

Proof only.

SAINT GEORGE'S CHURCH, FALKENBURG

St George's Church, Falkenburg, was originally built about 1875 at The Junction, about a mile to the north of its present position. This was at that time the most important point in the district, being on the original Muskoka Road, about half way between Gravenhurst, the end of steel, and Huntsville, a centre for water transportation, at its junction with the Parry Sound Road. There were two hotels, a blacksmith shop, store, saw-mill, etc. In the graveyard can still be seen a marker of native rock, with the names of Matthias Moore, 1824-1893, one of the original Churchwardens, his wife, Susan Fielder, 1825-1910, and his son, Arthur Moore, 1860-1926. Another stone marks the grave of Samuel Olimer, 1801-1888.

In 1885 the Grand Trunk Railway was built past Falkenburg, and the following year the Church was taken down and re-erected on its present site opposite the station, this being now the centre of the settlement, but with a steeper roof than before. There was already a log Church to the south of this, in which Methodist services were occasionally held until the 1890's. The building is gone, but the graveyard is still used as a Union Cemetery for all the residents of Falkenburg, and kept in very good condition, so there are no graves round the present St George's Church.

There was at one time a log Church at Bardville, on Lot 8, Concession X, Monck, on the south side of the old Port Carling Road, some three miles west and north of Falkenburg, but very little is known about this at the time of writing. His family, however, have a note that on November 8, 1888, Mr Harry Blanchard agreed to line the walls, nine feet high, with tongue and grooved lumber, to put in ten new seats, like those in the Falkenburg Church, and also to build a plain Porch in front of the Church, for thirty dollars, twelve to be paid in advance by Henry Austin, the People's Warden, and the balance by the Bishop of Algoma when the work was complete. The Church stood on the hill above the School, not far from the Falkenburg Centre Post Office, one of the oldest in the district.

The building was taken down about 1900, and some of the material used to build the present Chancel and Vestry of St George's Church.

About 1904 the inside walls of the Church were lined with ash match-boarding.

A large Hall was built beside the Church about 1924, but this was sold in 1957, as it was in need of repair, and had not been used for some time. Electric light was installed in the Church in 1946. In 1958 a new linoleum tile floor was put down by members of the congregation.

CLERGY

The first services in the district were taken by the Incumbents of Bracebridge. Among these may be mentioned:

- Rev'd H. B. Wray, June 3, 1865 to Dec. 26, 1869.
- Rev'd Thomas Ball, May 22, 1870 to June 1874.
- Rev'd Joseph Stinton Cole, June 1874 to July 1883.
- Rev'd S. E. Knight, Sept. 30, 1883 to Sept. 3, 1884.
- Rev'd Edward J. Stubbs, Sept. 23 to Dec. 31, 1884.
- Rev'd James Boydell, Sept. 1884 to April 3, 1899.
- Rev'd W. A. J. Burt, Sept. 21, 1899 to Aug. 20, 1903.

Some services were taken by Canon Arthur H. Allman, of Gravenhurst, between Aug. 20, and Oct. 28, 1891, and by the Rev'd A. W. Hazelhurst, of Baysville, between Aug. 23, 1895 and Jan. 3, 1896. A lay-reader from Bracebridge, Mr R. S. Ferguson, bicycled out to Falkenburg and Beatrice between April 23 and Sept. 20, 1916.

Later, services were taken by priests who had charge of Falkenburg and Beatrice, and other country points, such as Milford Bay or Uffington. Many of them lived at Falkenburg.

- Rev'd C. J. Machin (1902-1906?).
 - Rev'd Joseph Waring, March 20, 1906 to Sept. 3, 1913.
 - Rev'd John Elliott Graham, Aug. 13, 1913 to June 25, 1916.
 - Rev'd Edward G. Heaven, Sept. 20, 1916 to Sept. 30, 1918.
 - Rev'd Ralph Trego Sadler, June 6, 1920 to May 6, 1928.
- Members of the Society of St John the Evangelist, and Students living with them, from May 13, 1928.

MEMORIALS

The Altar Cross is in memory of the Rev'd John Elliott Graham, priest, called home 1918.

The Altar Candlesticks are in memory of the Rev'd Ralph Trego Sadler, priest 1920-1928.

The Lectern Bible is in memory of Brother Edward, S.S.J.E., 1880-1951, who worked in the district between 1928 and 1934.

The Altar Rails are in memory of the Rev'd St George Mossom Boyd, S.S.J.E., who worked in St George's between 1941 and 1951.

The Altar is in memory of Gwenda Lockyer, who was killed by enemy action while on duty at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, England, Sept. 9, 1940.

The Candle-lighter is in memory of the Rev'd R. J. Morley, S.S.J.E., ob. May 29, 1954.

SAINT MARY'S CHURCH, BEATRICE

There was formerly a Presbyterian Church at Beatrice, nearly a quarter of a mile north of the present St Mary's Church. Its cemetery is still in use. Opposite this, on the west side of the highway, was a Methodist Church. To the west of this there used to stand a Community Hall, used as a Temperance Hall, and as St Mary's Church Hall. The Aspdin Church Register records two Baptisms in this Hall, on March 11 and Aug. 19, 1883, and two at Mr W. Smith Jr's house (now Rimstad's) 4 B [A?] Watt, on Aug. 20, 1883, all by the Rev'd William Crompton, of Aspdin.

The present fine brick-veneer Church was erected in August 1914, and consecrated Oct. 14, 1917 by the Archbishop of Algoma (Thorneloe), in the presence of Canon A. H. Allman, the Rev'd F. H. Hincks, Rector of Bracebridge, and the Rev'd E. G. Heaven, Incumbent of Beatrice.

The three-light East Window, depicting Our Lord as the Good Shepherd, St Peter, and St John, is in memory of Daniel Hamilton, Aug. 18, 1840—April 30, 1914. The Hamiltons lived on the west side of the highway, below Austin's store.

The Altar is in memory of Gwenda Lockyer, niece of Fr Lockyer, S.S.J.E.

One of the clergy seats was given by members of the W.A., May 1909.

The Font was first used for the Baptism of Fred Quinton, Dec. (?) 1916.

The Shrine for the Figure of Our Lady was made by the Rev'd St George Mossom Boyd, S.S.J.E., who served the Church between 1941 and 1951. Electric light was installed in 1945. A new Sanctuary Carpet was dedicated by the Bishop, Aug. 5, 1956.

UFFORD

There was a very fine Church at Ufford, built by Jack Kay, of hand-hewn logs, about 1887. This stood about three-quarters of a mile east of the school-house on Lot 13, Con. IV, Watt, on the north side of the road, at the point where it angles south to the bridge across the creek. But about 1915 there were too few Church members to support the Church. The building was sold by Bishop Thorneloe for \$25.00. Some of the Altar cloths were cut up for cushions. The land was sold, except for seven-one-hundredths of an acre, containing some seventeen graves. In this can still be seen a stone bearing the name of Mary, wife of Anthony Knowles, died Feb. 7, 1880, aged 48 years. Another stone marks the grave of his daughter Margaret. Mr Anthony Knowles was one of the original Churchwardens, and acted as Lay-reader when no one was able to come in to take service.

FROM THE OLD RECORDS

The Register of the Muskoka Mission, which was then in the Diocese of Toronto, includes the following entries.

Ellen Bowie, d. of James McNee and Alice Forsythe, baptized July 27, 1866. They lived on the Muskoka Road, two miles above The Junction.

Isabella, d. of William Spencer and Isabella Frail, baptized on March 10, 1867; also Robert, on March 25, 1868. They lived in Bardsville.

Samantha Jane, d. of Geo. O'Hara and Elizabeth Smith, May 3, 1868, sponsors William and Jane Smith. They lived in the present Rimstad house.

Richard John, s. of Richard John Lance and Mary Smith, June 14, 1868, sponsors Mathias Moore and Mary Hamilton. The Lances kept the Beatrice Post Office, about half a mile north of the Church, on the west side of the highway.

Fanny Elizabeth and Daniel George, children of Thos. Quinton and Fanny Carr, Aug. 30, 1868, sponsors Sidney Tibbs and Jane Hayward. They lived in Falkenburg, beside the present Planing Mill.

Mary Berthina, d. of John Giles and Mahala Adams, Sept. 6, 1868, sponsor William Martin. They lived at Ufford, opposite the United Church.

Charles, Mary, William, Eliza, James and Jane, children of John Oldham and Jane Bates, Sept. 26, 1868. The Ufford United Church is on the Oldham place.

On Nov. 1, 1868, William Kirk and Hannah Mills, of Macaulay, were married in the presence of Isaac Mills.

On June 14, 1869, John Speedie, of Monck, and Jane Gillon, of Stephenson, were married. They lived in Bardsville.

All the foregoing by the Rev'd H. B. Wray.

On April 15, 1873, George Kirbyson, of Stephenson, and Mary Ann Rawson, of Watt, were married by the Rev'd Edwin Cooper, of Port Sydney, in the presence of Margaret Rawson and John Kirbyson. The Kirbysons lived half a mile north of St Mary's, Beatrice, in the house later occupied by Henry Quinton.

This record is far from complete. Anyone who can supply further information is asked to send it to the Rev'd L. E. C. Frith, S.S.J.E., at The Mission House, Bracebridge, Ontario.