HISTORIC SOUTHAMPTON
Walking Tours

Walking Tour

SAUGEEN SHORES
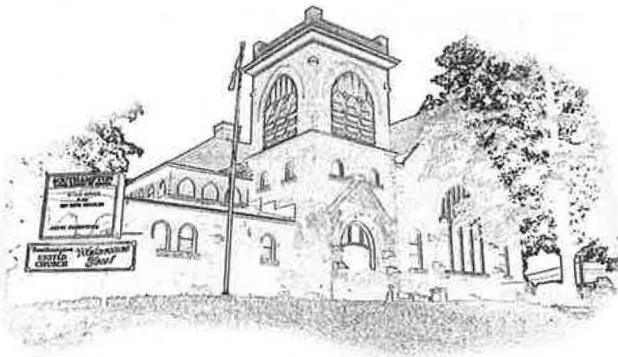
1 106 Victoria Street S
### Solomon Knechtel House

In 1897, Solomon Knechtel, a furniture manufacturer, built this Victorian home for his wife and eight children.
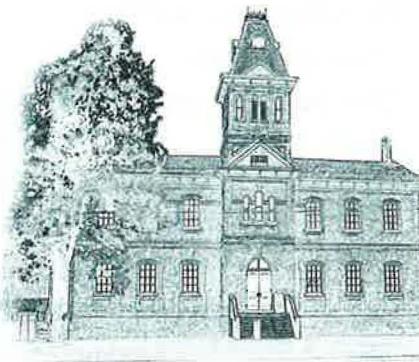
2 10 Victoria Street S
United Church Canada

This Church was built in 1908 for the expanding Methodist congregation.

3 Little Lake

Also known as Fairy Lake. A natural park setting enjoyed by many visitors for summer concerts or bird watching.
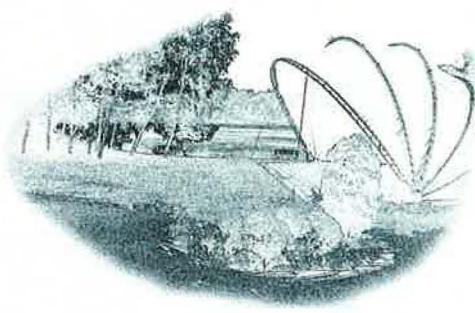
4 33 Victoria Street N
Old Public School

The building was opened as a school in 1878. Now the Morton Section (after historian Dr. J.F. Morton) of the Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre, it is designated as a historical property, an "early example of rural public design and construction using local materials

and craftsmanship..." In 1992, the building was completely restored. The most visible part of this restoration project was the replacement of the missing bell tower, which blew off in a storm earlier this century.

5 34 Victoria Street N
Lawn Bowling Clubhouse

The original turned posts of the early 1900 pavilion-style building are still visible under the aluminum.

6 22 Victoria Street N

This cottage survived the Great Fire of 1886.

7 248 High Street
St. Paul's Anglican Church

Built in 1889, this Church replaced a fine frame Church of England building destroyed in the Great Fire of 1886. The fire destroyed more than 50 buildings in the village. Extensive restoration has been carried out on the bell tower.

8 247 High Street
Baptist Church

(Presently Southampton Lutheran Church) If one looks closely, it will be noticed that a section has been added to the High Street side of this building. The amber window panes and fine interior lights (made by a local craftsman) are noteworthy. There was once a concrete baptismal font below the floor.

9 201 High Street
Town Hall

Built in 1910-1911 for about $12,000.00 it replaced a former rifle-company drill shed that had been used as a village hall on the same site since 1873. Fortunately, the building has not had major alterations. At one time, the Fire Hall was housed in what is today's Art School & Gallery.

10 — 20 Albert Street S
Art School

This building was built in 1888 by James Howe as a private library. In 1892, a Mechanic's Institute was formed and used this structure. By 1896, it opened as a Public Library. Howe donated the building to the Town in 1912 on the condition that it only is used for cultural purposes.

11 — 49 Albert Street S
Hampton Villa

(Hampton Court Retirement Facilities Inc.) Erected as a private residence by C.M. Bowman at the turn of the century, in the Queen Anne Revival Style, this house became a summer hotel in 1934. It is now a Retirement Home.

12 — 33 Albert Street S

The Customs Agent once lived in this house, which was built in 1902 by the Bowman Family who were owners of the local tannery. The Bowman's also built Hampton Court, and the large brick house at 125 High Street. (No. 42 on the map)

13 — 38 Albert Street N
Masonic Hall

This building was erected in 1860 two years after the village was incorporated. The building served as a combined village hall and school. It was used as a hall from 1860 to 1873, and as a school from 1860 until 1876. The Masonic Lodge, which was founded in 1860, bought the building in 1879. The date stone of 1899 is misleading, perhaps that was the date the building was covered with brick.

14 — 48 Albert Street N

The owners of Crescent Manor are dedicated to preserving the building's original Victorian character.

15 — 47 Albert Street N

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church The present building was erected in 1887, and enlarged in 1911 with the addition of the belfry and steeple, the two front entrances and a basement.

16 79 Albert Street N

The Canadian poet William Wilfred Campbell ("Along the line of smoky hills, the crimson forest stands…") lived in this house, which was once the rectory for the Anglican Church. It was likely built in the 1860's and was later occupied by George Clifford Huston, the principal after whom the elementary school is named.

17 221 Clarendon Street

James Cathay, Missionary and School Master of the Indian Village, built this house in 1853. Cathay's sister was buried in the backyard in 1856; a fact discovered when the present owner was gardening. Saugeen Township's Inaugural Council Meeting was held in this house in January of 1854. A memorial meeting was held in January 2004 by Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores.

18 90 Albert Street N

Captain John Munro's old home is typical of a number of Southampton homes in that its own history is intertwined with the Town's marine history for much of its life. The actual date this house was built is not known but it is a fact the house has had at least five owners who were early Great Lake Mariners.

19 88 Grosvenor Street N

This was originally a fisherman's net shed.

20 65 Water Street

John Belcher, a blacksmith, bell-maker and hotel keeper, moved to Southampton in 1852. This building may have been Belcher's Tavern, the location of the first Saugeen Township election in 1853.

21 52 Grosvenor Street N

In its earliest years, this rough-cast home was owned by John "Simon" Matheson, a local fisherman.

22 38 Grosvenor Street N

This attractive brick home was owned by Captain George A. MacAulay, a local mariner, who at one time owned the 45-ton schooner "Abeona", which had been built in Southampton in 1868 by the Hackett Boat Works.

**23 146 High Street
Walker House**

There has been a hotel on this site since the 1860's. The Great Fire of 1886 started just north of here, but this block escaped. In its history, it has been called Gilbert's Hotel, the Masonic Arms, Central Hotel and the Walker House.

24 118 High Street

Captain D.G. (Dan) MacAulay, mariner and owner of at least four local work-tugs early this century, built this home in 1893. It was the scene of many patriotic "Sons of Scotland" dinners and parties.

25 25 Huron Street N

Built in 1896, this imposing Late Victorian home was built for Magnus Spence, a local gentleman, who moved here from Bruce Township.

26 **57 Huron Street N**

This fine home with the interesting dormer facing the lake was once the home of Captain Angus MacAulay. He was Master of the "Tecumseh", a two-masted schooner built in Goderich in 1862. A prominent Southampton fisherman, Murdoch Matheson, lived here after the MacAulay's.

27 **71 Huron Street N**

Alexander McNabb, the first Crown Land Agent of Bruce County, lived here as early as 1852, followed by a Scottish ship's carpenter and fisherman, Thomas Bonthron, and a mariner, Captain George S. MacAulay.
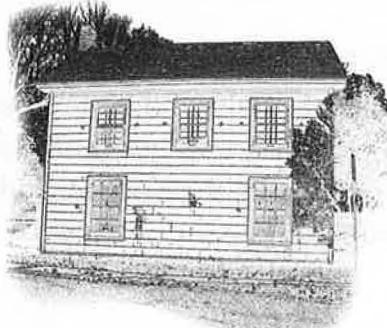
28 **108 Saugeen Street**

This was originally the Dominion Fish Company net shed.

29 **98 Saugeen Street**

This yellow net shed and residence once housed a fish store on the river side.

30 **6 Huron Street N**
Known as Glen Huron, this attractive home was built in the 1860's. This is truly one of the gems of Southampton, and fortunately, it is almost unchanged. Notice the sculptured verge board on the front gable end, and the rosette in wood. The manager of the Dominion Fish Company once lived here.

31 **18 Huron Street N**
This intact Regency cottage was built in the early 1850's by Southampton's first permanent settler, Captain John Spence. Spence saved 15 shipwrecked sailors from certain death in 1876, off the coast of Michigan, receiving a medal from U.S. President Grant.

32 **22 Huron Street N**
Once the home of Captain Redde Longe, a tug boat engineer. Although small and plain, it is an important home in that its history is part of the Town's marine past.
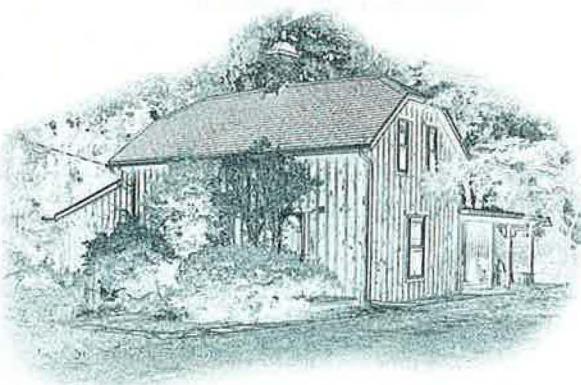
33 **Front Street**
A map of 1870, (produced when the waterfront lots and along the river harbour were being surveyed and divided for the first time) shows Front Street settled almost entirely by squatters, many of whom were coopers supplying the fishing trade with barrels. Their shanties dotted the shoreline from High Street to the Harbour. There was also a planing factory – no doubt to provide wood for barrel staves – a proposed salt works and a slaughterhouse in 1870.

34 **Harbour**
Grain warehouses and net sheds of local fishermen once lined the docks. Across the river, a range light on the end of the pier still guides sailors into the harbour. When the Federal Government started to remove the shingles from the second range light, located above the river bridge, citizens of the Town rallied and successfully petitioned the government to stay with the original shingles, rather than the planned aluminum. Numerous wooden vessels were built along this shore - from small dinghies to large schooners.

35 **56 Front Street**
Home of Annie Longe, first white child born in Southampton in 1840. When the lots were surveyed, it was discovered that this log building (now covered) was on the road allowance.

36 **36 Front Street and 21 Lansdowne Street Driftwood and Moyles Court**
Fine examples of early cottages, dating to the 1890's. At Moyles Court, a salt well was sunk in the 1860's. It never produced salt, but it became a mineral bathhouse and springs. On into the 1940's, residents were able to get mineral water from an overflow pipe on Front Street.

37 Gussey's Point
An early name for this Point. Named after a local fisherman, Gus Granville.

38 12 Front Street N
Five graves are shown (to the left of the present driveway) on the map of 1871. On the beach, in front, stood the storm signals that warned mariners of impending gales. The storm signals have been recreated in Pioneer Park.

39 Chantry Island Lighthouse and Keepers Quarters
From the end of High Street, one sees the Chantry Island Lighthouse, completed in 1859. It is one of six Imperial Tower Lights built. At one time, two long breakwaters stretched from the mainland to the Island, with a 400-foot gap between. This breakwater – now called the "Long Dock" – was a $300,000 government project of the 1870's to create a harbour of refuge for ships during Lake Huron storms. Treacherous rocky shoals around Chantry Island have claimed more than 40 vessels.

40 11 Front Street N.
This charming cottage was made from a barn on this property. The lot at one time went through to Huron Street behind it. Both parts were owned by the Logie's, a successful Southampton fishing family.

41 107 High Street
George E. Smith, merchant and shipbuilder, built this house in 1907. He was the owner of a large steam vessel, built in Southampton, named the "Lillie Smith", after his daughter. It has also been the home of two furniture manufacturers, the Bells and the Fitton's.

42 125 High Street
This was one of three homes built by the Bowman Family, owners of the Town's Tannery, which burned to the ground in 1900. Note the beautiful examples of gingerbread trim, porch design and stained, leaded-glass windows.

43 **123 Leeder Lane**
This Georgian vernacular home was built in 1875 for Peter McGregor, a local shoemaker.

44 **169 Leeder Lane**
This cottage with the small turret was an early hospital for Southampton.

45 **92 Grosvenor Street S**
Built about 1860 for Neil McQuilkan, a teacher. When workers removed a layer of aluminum siding and an earlier layer of stucco they found the original wood siding still intact.
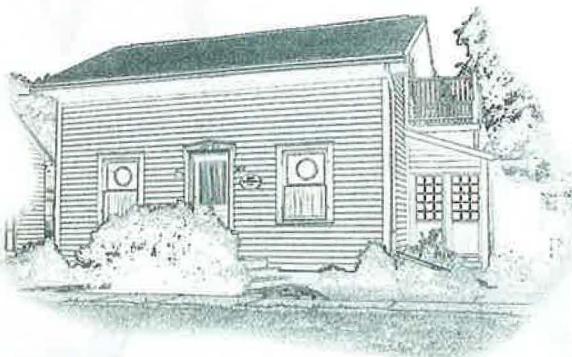
46 **97 Grosvenor Street S**
This charming Ontario cottage was built in 1882 for James Dundas, a local railway mail clerk. Note the unusual glass lantern on the roof which illuminates the second floor.
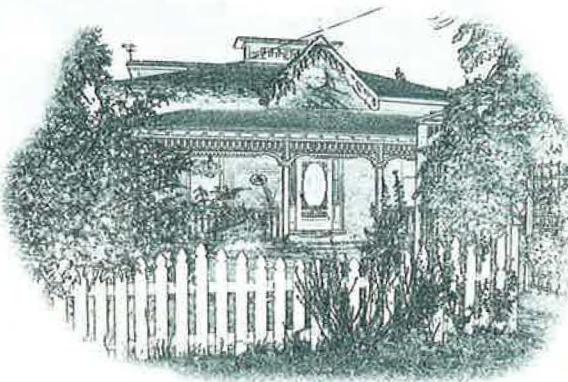
47 **124 Morpeth Street**
This brick "worker's cottage" is one of several identical homes in this vicinity that were built by the Bell Furniture Company for its employees.

48 **83 Huron Street S**
A fine, unaltered example of an Ontario cottage.

49 **97 Huron Street S**   .
This house was built in the 1870's and extensively remodeled in the 1920's by the family that owned the Forsyth Shirt Company.

50 **101 Grosvenor Street S**
Built in 1893 for David Armstrong, a railway brakeman
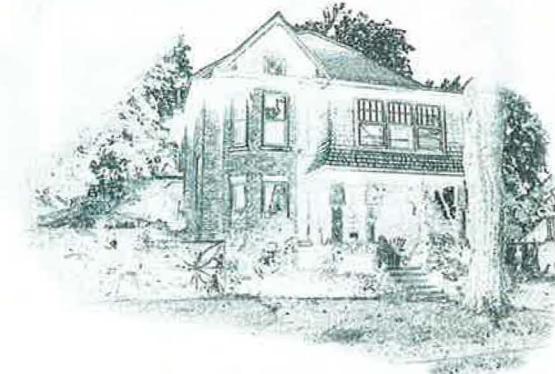
51 **124 Grosvenor Street S**
Railway Station
This train station, built in 1906, is a classic example of railway architecture.

52 **148 Grosvenor Street S**
South of the train station, is the early building, interesting in that it was once a railway shed.

53 **144 Chantry View Drive**
Built in 1877 for Daniel McBride, farmer from Arran Township.
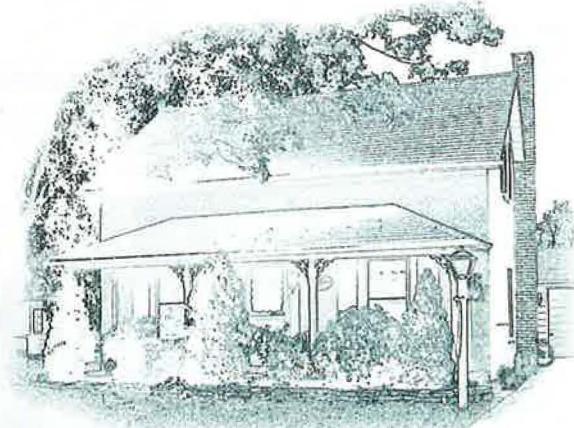
54 **148 Huron Street S**
This cottage, built in 1927 for the Zinkan Family, has always been a summer residence.

55 **111 Chantry View Drive**
Built originally as a summer cottage. It once stood on Huron Street.

56 **65 Chantry View Drive**
This octagonal cottage, built in 1910, was one of two built side by side as summer cottages in this block. The charming central tower is not only a lookout to the lake – it holds three beds.