,	" Marsh to Base Line.
Sullivan,	" Victoria street, east.
Victoria,	" the Lake to Town Line.
Walker,	" Town Line to Jones.
Walton,	" Mill to intersection, Ridout.
Ward,	" Mill to DeBlacquire.
William,	" King to Nelson.
Wolfe,	" Catherine to Smith.
Yeovil,	" Victoria to Bedford.

Research for this newsletter collected from:

- 1856/57 Port Hope Business Directory
- Canadian Dominion Directory for 1871
- Harold Reeve's research notes on Port Hope street name origins
- Old Boys Re-Union Souvenir booklet, compiled by Joseph Hooper, 1901
- Picturesque Port Hope, ca. 1904

Coming Events

Open House - April 5th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Join the Port Hope Archives on Saturday, April 5th to celebrate Archives Awareness Week across the province. Come and see all the changes at the Archives, bring your questions about genealogy, check out historic maps of Port Hope, and much more! Hope to see you there!

Doors Open Port Hope - May 31st, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Port Hope Archives is pleased to participate once again in Doors Open Port Hope to be held Saturday, May 31st. Volunteers and staff will be on hand to provide tours of the facility, show off the newly renovated records storage area and answer any questions visitors may have.

As a part of Doors Open Ontario, a province-wide event sponsored by the Ontario Heritage Trust, Doors Open Port Hope is presented by the Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and the Municipality of Port Hope. This event will allow the public to get a rare look at the inside of over a dozen buildings in the municipality that are not normally completely open to the public.

Buildings included will be Port Hope's 1871 Music Hall (Opera House), the Port Hope water treatment plant, Molson's Mill, Port Hope's town hall (including the old jail in the basement), the Wesleyville Methodist Church, St. Mark's Anglican Church, Union Cemetery's Caretaker's Cottage and Chapel, the **Port Hope Archives** and several buildings at Trinity College School, including its historic chapel.

Admission to all sites is free of charge and visitors may begin their tour at any participating location. Hosts will be in attendance at each site to provide event maps and brochures.

Silent Auction - May 31st, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

When you visit the Port Hope Archives on May 31st for Doors Open Port Hope, be sure to show your support and place a bid on items during the PHA's silent auction. All proceeds to the Port Hope Archives. Auction items will include antiques, gift certificates and much more!

JOIN US

Annual Memberships to the Port Hope Archives are available to everyone. For more information visit or call the Archives.

Household \$25
Business/Organization \$50

DONATIONS

All donations of \$25 or more are eligible for a tax receipt. The Port Hope Archives is a registered charity

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OUR MANDATE

The Port Hope Archives exists to collect and preserve archival materials which illustrate the growth and development of the Municipality of Port Hope or which pertain in whole or in part to activities within the geographic boundaries of the Municipality of Port Hope.

It's About Time...

PUBLISHED BY THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

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HOURS

WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY
1 PM TO 4:30 PM

SATURDAY
10 AM TO 4 PM
CLOSED 12 PM TO 1 PM