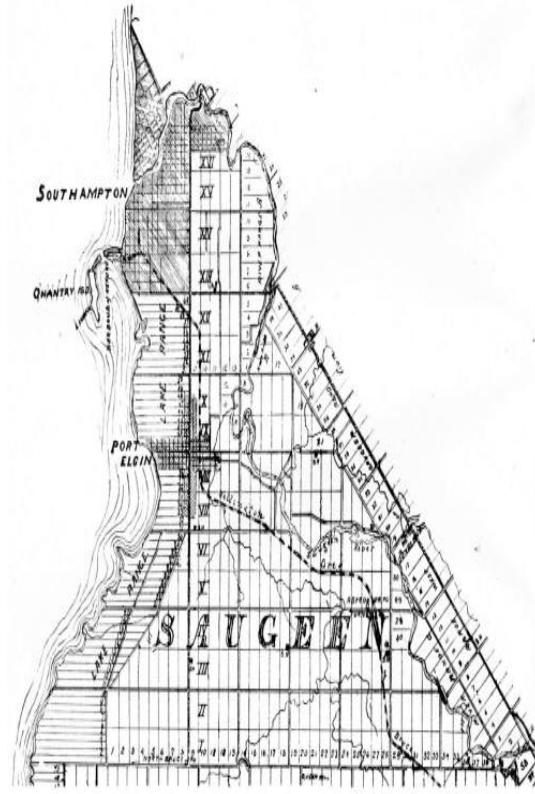


#6 - Turners

1951 Bruce Road 40

Also known as Pipe Clay and Aberdour, Turners was once an important commercial/ transportation hub for south Saugeen. When the railway came through in 1873, a train station was established on the east side of the tracks and named Turners Station after Thomas Turner who owned the nearby store and grain elevator. A post office was established at Turners in the early 1930s and operated there until 1961 when the rural routes were replaced by Paisley post office. The Turners' house was home to a number of local commercial enterprises including a blacksmith & 2 sawmills. Stockyards with weigh scales and a chute for loading livestock onto trains were also built at Turners making the hamlet an important center for farmers looking to ship their animals to major centers like Toronto. The importance of Turners as a commercial hub began to decline in the second half of the 20th century when trucks began to surpass rail as the major means of commercial transportation. All that remains of the hamlet is the store that is now a private residence.

Historic Saugeen Township Driving Tour



Saugeen History Hunters. Roots and Branches of Saugeen 1854-1984 – A History of Saugeen Township. (Owen Sound: Stan Brown Printers Ltd., 1984)

Saugeen Township Notable People. Bruce County Genealogical Society.

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~onbcgs/bcgstwpssaugeen.htm>

Introduction

European settlement of Saugeen Township began, in earnest, after the land survey was completed in 1851. Settlers arrived on foot from the Owen Sound area. They came by schooner along the Lake Huron shoreline. They arrived along the Saugeen river on home-made rafts. They cleared the heavy bush, set down roots and prospered.

The properties and structures that you will see as part of this driving tour were cleared and constructed by these settlers and their descendants. They stand a testament to the endeavors of all of those who have lived on, and by, this land.

SAUGEEN SHORES MUNICIPAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Phone: (519) 832-2008

#1 -Denny's Dam

484 Carlisle Street

Now a popular spot for canoe landings and sport fishing, Denny's Dam was once home to the mills of John Denny. Denny was a descendant of the Denny's of Dumbarton, Scotland, and the famous ship builders. He purchased the rights of a millrace and gristmill in 1855 and proceeded to construct a gristmill, a sawmill, a woolen mill and an inn. The inn remains and is currently occupied by Thorncrest Outfitters of Southampton. In 1865, the government of Upper Canada constructed the first of many bridges in the area known as Denny's Bridge (the footings of the bridge at Denny's Dam are still in place downstream from the present dam site). In the early 1900s a cement dam and race was constructed for producing hydroelectric power. The Saugeen Electric Light and Power Company provided power for Southampton, Port Elgin and even Walkerton until responsibility for the power supply was taken over by Ontario Hydro in the late 1920s. The Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority built the current dam in the early 1970s.



#2 - Knox Presbyterian Church and Manse

4865 Bruce Rd #3

In April 1859, the congregation of what is now Knox Presbyterian Church asked the Presbytery to supply them with a minister. At that time, the church was known as the West Arran Mission and services were being held in a school west of the Burgoyne corner. In 1866, tenders were done for the construction of a church. The new brick building was completed in 1869. In 1894, the congregation built the brick manse that still stands across the road from the church in Arran Township. Ministers occupied this manse for many years and then it was rented out by the church until it sold in 1975.



#3 - Birthplace of David Milne

1611 Bruce Road 17

(Note: New house has been erected on the original site)

David Brown Milne, artist, was born here on Lot 19 of the 10th Concession of Saugeen Township. He was the youngest child of William Milne and Mary Doverty, who emigrated from Aberdeenshire, Scotland. When he was 8 years old, the family moved to the village of Paisley. Milne obtained teacher's training, and taught school at Union School Section No. 7 & 8, Elderslie and Saugeen, on the Elora Road near Saugeen Bluffs from 1900 to 1903, before leaving to study art in New York. He died in 1953. A memorial plaque was erected in Paisley in 1962 in his honour. Many of his paintings are in the National Gallery of Canada's collection and in the Bruce County Museum.



#4- Dunblane Presbyterian Church

230 The River Road

The people of Dunblane built one of the oldest remaining church buildings in Bruce County, Dunblane Presbyterian Church in 1859. At a time when roads were virtually non-existent, this site along the beautiful Saugeen River was chosen to provide good access by canoe in the summer and sleigh in the winter. The congregation joined the United Presbyterian Church in 1860. Regular worship continued at the Dunblane church until it was closed in 1968. The church's original cedar log structure still remains. Through the years, it has been covered by plaster and paper on the inside, board, and batten on the outside. The church remains open for public viewing throughout the summer months.



#5 – Dunblane School

4253 Bruce Road 3

Established in 1881, Union School section #1 Saugeen, Arran and Elderslie was intended to provide a more conveniently located school for children living in and around the thriving community of Dunblane. The first school on this site opened in 1882 with an enrollment of 70 students. In January of 1902, the original school building was destroyed by fire and replaced with a new school constructed on the same site. This new school had slate blackboards – a first for the district. The Dunblane School remained in operation until 1964 when students began to travel by bus to the new central schools in Port Elgin and Paisley.

