

VICTORIA HOME FOR THE INCURABLES

Arthur M^cClelland

The Victoria Home for the Incurables, the only such home in Southwestern Ontario, traced its roots back to the Women's Christian Association (WCA) which held its first meeting on May 7, 1874 when a small group of women banded themselves together to form "a society whose chief concern was the distribution of charity for the relief of the poor and needy, housing of the friendless girl, care of her child and visiting the sick in the hospital."



On March 15, 1875, a charter was granted to the WCA and Ellen Harrison Gregston (1831-1923) was elected as its first president. The motto of the WCA is "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path, (Psalm 119:105). Ellen Gregston who lived at 429 Colborne Street, was widely known as the mother of the Busy Bees of the First Methodist Church, a unique children's organization which attracted wide attention throughout Canada. In 1876, Mrs. Gregston founded the first young people's organization in the former Queen's Avenue Methodist Church. It was originally a young ladies' mission band which met weekly to sew articles of clothing to be sold at a bazaar in aid of London's Protestant Orphans' Home at 386 Ridout Street. Mrs. Gregston was a staunch Methodist and gave a lifetime of service to her church. She was also a noted poet and several of her poems were brought to the attention of Queen Victoria. In September 1876, WCA purchased a cottage on Grey Street for

\$700 and opened the Women's Refuge and Children's Home "to afford a means of reformation for every fallen woman who seriously desired to amend her life." That same month on the 14th, Mrs. Gregston laid the cornerstone for the new Protestant Home for Orphans, the Aged and the Friendless on the southeast corner of Cheapside and Richmond streets. Residents were required to pay an entrance fee and to promise to stay in the home for one year during which time an endeavor was made to fit each one for a gainful situation, or at least with an improved religious and social background. Babies were taken in when deserted or orphaned. In 1880, 32 infants under the age of two were received. After two years on Grey Street, the property was exchanged for \$3,000 for a house at 190 St. James Street at the corner of St. George Street. The Women's Refuge and Children's Home remained here for the next 40 years from 1878 to 1918. In December 1919, the three-storey building at 190 St. James Street, some 200 yards from Huron College, was purchased from WCA for \$6,500 by the Western University of London. It was then known as "The Annex" and provided offices for the faculty supervisor of athletics and for the librarian, a library

workroom and stack space for the library which was moved from Huron College. The University occupied this site until 1924 and then it was vacant until 1928 when the present-day St. James Court Apartments were built on the site.



To separate the children and young women from the elderly women who needed more care, WCA purchased in February 1886 the property at 375 King Street where a Home for Aged Women was opened on April 29, 1886 with three residents. City indigents were received at \$5 a month. Mrs. Ann Tilt was the first matron, followed by Miss Jane Lawson (1888-1890) and Miss Eliza Ault (1891-1892). 375 King Street was demolished in 1983 and replaced with a parking lot.

Through a gift from Thomas M^cCormick (1830-1906), president of the M^cCormick Manufacturing Co., a new Aged People's Home (later the M^cCormick Home for the Aged) was opened in September 1892. Operated by the WCA, it was located on the northeast corner of Richmond and Victoria streets. The two previous homes run by the WCA, one for 16 women at 375 King Street and one for 13 men at 181 John Street, established in 1888, were sold. The money from these sales were used in May 1894 to rent a frame building at 577 Hamilton Road (southwest corner of Egerton Street) for \$10 a month.

This was the first location for the London Home for the Incurables, initially having only two patients but increasing to 16 by the end of 1894. 38-year-old Mary Ann Stoneman was the first

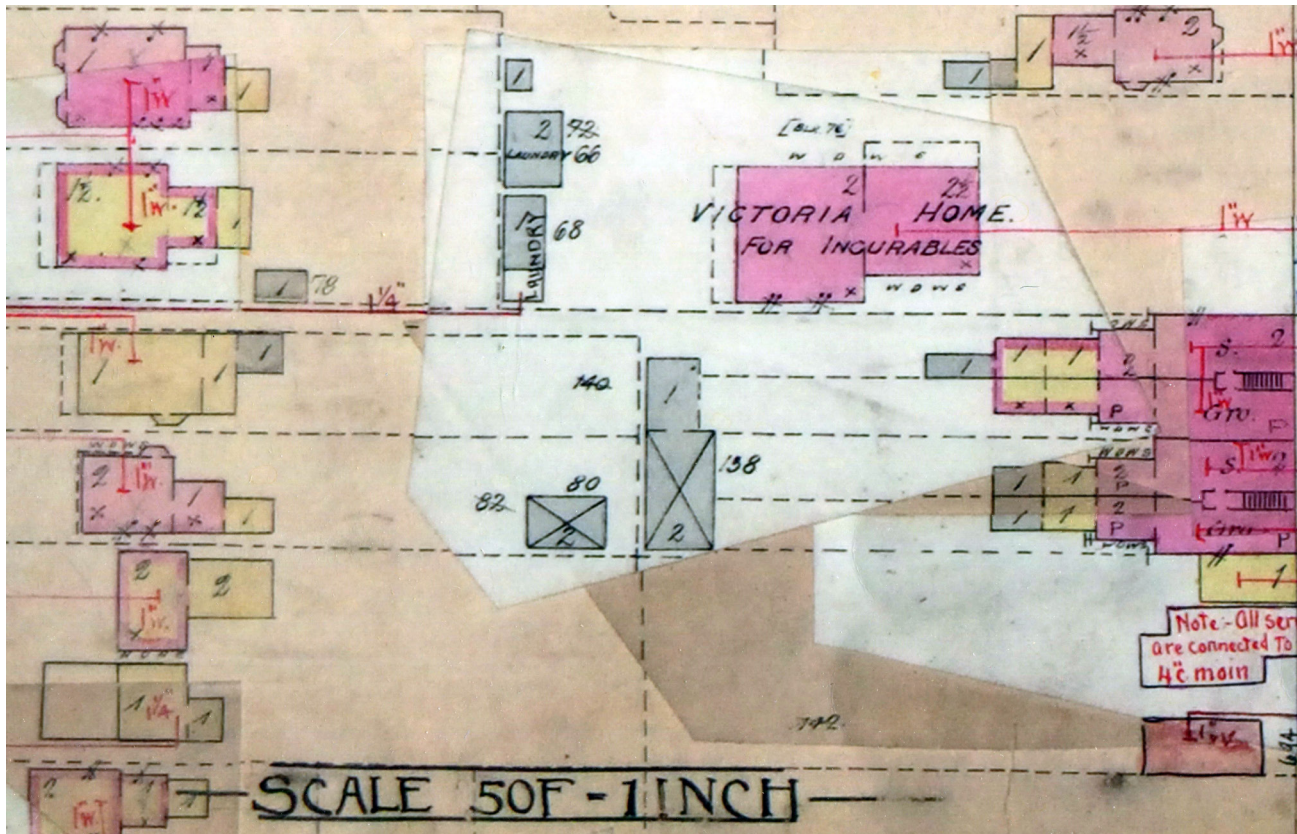
patient and she died from epilepsy at the home on April 24, 1899. Zephaniah Bullock was the first caretaker of the home, his wife Elizabeth, the first cook and their son, William, the first orderly. WCA members were not satisfied with the building or its location at the edge of the city's limits. Very soon, larger premises were needed for the home.

In March 1896, the WCA purchased a brick house, the former Salvation Army Industrial Home at 708 Dundas Street for \$3,500. The site had a 70-foot frontage on Dundas Street and a right of way to Queens Avenue. The building was able to accommodate 20 patients and was renamed the Jubilee Home for the Incurables after Queen Victoria's Jubilee of 60 years as queen. In 1898, the Home for the Incurables was considered "in as good repair as it is possible to have it without a thorough overhauling and expenditure of considerable money," (Johnson, p. 6). Lillian E. Blake was in charge of the home with Janet Barbara Groshaw (widow of Nicholas) as her assistant. Dr. James B. Campbell was the attending physician. Volunteers provided comforts, wrote letters and arranged musical treats for the patients. Religious services were arranged by the WCA and supplied by retired clergymen of various denominations and students of Huron College. In 1900, the London Free Press noted, "that the Home for the Incurables had doubled in size by a wing built forward to Dundas Street at a cost of \$4,000," to increase bed capacity to 45 and an electric light was installed." (Johnson, p. 10). A large two and a half storey front section was constructed and built onto an earlier home on the property. Janet Groshaw (1868-1960) became superintendent in 1901 and remained in the position until 1917. There were now 45 patients and Maud Walker was the assistant to the superintendent and Dr. Campbell was the attending physician. In 1901, a pipe was laid from the cistern to the laundry located in a separate building on the back of the property and posts were put in the back lawn for clotheslines. Sodding was done at the front of the property and a gravel driveway was laid.



Victoria Home for Incurables is pictured here in its second home at 703 Dundas Street, which opened in 1903.

In 1903, the home was renamed the Victoria Home for Incurables. A Free Press reporter in 1903 wrote, “Along the east and north sides of the house are spacious verandahs on both storeys. A broad lawn stretches from the front of the building to the line of the street, and on either side, are shady trees and plots of flowers while a well-laden grape-vine clings to the walls.” (Johnson, p. 20). There was occasional talk that the home should become a hospital.



In 1907, an iron fence was added to the property. Outside electric lights were installed at the front and back doors in 1908. Until 1912, there was a mortgage of \$1,600 owing on the home.

During the First World War when her youngest son, William Francis, was reported missing in action in April 1915, Janet Groshaw left her position as matron of the Victoria Home for the Incurables and went overseas with the Canadian Army Medical Corps to France to discover his fate. Maud Walker then became the acting matron of the home. William had died during the Battle of Ypres in Belgium on June 6, 1916. Janet was invalided out of the army in 1919 with tuberculosis and returned to London to recuperate at the Queen Alexandra Sanatorium in Byron. She later became the first female president of a soldier’s branch of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League, Byron Branch 69.

On June 21, 1915, a building permit was issued to J.G. Dodd and Son to erect a one-storey brick addition to the Home for the Incurables valued at \$4,000 to accommodate the 45 patients. The addition was completed in 1916. According to the October 1915 WCA Annual Report, there were 40 patients in 1914, 28 new patients in 1915, 12 patients who died and 6 patients were discharged. In 1915, the Alexander Maclean home at 714 Dundas to the east was purchased for \$4,700 to meet the growing demand for chronic care. The fence between the two properties was removed, two bathrooms were installed and the house was wired with electricity. In 1917, there were 53 patients in the home and milk was supplied for six cents a quart. For the war effort, a young blind woman knitted 16 pairs of socks.

In May 1917, a letter from the new law firm of Fraser and Moore informed WCA of a bequest of \$4,000 from the Eliza Shore estate. The money was to be used for a future new Victoria Home for the Incurables. In the 1917 WCA annual report there was a hint of a new Victoria Home. In March 1918, Helen Elizabeth Ingram and Jennie Moore were appointed to interview the Chief Officer of Health, John W.S. McCullough, regarding increasing grants for the Victoria Home. As they were presenting their case, they were joined by Sir Adam Beck and London Mayor Charles Ross Somerville who ably supported them. In May 1918, a letter came from the government promising an increase in the grant. In 1918, there were 40 patients. A year later there were 68 patients, 12 had died and 6 were discharged, leaving 50 patients residing at the home.

In the February 1919 WCA minutes, there was the first mention of building a new Home for the Incurables. A meeting was held at City Hall on February 25, 1919 to consider building a new home for 100 patients at Victoria and Wellington streets with O. Roy Moore as the architect. Roy estimated that the building would cost \$156,000. The project was discarded by the city.

After inspecting several properties on the market, the WCA decided to interview the owner of one such property at 81 Grand Avenue. In February 1920, the WCA asked the city for a grant of \$75,000 and a letter was sent to the provincial government. Premier Ernest Charles Drury came to London on March 4, 1920 and met with the WCA committee.



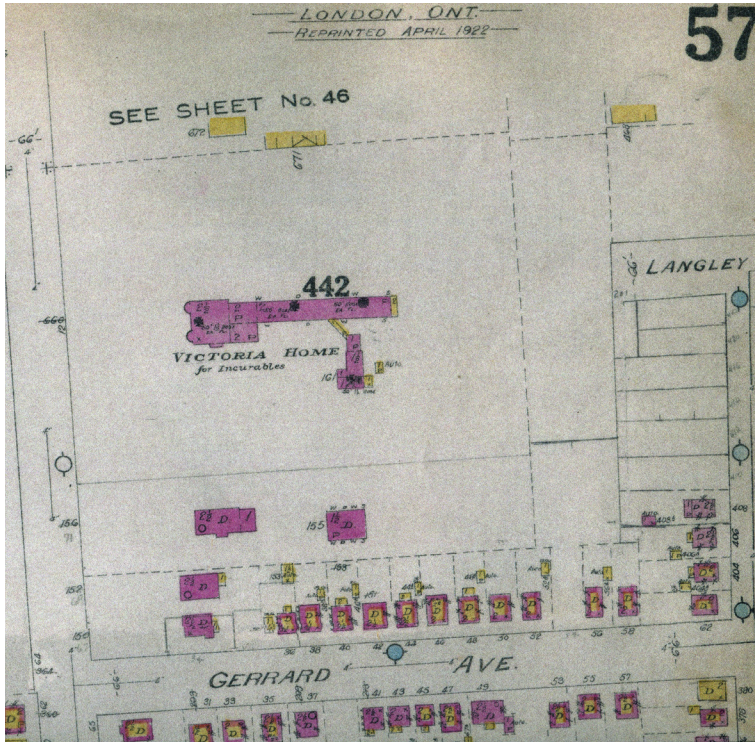


J. R. MINHINNICK,
First Water Commissioner,
1878.

The site now proposed for the new Victoria Home was Parkwood, the former residence of oil refiner and retired sea captain, John Rowe Minhinnick (1838-1906), at 81 Grand Avenue. In October 1920, the WCA paid \$27,500 for the property, a lower figure than what had been originally asked due to a generous donation from John Minhinnick's daughter, Gertrude. By November 1920, Mr. Roy A. Moore had his plans ready for the additions and renovation to the house. Hyatt Bros. were contracted to do the work for \$25,000. A large addition 170 X 32 feet was built at the rear of the building to house baths, lavatories, linen closets and wards for 70 patients and a staff of 21. An up-to-date kitchen was on the lower floor. The older building contained a board room, quarters for the superintendent and recreation hall. The partitions and stairs were fireproof. The heating plant was a no pressure vacuum system with an electric driven vacuum and boiler feed pumps, the first of its kind to be installed in London. At the May 1920 WCA meeting, Mrs. Alicia May Perrin donated \$100 for furnishing a room, thereby creating an honoured precedent. In October 1920, Miss Laura Griffin was named as superintendent at \$100 a month.

At 2 pm on July 5, 1921, the WCA opened its new fire-proof Victoria Home for the Incurables in Parkwood at a cost of about \$100,000. Hume Cronyn, MP and Dr. Hugh Stevenson, MPP were in attendance. The new building accommodated 125 patients in single and three-bed wards. The second floor had a large sunroom. Admission to the hospital required certificates from two practicing physicians regarding the incurable disease. The rates ranging from \$2.25 to \$5 a day included bed, board, laundry and nursing care with the service of the interns. Patients had to pay for special drugs and stimulants. Drugs were not allowed to be stored in the rooms. Patients could have their own physician at their personal expense. Any mental cases were referred to the London Asylum for the Insane. Patients could only bring one trunk of wearing apparel and this was subject to examination. All patients who were able were expected to attend church services on Sunday afternoons. By July 12, 1921, all 54 patients were moved into the new building.

The original owner, John Minhinnick, had planted rolling lawns around his square white-brick home with exotic shrubs and trees. A horse named Jennie and her successor, Joe, were acquired to help cultivate the five acres of extensive gardens.



In 1922, the Home received \$3,000 from the estate of George Priddis of Brook Farm. In 1923, the chickens which had been moved from the 708 Dundas Street property were sold. At its 50th annual meeting in October 1924, WCA reported that the gardens at the Victoria Home had yielded 87 bushels of potatoes as well as beets, cabbages and carrots. This was a record which was matched and exceeded in the next 30 years as more ground was acquired and cultivated at the back of the Home. To honour WCA's 50th anniversary, a brass tablet was installed in Victoria Home. In March 1925, tenders were called for an extension to Victoria Home. Roy Moore estimated the costs at \$42,500. The contract was awarded to the Hyatt Bros. and construction began in April 1925.

In 1927, the Victoria Home for the Incurables was renamed, the Parkwood Hospital for the Incurables. In 1929, several additions were made to Parkwood. Construction included a cottage for the engineer, an up-to-date laundry and a new heating plant which more than doubled the capacity of the old boiler. Included was a tunnel which was considered a great convenience at the time, connecting the engineer's cottage with the furnace room and main building. A diet kitchen was

Register No.

Parkwood Hospital
FOR INCURABLES
LONDON, ONTARIO, CANADA

Application of

For Admission to the Hospital

Application Received

Patient Admitted

PARKWOOD HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES
LONDON, ONTARIO, CANADA
Form of Application for Admission

- Name and Address of Applicant in full
- Immediate relatives, with addresses (state relationship)
- What are their financial circumstances?
- Names and Addresses of friends
- Has applicant any money or property?
(Details of assets and liabilities entered on back of application by individual responsible for payments)
- Place of birth
- Give other residences during past year, with dates and duration of each
- Date of birth?
- Religion what denomination?
- What nationality?
- Name and nature of disease?
- Length of time under treatment?
- Where and by whom treated?
- Has the applicant ever lived or been treated in any institution? If so, where?
- In case of illness or death, who should be notified and what is their address and telephone number?
- In case of death, what arrangements for burial have, or will be, made, and in what plot and cemetery will interment be made?
- Name of attending clergyman
- Signature of applicant

We, the undersigned, hereby recommend the above named applicant as a fit and proper person to be admitted as a patient to Parkwood Hospital for Incurables, and believe that the statements above set forth are true.

added as well as three bedrooms for orderlies and a dining room for employees, a double garage and a root cellar. In June 1933, a contract of \$90,000 was awarded to the Hyatt Bros. to construct an eastern wing to accommodate 60 more patients. Rooms were then furnished at an estimated \$96 per room and a new kitchen was installed. In the midst of the Great Depression, the new wing opened on March 28, 1934 and the opening was one of the most lavish ceremonies hosted by WCA. A formal tea was held accompanied by Byfield's three-piece orchestra. In attendance were Mayor George Wenige and the speaker was Provincial Minister of Health, Dr. John Morrow Robb (1876-1942).

As part of WCA's 60th anniversary, an occupational therapy programme began at Parkwood in July 1935 with Florence Fraser as the first therapist. At the July 1935 WCA board meeting, Mrs. Max Lerner urged the board to consider building a nurse's residence at Parkwood to make more rooms available for patients. In November 1935, a library was organized and distribution of books and magazines to patients began. The oldest patient was Letitia Morgan, 106 years old. Gertrude Buttery and Coral Manning were appointed as librarians. Late in 1937, the first plans for the nurses' residence were ready. In 1938, Miss Lillian Uren, superintendent at Parkwood Hospital since 1927, retired and was given a bouquet of flowers and a floor lamp by the patients. A strip of land to the east of the hospital was purchased in 1939. Mr. Roy Moore was the architect and tenders for \$78,666.40 were opened for the cost of the building. The contract was awarded to the Putherbough Construction Company and the new nurses' residence opened on March 15, 1939. WCA's 1939 annual meeting was held on March 22 at Parkwood to display the new nurses' residence. In March 1946, Margaret Wilson was appointed as the first administrator of the hospital whose duties included the charge of the building and its contents, engineering, garden, laundry and all employees except the nursing staff and orderlies. Her annual salary was \$1,800. The gardens continued to produce prolifically. Enough potatoes were grown for the consumption of the hospital's patients. Bushels of green beans were canned and 60 bushels of parsnips and 600 heads of cabbage were stored in the root cellar.

It was proposed in 1947 that the front of the old building be demolished and that a new front and west wing be built. When construction began, a one-floor auditorium wing with a basement would be built, joining the east wing and nurses' residence. In November 1947, it was decided to postpone the construction. In the spring of 1950, a construction contract of \$68,000 was awarded to the Putherbough Construction Company and construction began. During the summer of 1951, Putherbough received the contract for the new front and the west wing. The original building was demolished in 1952 and the new \$533,000 building was completed in 1953. 500 invitations were sent out for the official opening. It was a three-storey rectangular building, measuring 192 feet X 40 feet. The hospital was administered by a staff of 125 people for 195 patients. In December 1954, a part-time physiotherapist was appointed.



In 1957, WCA was worried that Parkwood Hospital would be closed unless there was more financial assistance from the city of London as two-thirds of the hospital's 200 patients were indigent.

In 1959, Frederick S. Woodcock became the first male superintendent for Parkwood Hospital. Two auxiliary services began in 1960 - the hairdressing salon and the tuck shop. On March 8, 1960, 96-year-old Ellen Alton, was the first customer of the hairdressing salon donated by the Soroptimist Club of London. In 1961, with new regulations from the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, Parkwood Hospital, which once admitted many elderly persons who required only custodial care, was now restricted to the care of the chronically ill. A service auxiliary was formed in 1962 by WCA to assist and entertain patients. Most of the auxiliary volunteers were members of the Friendship Group of the Women's Missionary Society at Calvary United Church. In 1963, the Parkwood Hospital Auxiliary was organized. In 1964, Parkwood Hospital for the Incurables was named Parkwood Hospital for the Chronically Ill. In March 1978, Parkwood began a day hospital service. In 1980, Parkwood Hospital accepted the responsibility for the care of veterans. Plans for a new Parkwood Hospital were accepted by the Ministry of Health in 1981 with a contract of \$35,549,500 awarded in 1982 to Ellis-Don Ltd. The architects were Tillman Ruth. On December 5, 1984, Parkwood Hospital moved from its home at 81 Grand Avenue to a new debt-free facility on Wellington Road near Commissioners Road.

After 123 years of managing a chronic care facility, WCA (now known as the M^cCormick Care Group), the oldest women's group in London, was ordered by the Health Services Restructuring Commission to relinquish the control, management, operation and ownership of Parkwood Hospital on Wednesday June 18, 1997 to St. Joseph's Health Care, effective August 31, 1997.

APPENDIX A

LONDON HOME FOR THE INCURABLES: ADDRESSES, NAMES, SUPERINTENDENTS (*unless otherwise noted*)

- 1894: London Home for the Incurables, 577 Hamilton Road, Zephaniah Bullock, first caretaker
- 1895: London Home for the Incurables, 577 Hamilton Road, Susan B. Robertson
- 1896: London Home for the Incurables, 708 Dundas Street, Susan Dyke
- 1897-1900: Jubilee Home for the Incurables, 708 Dundas Street Lillian E. Blake
- 1901-1902: Jubilee Home for the Incurables, 708 Dundas Street, Janet B. Groshaw (widow of Nicholas)
- 1903-1917: Victoria Home for the Incurables, 708 Dundas Street, Janet B. Groshaw (widow of Nicholas)
- 1918-1919: Victoria Home for the Incurables, 708 Dundas Street, Maud Walker
- 1920: Victoria Home for the Incurables, 708 Dundas Street, Mrs. S.A. Price
- 1921-1922: Victoria Home for the Incurables, 708 Dundas Street, Alma R. Thompson
- 1923: Victoria Home for the Incurables, 81 Grand Avenue, Laura Griffin
- 1924-1927: Victoria Home for the Incurables, 81 Grand Avenue, Laura Griffin, matron
- 1928-1939: Parkwood Hospital for the Incurables, 81 Grand Avenue, Lillian Uren
- 1940-1947: Parkwood Hospital for the Incurables, 81 Grand Avenue, Millie Turner
- 1948-1956: Parkwood Hospital for the Incurables, 81 Grand Avenue, Margaret Wilson
- 1957-1959: Parkwood Hospital for the Incurables, 81 Grand Avenue, Gertrude Bundy
- 1960-1963: Parkwood Hospital for the Incurables, 81 Grand Avenue, Frederick S. Woodcock
- 1964-1966: Parkwood Hospital for the Chronically Ill, 81 Grand Avenue, Frederick S. Woodcock
- 1967-1984: Parkwood Hospital for the Chronically Ill, 81 Grand Avenue, Arthur J. Hobbins, executive director

APPENDIX B: 577 HAMILTON ROAD HISTORY

The location of 577 Hamilton Road was first listed in the Cherrier & Kirwin's London Directory for 1872-73 in the London Alphabetical Directory as "Shain, Hiram, tavernkeeper, Hamilton Road, south side, between tollgate and Adelaide." By 1874, Hiram was listed as the proprietor of the Eastern Hotel, corner of Gore and Hamilton Road. Hiram Shain (1839-1925) later had a hotel in Pottersburg (later known as London Junction) from 1897 to 1903. In 1883, Eastern Hotel was listed at its first street address, 357 Hamilton Road with a new owner, James Dailey. After

the annexation of London East on August 20, 1885 by the city of London, many London East street names were changed and street address numbers were changed. Thus 357 Hamilton Road became 577 Hamilton Road and remained a hotel until 1891. It was vacant for two years until it became the London Home for the Incurables in 1894 until 1896. In 1896, Charles Summers opened a grocery store at 577 Hamilton Road. He sold the store in 1910. 577 Hamilton Road was the Swingway Snack Bar from 1941 to 1946 and then a Dominion Foods Grocery Store from 1951 to 1977, then the Forest City Market, an Asian market from 1978 to 1991, Asia Food Mart, 1997-2009, Asia Chinese Food Mart, 2010-2013 and is now Payless Afro International Food Market

CITY DIRECTORY LISTINGS FOR 577 HAMILTON ROAD

(last city directory published is for 2013)

- 1872-73: Shain, Hiram, tavernkeeper, Hamilton Road, south side, between tollgate and Adelaide
- 1874-1882: Shain (Shane), Hiram, proprietor of the Eastern Hotel, south side of Hamilton Road, west of Egerton Street, corner of Trafalgar Street, London East
- 1883-1884: Eastern Hotel, first street address, 357 Hamilton Road with a new owner, James Dailey
- Aug 20, 1885: City of London annexes London East and many London East street names were changed and street address numbers were changed. Thus 357 Hamilton Road became 577 Hamilton Road
- 1886: Dailey, James, hotel, 577 Hamilton Road
- 1887: Graham, George, hotel
- 1888: Nelles, Charles M., hotel
- 1890-1891: Barrell, Edwin, hotel
- 1892-1893: vacant
- 1894-1896: London Home for the Incurables
- 1897- 1911: Charles W. Summers, grocer and Ealing Post Office
- 1912: William A. Bailey, grocer and Ealing Post Office
- 1913: Dalgiesh & Co (William J.), grocer and Ealing Post Office
- 1914-1915: John Fairbairn, grocer and Ealing Post Office
- 1916-1917: Summers (Charles) and Brittain (Horace), grocers and Ealing Post Office
- 1918-1920: C.W. Summers (Charles) & Sons, grocers
- 1921-1925: Royal Bank of Canada
- 1926-1927: vacant
- 1928-1932: W.A. Bailey and Son (William A. and William F.) , grocers

- 1933: David Said, grocer
1934-1936: vacant
1937-1939: residential tenants
1940: Hamilton and Porter Restaurant
1941-1948: Swingway Snack Bar, Nellie Porter
1949-1950: vacant
1951-1977: Dominion Foods Grocery Store
1978-1991: Forest City Market
1992-1994: Field Fare Co-op
1995: vacant
1996: Asia Chinese Food Supply
1997-2009: Asia Food Mart
2010-2013: Asia Chinese Food Mart
2022: Payless Afro International Food Market

APPENDIX C – 708 DUNDAS STREET – HISTORY



The first occupant of 708 Dundas Street (originally 96 Dundas Street) was Rev. Joseph Hiram Robinson (1807-1896). The location of 708 Dundas Street was first listed in the McAlpine's London City and County of Middlesex Directory for 1875 in the London City Directory as "Robinson, Rev. Joseph, Methodist Church of Canada, boards Dundas, between Elizabeth and English." Joseph Hiram Robinson was born on December 20, 1807 and at the age of 23, he was received on probation in 1830 by the Sheffield Conference of the Methodist New Connexion in England. He was married to Jane Scholey on March 6, 1832 in Adlingtonfleet, York, England and was ordained three years later in 1835. From 1830 to 1850, he was appointed to various Methodist circuits in England. In 1851 he was appointed Superintendent of the New Connexion Missions in Canada which office he filled for 15 years. In 1866, he resigned and returned to England to edit various New Connexion magazines which he had done since 1854, having established the *Evangelical Witness* that year. In 1874, he left his editorial position and was sent for a second time to Canada to investigate a possible union between the New Connexion and Wesleyan Methodists. The vote in 1874 was in favour of the union and Rev. Robinson was put out of a job. He remained in Canada and joined the Methodist Church of Canada and was received into the ranks of its ministers of the London Conference at the General Conference held in Brantford in 1875. Rev.

Robinson lived at 100 Dundas Street from 1875 until 1886. Rev. Robinson was superannuated (retired) in 1881. He died at his son's home in Ottawa on April 14, 1896 at the age of 89 and was buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in London. The Methodist Church, Canada merged with the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec and 70% of the Presbyterian Church in Canada on June 10, 1925 to form the United Church of Canada.

After the annexation of London East on August 20, 1885 by the city of London, many London East street names were changed and street address numbers were changed. Thus 100 Dundas Street became 708 Dundas Street.

Chronic Female Diseases & Lung Trouble
—SUCCESSFULLY TREATED AT THE—
LADIES' SANITARIUM,
—708 Dundas Street.—
A full staff of experienced nurses in attendance. Terms Liberal.
MRS. JULIA PAYNE, Proprietress.

Produce Dealers	
Clarke James, 10 Covent Garden Mkt basement	Hodgson Bros, Market Lane
Higgins Benjamin, 19 Covent Garden Mkt basement	McCormick Wm, 11 Covent Garden Mkt basement
25	McDowell George, 16-20 Covent Garden Mkt basement

In 1894, Mrs. Julia Payne, who died in 1909, was the proprietress of a Ladies' Sanitarium located at 708 Dundas Street where chronic female diseases and lung trouble were successfully treated with a full staff of experienced nurses in attendance and with liberal terms. It was a short-lived enterprise. In 1895, the Salvation Army Industrial Home occupied the site with Ensign Lizzie Ward as the matron.

The Victoria Home for the Incurables occupied 708 Dundas Street from 1896 to 1921. In July 1928, 708 Dundas was sold to George Wyatt for \$10,000 and demolished to make room for the 350-seat Palace Theatre for talkies which opened on March 11, 1929 with the first film being Synthetic Sin starring Colleen Moore. This was London's second neighbourhood theatre built by the Hyatt Bros. In 1948 it was sold to Famous Players Canada Ltd., renovated and reopened as the Park Theatre on June 7, 1951. In 1966 it became the fourth Cinerama theatre in Canada. It closed on September 1, 1989 and was purchased by the London Community Players on November 17, 1990 for \$550,000. When the new orchestra pit at the Palace was excavated, the foundation walls and basement floor of the original Jubilee Home for the Incurables were discovered, just a few feet below the auditorium floor. The London Community Players reopened the theatre as the live Palace Theatre on July 17, 1991.

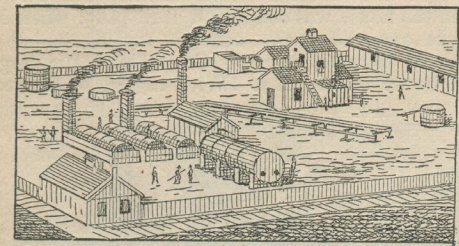
APPENDIX D - 714 DUNDAS STREET

The location of 714 Dundas Street was first listed in Polk's London City Directory for 1878-79 in the alphabetical list of names as "Frank Cooper, photographer, residence, north side Dundas, east of Elizabeth, London East." Frank resided at 714 Dundas Street from 1878 to 1898. The street address was originally 106 Dundas Street. After the annexation of London East on August 20, 1885 by the city of London, many London East street names were changed and street address numbers were changed. Thus 106 Dundas Street became 714 Dundas Street. From 1899 to 1914, Alexander Maclean, an engineer with McClary Manufacturing Company, lived at 714 Dundas Street which is still existing as a residence today.

APPENDIX E – 81 GRAND AVENUE

81 Grand Avenue had been the home of John Rowe Minhinnick (1838-1906). As a young man, John was a tinsmith and moved to Hamilton where he had his own business for ten years until he moved to London. He opened a hardware store and continued in that business until the discovery of oil in Petrolia attracted him. He eventually opened the Empire Oil Company and Star Oil Refinery on Hamilton Road in London. By 1877 there were 17 refineries in the Hamilton Road area and thirteen of those plants went up in smoke. The London Advertiser in its March 9th, 1881 issue reported that "the condition of Bathurst Street east of Adelaide Street was a disgrace to the village of London East. Owing to sewers being stopped up, the street is literally covered with the oil." Increasing demand for lubricating oil for machinery, rapid changes in the process of refining oil, lack of regulations and competition from

The Empire Oil Co., London, Messrs. J. R. Minhinnick & H. Frasch.—The discovery of petroleum could not fail to develop material interests in a city like London, and in this connection an important establishment is that of the Empire Oil Company, whose products are so favorably known throughout this Province. This Company has for a number of



the United States led to the merger of the small refineries in London East like those owned by John Minhinnick. In 1876, several manufacturers joined forces to create the London Oil Refining Company, hoping this would ensure their survival. On September 8, 1880, fearing they would be crushed by the American oil giant, Standard Oil controlled by John D. Rockefeller, owners of 16 refineries including Minhinnick, contributed \$25,000 each to form the Imperial Oil Company. After a bolt of lightning struck the Imperial Oil Company refinery in London East on July 10, 1883 and destroyed it, the directors decided to move their business to Lambton County. John Minhinnick spent the rest of his life in the oil business. He also was associated with establishing the Empire Brass Company and was a member of the board of directors for the Carling Brewery Company and the Board of Water Commissioners, the forerunner of the Public Utilities Commission. The site at 81 Grand Avenue is now occupied by the Grand Wood Park Retirement Residence.

SOURCES

Archives

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