

STEADMAN BROTHERS
FUNERAL CHAPELS

HEARSES

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS



1905 horse drawn hearse
built by A.B. Greer of London, ON



Early motorized hearse, ca. 1930. Custom-made
(ca. 1923-1930) and fitted on a Chevrolet body.



1959 Cadillac Superior Sovereign Royale
Landulet 3-way coach

"In the spirit of peace and friendship,
we honour the Anishinaabek of the
Three Fires Confederacy, on whose
traditional territory we are gathered!"

*We thank you for respecting
the cemetery and its monuments.*

The Town of Petrolia thanks the following groups
for their enthusiastic participation:

Petrolia Heritage Committee with
Young Canada Works Student Ally Vouvalidis,

www.petroliaheritage.com

Petrolia Community Theatre

Steadman Brothers Funeral Chapels

Town of Petrolia Staff



Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada

This project was funded in part by Young Canada Works at Heritage



3040 Brigden Road - Brigden - 519-864-1193
www.steadmanbrothers.ca



2021 HILLSDALE CEMETERY WALKING TOUR

HILLSDALE CEMETERY

Petrolia's first pioneer cemetery is located on North Street and was purchased by J.H. Fairbank on behalf of the village. For many years this small plot of land was the designated burial space of the original settlers and innovators of the area. In 1886, the Town of Petrolia purchased the land that is now known as Hillsdale Cemetery, and it has become the final resting place for the majority of its residents.

Did you know that cemeteries were the first "public parks"? Families and friends would picnic and spend the day enjoying the greenspace amongst the tombstones. Cemeteries are once again becoming a place where residents can enjoy passive activities in a quiet and natural environment. Sitting on 21 acres of serene, wooded lanes, Hillsdale is an active reminder of the history of the area and a valuable cultural resource as well as a place to pay our respects to our ancestors.

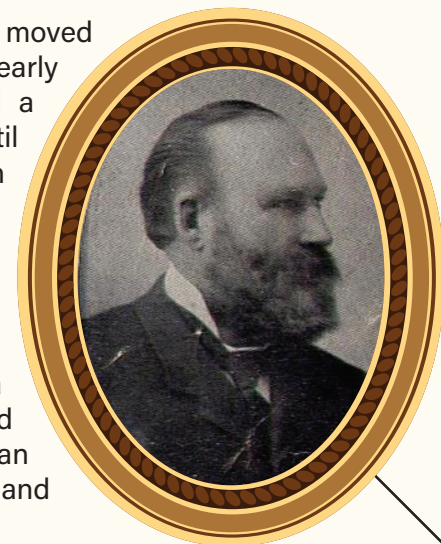
Thank you for helping us honour the fine people that built our community and allowing us to tell their stories.

CEMETERIES ARE PARKS
WITH DEEP MEMORY.

~ SHAWN MICALF

DR. JOHN DUNFIELD

Dr. John Dunfield moved to Petrolia in the early 1870s and operated a medical practice until the 1920s. His son John served with the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force (CEF) in WWI. His other son, Charles, was also a doctor and served with the Canadian Army Medical Corps and the CEF in WWI.



STEWART JOHN & JANE

John and Jane Stewart, benevolent citizens of their community. Like other pioneers, had suffered hardships. First settling in Enniskillen, 1854, building their log cabin. Soon to be replaced with the large farmhouse, still in existence today. Founding members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. Citizens of readiness to serve those in need. John a successful farmer, adding 900 acres to the original farm of 200 acres. Leaving a farm to each of their sons. John died at age 58 and left Jane to carry on with the eleven children. Jane died 30 years later.

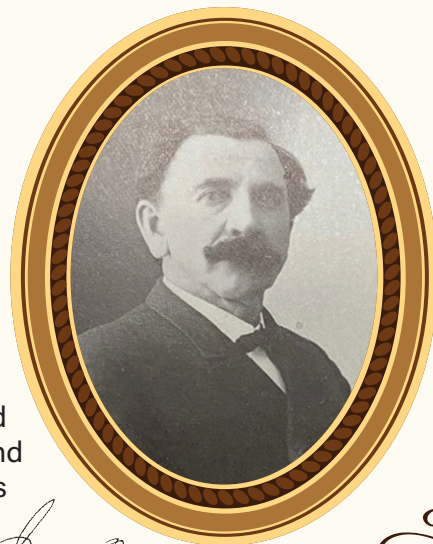


CHARLES JENKINS

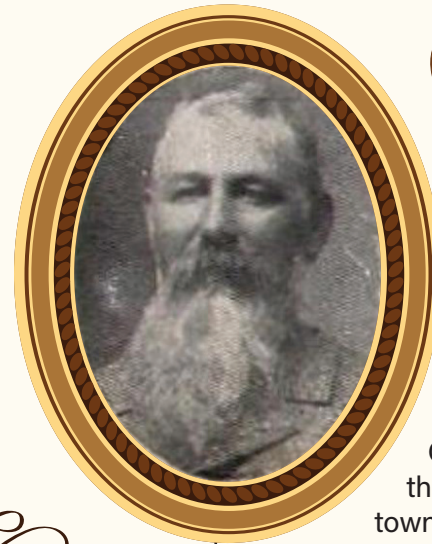
Charles Jenkins was born in 1840 and emigrated from Scotland in 1869, settling in Petrolia. He worked in the oil industry from the 1870s until his death in 1920 and was even the president of one of the areas many oil companies.

JAMES PEAT

James Peat was one of the many pioneer oilmen of Petrolia, installing the first cable drilling outfit in Canada at the oil fields here. His sons were also prominent oilmen who owned their own drilling and contracting companies and travelled far and wide on oil business.



James Peat



R.L. CRAISE

Arriving in 1866, R.L. Craise aided in the very development of Petrolia. Not surprisingly involved in the oil business, Craise was also dedicated to the Presbyterian Church, Oddfellows and the best interests of the town. He is remembered as a devoted husband and a kind and indulgent father.

DONALD CAMERON

Beginning his career as a teacher and later shopkeeper, his interests in mining took him to the U.S. and eventually to Petrolia where he engaged in the oil business and served on Town Council. He lived at 425 Queen Street where he could see the oil field belonging to his daughter's husband's family, The Kerr's, until his death in 1911. They share a headstone.



Isabella Ross Cameron Kerr, daughter of Donald Cameron



Edward "Ted" Bullen, son of Nathaniel and Georgi Ann Bullen

NATHANIEL & GEORGI ANN BULLEN

The family, headed by Nathaniel and Georgi Ann Bullen, emigrated from England in 1903 and settled in Petrolia.

Their son Edward "Ted" Hockley Bullen was a military man, serving in the UK Royal Air Force and Canadian Royal Flying Corps during WWI. Ted was master of ceremonies of the "8:20 Club", a regular event held at Victoria Hall. It would consist of local people performing their talents. Ted began each 8:20 Club by saying, "Good evening. It is 8:20"



WILLIAM EDWARD

McROBIE

William Edward "Ned" McRobie, born in 1912, gained international fame as the youngest First World War drummer in the British Empire, having been adopted by Lambton's 149th in as mascot in 1915, when Ned was three and a half years old. Copies of the postcard were sold to raise money for soldiers.

