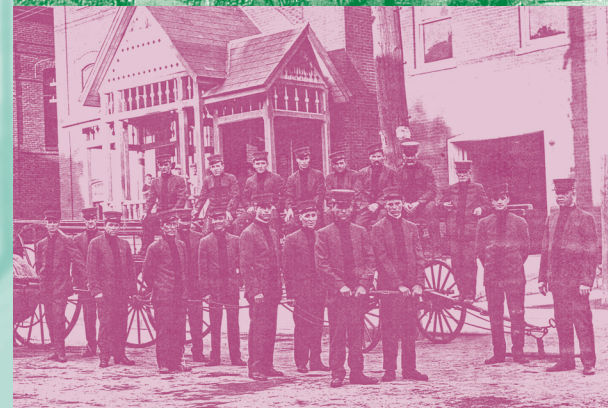


# SEAFORTH

## Main Street, Seaforth

Celebrating the designated historic streetscape of downtown Seaforth



# Prologue

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*“...The downtown business section of Seaforth on Main Street South, Seaforth is probably one of the finest and most beautiful late nineteenth century streetscapes in Ontario.”*

These are the words of Hill and Borgal, Architects and Planners, who prepared the Seaforth District Conservation Plan in 1984.

The plan followed nearly a decade of work by Seaforth's Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC), formed in 1976 to recognize and promote the town's heritage attributes. Its work led to the passing of a by-law in 1984 that designated the Seaforth downtown commercial core area as a heritage conservation district. It received a \$6,000 grant from the Ontario Heritage Foundation towards a study for the Seaforth Heritage Conservation District Study.

The Conservation Plan prepared by Hill and Borgal emerged from this study.

One of the district's unique qualities is that it was largely built in a 10-year period between 1868 and 1878 with many buildings constructed after the Great Fire of 1876 that consumed most of the wood structures of downtown. The result of this natural disaster was a streetscape of remarkable architectural and visual integrity, still vibrant today.

Seaforth joined the Main Street Canada program in 1986, with the Town of Seaforth Council, LACAC and Economic Development Committee, the Seaforth Business Improvement Association and the Heritage Canada Foundation as its primary partners. In 1987, a Heritage Canada Resource Team visited Seaforth to help prepare a plan of action to guide the Main Street program over the next several years.

The Main Street Canada program approach to downtown revitalization was founded on two main principles. First of all, for a revitalization to be successful, the motivation, energy and commitment must come from within the community. Secondly, making the downtown successful required emphasis on four elements: a strong organization, a marketing plan, an attractive, interesting and functional physical environment, and a viable economic development plan. Tom Lemon was hired as a full-time Main Street Co-ordinator in the fall of 1986. Out of the three-year Main Street program came the slogan for Seaforth: *Small Town Canada at its Best*.

This publication was conceived by the Huron East Heritage Conservation Committee and Huron East Economic Development. It was researched and written by Dianne Smith, archivist and Egmondville resident, was published by Huron East Economic Development and printed at Goderich Printing Ltd.

# Introduction

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Welcome to one of the finest late 19<sup>th</sup> century streetscapes remaining in the Province of Ontario.

This architectural composition of two-storey brick buildings, so unique in its uniformity and character, is a provincially designated Heritage Conservation District steeped in social and economic history of this area.

The story of Seaforth began with two men's speculations for the future. Until Christopher and George Sparling shared a vision for a community that would thrive on business from the anticipated Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway through this region, there was little settlement in the swampy area now known as Seaforth. The brothers acquired most of the present site of Seaforth between the years of 1850 and 1853. George laid out a subdivision in 1856. Christopher sold most of his land in Tuckersmith Township to a firm headed by James Patton who was keenly interested in investing in the area. By the time he and his partners were finished buying land, they held most of the land that is now considered to be central Seaforth.

Together, they worked to bring the railway through their land. It is said that Patton's former law partner, John A. Macdonald, who would become Canada's first prime minister, had influence in negotiations. The enterprising businessmen donated land to the railway company and built a station that bore the name "Seaforth."

The settlement was ideally situated on the Huron Road and along the path of the railway. Additionally, it was a shipping point for wheat. It wasn't long before Seaforth had a post office, headed by postmaster Andrew Patton, and soon after that it was incorporated as a village, which soon grew into a town.

In 1877 fire raged through Main Street and completely destroyed 12 acres of the business section. Although the town had a fire brigade, it quickly discovered it had an insufficient supply of hose and a hand pumping engine simply wasn't adequate to fight a fire of this size.

The town rebounded quickly and Main Street was rebuilt with the brick business blocks, which are still seen today, more than a century later. One of the most imposing is the block built by Alexander Cardno, at the centre of the west side of the street. This structure contained the town's first clock tower. Also in the rebuilt downtown was the town's first bank, the Consolidated Bank..

Of course, along with commerce came social activity. Seaforth's first fraternal order was The Order of Grand Templars, followed by a Masonic Lodge and The Independent Order of Oddfellows. A cricket club, a Mechanics Institute (which evolved to be the Carnegie Library), an Anglican church, then other churches, would serve the growing community. For more information on the history of Seaforth, read *The Settlement of Huron County*, by James Scott.

Seaforth's Main Street was designated in 1984 as a Heritage Conservation District because of its distinguished late 19th century architecture. Through grants and local support, property owners have been encouraged to restore and preserve the architectural characteristics of their buildings so that this valuable resource may continue to be an asset to the community in the years ahead, and be a comforting reminder of Seaforth's history.

We invite you to tour the historic downtown of Seaforth. Using this book as your guide, stroll along the sidewalks, up one side and down another, and imagine what it must have been like to live in this village so many years ago.

Enjoy, and come again!

Huron East Economic Development Committee  
138 Main St South ,Box 1120, Seaforth ON N0K 1W0  
519-527-0305    [edo@huroneast.com](mailto:edo@huroneast.com)



# Heritage Landscape before Seaforth ...

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Seaforth is located in Huron County on King's Highway 8 about 33 km east of the port of Goderich, Ontario. It lies within what was known as the Huron Tract, a 1 million acre parcel of land, adjacent to Lake Huron, purchased by the Crown from the Chippewa First Nation in 1825. The Canada Company, a land company, was granted a royal charter on August 19, 1826 and thereby could proceed with the sale of the land within the Huron Tract.

The first step in building a road into the Huron Tract was taken in 1827 when a survey was made through the forest from Wilmot Township to the mouth of the Maitland River. The meanderings of the Maitland River forced them to readjust their survey several times. A Bridle Road was blazed parallel to and south of the original proof line which set the northern boundary for the Huron Tract. This Bridle Road became the Huron Road: "Practically all the work of clearing and building the first Huron Road, the twelve-foot Sleigh Road, was done by the bare hands of the settlers, dragging and pulling and swinging an axe." The Huron Road (now King's Highway 8) became the lifeline of the settlements, like Seaforth, that would grow up within the Huron Tract.

What became the Huron Tract was a region once inhabited by the Attawandarons, or the Neutrals, as the French called them. By the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, after the fur wars ended, the victorious Iroquois tribes moved into this territory. It was the Chippewa (also known as Ojibway or Anishinaabe) branch of this tribe with whom the land treaty was signed.

The history of a place is also part of the broader natural history of the area. The nature of the land and its waterways, the natural resources found there, often determined where a settlement was located. The Bayfield River and the Maitland River have had a notable influence on settlement in this area. The mouth of the Maitland River provides the only good harbour, at Goderich, for Great Lakes' shipping along the entire east coast of Lake Huron. Numerous power sites on the rivers have been a factor in deciding the location and growth of towns along its valley.

Large glacial lakes once covered most of the area of the three Great Lakes of Huron, Superior and Michigan during the Pleistocene Epoch or the Ice Age (1.8 million to ~10,000 years ago). Lake Huron was once part of the proglacial Lakes Algonquin and Warren, formed during the retreat of the melting glacier. The Huron Lobe of the Wisconsin Icesheet built the moraines of the Maitland River watershed about 13,000 years ago. Limestone bedrock underlies the deposits of sand and gravel left by the retreating glacier.

The Maitland River flows over 150 km from the Township of Wellington North to Lake Huron. The three most northerly branches, the Maitland, the Lower Maitland, and Middle Maitland, converge near Wingham in the Township of North Huron. From Wingham, the river flows in a southwestward direction, winding around the knobby till and gravel ridges of the moraines, to Lake Huron. The steep gradient of the Maitland River westward from Harriston provided waterpower sites, in the early days of Fordwich, Gorrie and Wroxeter.

The Bayfield River empties into Lake Huron at Bayfield, Ontario. The river runs through a long, narrow river valley corridor and is a major watershed drain. The topography is relatively flat and rolling around the river valley. By 1833, the Canada Company had completed the grist mill begun in 1832, east of Egmondville where Silver Creek empties into the Bayfield River. This was the second mill in the Huron Tract, the first being at Goderich, and was a great convenience to settlers from a wide area. In the 1840s, Bayfield was a busy shipping point for the export of grain, but its importance as a port was eliminated by the arrival of the railway.

A large salt deposit known as the Michigan Basin is a 350-million-year-old saucer-shaped deposit over parts of Ontario, Michigan, and Ohio. The salt was discovered in Goderich in 1866 and soon after, in other Huron County towns like Seaforth, Clinton, Blyth and Brussels, salt wells were drilled. Water was pumped down to dissolve the rock salt, the brine was pumped to the surface and evaporators using cheap wood fuel, were used to produce dry salt. The salt industry was an important part of the local economy until 1880.

The Huron Road (Goderich Road or King's Highway 8) forms the dividing line between McKillop and Tuckersmith Townships. The second road opened was the London Road (now King's Highway 4) and with the opening of the two roads the township of Tuckersmith could be surveyed. Surveys of Tuckersmith Township were completed between 1830 and 1835. The hamlets of Harpurhey, founded by Dr. William Chalk in 1834, and Egmondville, founded by Anthony Van Egmond in 1835, were thriving communities adjoining what would become the village, and then the town, of Seaforth.

Anticipating the construction of the Buffalo, Brantford & Goderich Railroad through this area, Christopher and George Sparling acquired, during 1850-53, most of the present site of Seaforth. Before this time Seaforth was little more than a stopping point along the Huron Road. George Sparling laid out a subdivision in 1856. Christopher Sparling sold most of his land to a land company headed by James Patton of Barrie. Harpurhey, Egmondville and Seaforth all vied for the rail station. Patton is said to have secured the railway station for Seaforth with the offer of a free site.

Situated on the Huron Road and the railway, and a shipping point for wheat and other products, Seaforth had a post office by December 1859. Seaforth was incorporated as a village in 1866 and as a town in 1875. The loss of a railway station in the neighbouring hamlets of Egmondville and Harpurhey led to their eventual decline. Merchants in the two hamlets began to move their businesses to Seaforth.

Tuckersmith was considered by early settlers to be the most fertile land in Huron County. Indeed Huron County is blessed with very productive agricultural land, the result of extensive weathering of the parent material ground up from the underlying limestone bedrock

and deposited by the receding glaciers. Much of the soil of Tuckersmith and McKillop Townships was formed from loamy limestone till or subaqueous till, i.e., material accumulated at the bottom of a body of water. The topography of the northern part of Tuckersmith Township is smooth, gentle slopes. The topography of the southern part of Tuckersmith Township and most of McKillop Township is smooth, gentle slopes to level.

Seaforth, like many rural communities, grew and prospered with the prosperity of its farmers. Both village and farmer were, and still are, dependent on and supported by each other.

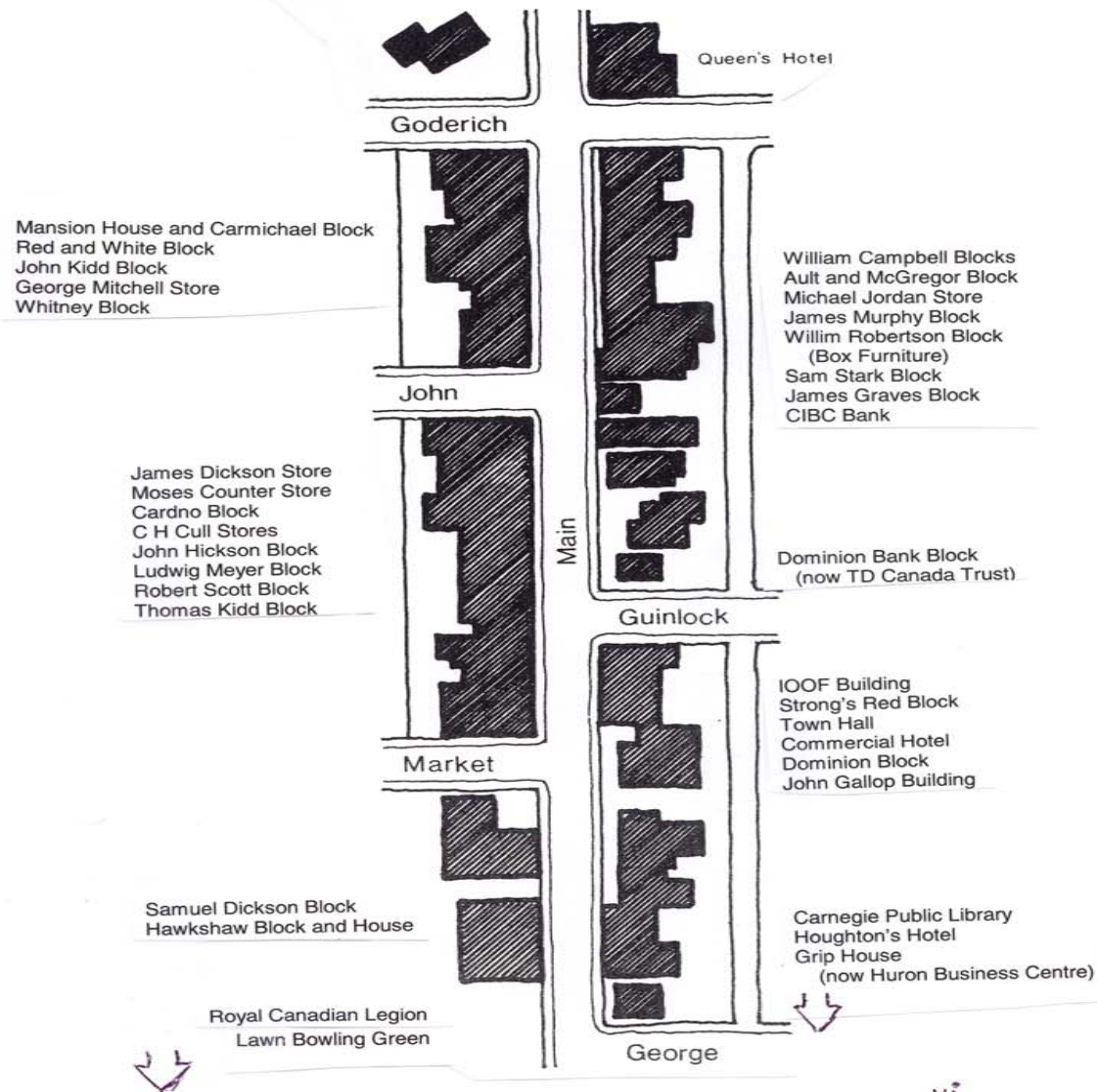
As the town prospered its architecture changed from frame buildings to the more imposing (and more fireproof!) brick buildings that line the main street to this day. The majority of the store buildings were built between 1874 and 1897. Later additions to the streetscape are the Bank of Commerce building erected in 1905 and the Carnegie Public Library built in 1912-13.

In 1976, the Seaforth Local Area Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) was formed. Its work led to the passing of a by-law in 1984 that designated the Seaforth downtown commercial core as a heritage conservation district. A Conservation Plan was prepared by Hill & Borgal, Architects & Planners. Their introductory statement sums it up nicely: “Seaforth is probably one of the finest and most beautiful late nineteenth century streetscapes in Ontario.”

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Quote referring to the Huron Road reprinted in Margaret Beecroft’s *Windings: A History of the Lower Maitland River*. For more information on the history of Seaforth and area see Isabelle Campbell’s *The Story of Seaforth*, James Scott’s *The Settlement of Huron County*, *Tuckersmith Memories* and Dean Robinson’s *Seaforth Beginnings*.

# Main Street





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# William Campbell Block 1

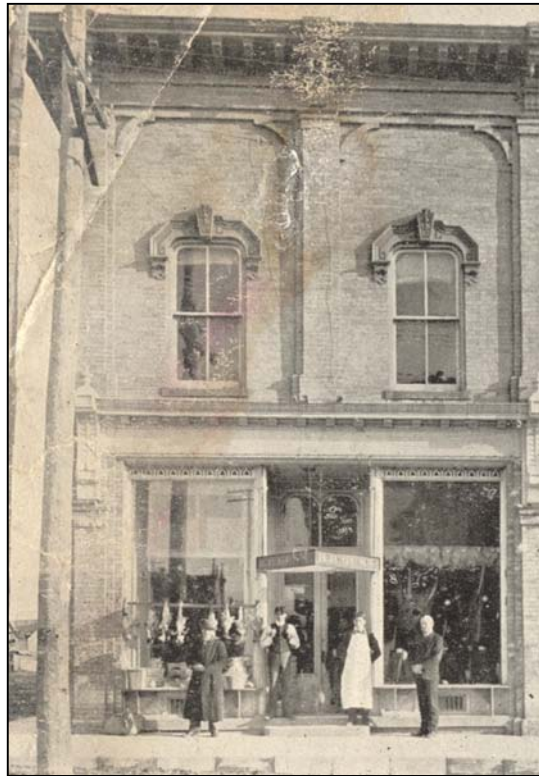
2 & 4 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1876

When William "Tailor" Campbell built a large frame building with three stores on the southeast corner of Main and Godrich Streets early in 1863, there were no other buildings on this side of Main Street from here to the railway station. The land was owned by Coleman and Gouinlock. George Gouinlock had died in 1853 leaving the land in trust to his wife and four children. His widow, Hannah Matilda Chalk, later married Dr. T.T. Coleman. The lands were still in trust for the minor children in 1863. When the building was finished, William Campbell occupied the north part. In the south part, Thomas Chubb had a bookstore and M.R. Counter, a jewelry store.

After the fire of 1876 destroyed his frame building, Campbell built a brick block of two large stores with a hall above the south store. In the spring of 1877, Campbell opened his merchant tailoring and men's furnishing shop, the New York House, in the north part and continued in business here until 1886. Campbell did his own cutting and usually employed 12 workmen in his tailor shop above his store.

The 2½-storey building is yellow brick with a detailed brickwork frieze below which pilasters meet to form simulated 'brace' supports. The cornice has been removed. The four 2<sup>nd</sup>-storey windows have decorative labels of moulded concrete with imitation central keystone. The large storefront cornice has prominent dentils and is supported by three ornate brackets, one at each end and one separating the two stores. The main floor retains the original door positions and insets. The north storefront is largely original, but the south one has been remodelled.



In 1891, B.B. Gunn moved his store north from A.G. Ault's Block to this location.

There were a number of short-lived businesses in the south store in the first years. Henry Mitchell had a fancy goods and books store in 1878; J.C Smith. & Henry West were here in 1879-80; William N. Watson had his insurance business here in 1880-82; Thomas Coventry, Boots & Shoes, occupied the store in 1883-84. It may have stood vacant then, until Bright Bros. took possession in 1887.

## CLOTHING.

**WM. CAMPBELL**

**H**AS Just Received a Full Stock of Spring and Summer Goods, so Varied and Well Assorted that any one can be suited.

**THE O'MAHONEY**

**OR IRISH TWEEDS,**  
**Scotch and Canadian Tweeds**  
**in Full Lines.**

As these were all bought strictly for **CASH DOWN**, they were consequently bought at the Lowest Figures, and my customers will get the Lowest Quotations.

**HATS AND GENTS' FURNISHINGS.**

In Hats and Gents' Furnishings I have double the stock of any former season. Also a Full Stock of

**READYMADE CLOTHING !**

Gentlemen contemplating Matrimony are particularly invited to inspect the Stock, as every provision is made for their wants.

*Remnants for Boys' Suits.*

Ladies wanting Remnants for Boys' Suits can find them here cheap.

**WM. CAMPBELL.**

Brick Block No. 1, Main Street, Seaforth.

*Huron Expositor* May 6, 1881

One of the upstairs tenants was Miss E.J. Sleeth. She placed the following advertisement in the January 5, 1883 issue of *The Huron Expositor*:

Miss Sleeth wishes to announce to the ladies of Seaforth and vicinity that she has removed her dressmaking rooms to Mr. Wm. Campbell's block, directly over the dry goods store, and also in thanking them for their patronage in the past, would respectfully solicit a continuance of same in future. Entrance between Mr. A.G. Ault's grocery store and Mr. Campbell's dry goods store.

The Hall above the stores was used by the Forester's Order in 1878-79, the 1890s, and from about 1915 to 1927. The Order of Good Templars had rooms in 1878-82. The Orange Order leased rooms in 1888-89 and 1927-1960s.

Jeweler, W.J. Northgraves, occupied the north store after William Campbell, from 1887-89. In 1891, Campbell added to the east of the building. *The Huron Expositor* reported on Sept. 4, 1891:

Mr. William Campbell has the brick addition to his block nearly completed, and is having the corner store nicely painted and otherwise improved. It will shortly be occupied by Mr. Gunn.

Gunn advertised his store as "The Corner Store with the Blue Front." He sold fabrics and clothing and was in business here until early 1907.

The May 10, 1907 *Huron Expositor* announced: "Williams & Purcell – General Merchants for the People - Groceries, Dry Goods, Clothing – Successors to B.B. Gunn – Corner Store." By 1909, Matthew Williams was operating the business on his own. By 1915, a butcher, Roy Nelson, was here.



Matthew and Kate Williams are two of the people in this c. 1910 photograph. Williams moved to the corner store in 1907, replacing B.B. Gunn.

In January of 1921, F.D. Hutchison, of Mitchell, purchased the grocery business formerly owned by Dorsey & MacKinnon, in the north store, corner of Main and Goderich Streets. The business change was advertised in *The Huron Expositor*.

Announcement – F.D. Hutchison, having bought the stock of groceries and provisions and leased the premises lately occupied by Mr. Donald E. MacKinnon, North Corner Main and Goderich Streets, is prepared to serve the people of Seaforth and surrounding country with groceries and provisions of good quality at moderate prices. Terms – cash or produce. Under the same roof, at the side entrance from Goderich Street, Mr. Neil Klein hopes to serve all his old customers and many new ones with a choice selection of fresh and cured meats.

Hutchison sold groceries here until 1933.

In the 1930s and 1940s, Arthur Rutledge was in business in the north store. William Barber joined Rutledge in 1936 and introduced radio sales into the business. Gordon McGonigle's grocery was here from 1947 into the late 1960s.

W.D. and A.J. Bright were Merchant Tailors and furnishers of men's clothing. They had the south part of William Campbell's block, with workrooms above, from 1887 to 1904. After the Bright Bros. moved out of the south store in late 1904, Mr. A. Dolgoff had a business here for a few years. W.J. Walker, a furniture merchant aged 58; with Alex and Sam Walker as Clerks, was the tenant of the store in the 1915-16. John and Sam Walker had moved their store across the street to Cardno Block by 1920.

Abraham Chiefetz and his brother operated Chiefetz Bros. dry goods in the south store in the

1920s. It seems that the store was largely vacant throughout the 1930s. Elgin Close had his barber-shop here in the 1940s. By 1949, the Crown Hardware store, run by Mervin Nott and Keith Sharp, was in the south store of the block. They were in business here into the late 1960s.



Bright Bros. Merchant Tailors & Gent's Furnishings was run by W.D. and A.J. Bright. They made clothing to order and also sold ready-made clothing. Bright Bros. occupied the south half of William Campbell's north block from late in 1887 to November 11, 1904 when they moved to Strong's Block. The advertisement below is from *The Huron Expositor* of March 10, 1893.

**Important :-: Announcement.**

**BRIGHT BROTHERS,**

**SEAFORTH**

**The Leading Clothiers of Huron,**

Beg to inform the people of Seaforth and surrounding country, that they have added to their large ordered clothing trade one of the

**Most Complete and best selected stocks of Boys', Youths' and Men's Readymade Clothing**

—IN THE COUNTY.—

**Prices Unequalled. We lead the Trade.**

Remember the Old Stand, Campbell's Block, opposite the Royal Hotel, Seaforth.

**BRIGHT BROTHERS.**



# William Campbell Block 2

6 & 8 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1877-78

John Scatter had two shops south of William Campbell's stores in 1863. He used one as his insurance office and the other was a drug store run by J.S. Roberts. Both stores were empty when the fire of 1876 swept through this part of Main Street. William Campbell bought the lot the next year and built a store block.

The distinguishing feature of Campbell's second store block is the central window in the upper storey. The windows are Italianate in style, the central trefoil or three-part window flanked by two smaller round-headed windows. The window labels are moulded concrete with a predominant keystone and label stops. In the photograph at left, you can see how the heavy cornice brackets fill the space above the brickwork outline, all that remains since the cornice was removed. A pilaster defines the south end of the upper façade and the window above the street-level entry to the upper apartment, in the photograph at left occupied by H. Horn, Ladies Tailor. The original storefront cornice had dentils and large brackets at each end. The storefront level has been significantly remodelled.

James Pickard opened his Bargain House in Campbell's No. 3 store in 1884. By 1890, the Robb brothers, William and James, had their Robb's Grocery here until 1900. W.J. Clark had a store here in 1900, but was soon replaced by I.N. Colbert's bakery which was here into 1902.

Richard Crone, Merchant, and J.W. Beattie, Butcher, were tenants in what had become two separate stores by 1910. Beattie occupied the south store. Charles Consigny, a shoemaker aged 50 in 1918, opened a shoe store in the north half and was here into 1921. A.E. Kennedy, a Presser, was in the south half at the same time.

Swift Canadian Produce, managed by Isaac Hudson, was in the north store in 1931 until 1953. Orville Dale took over the produce business for a few years. Trapnell's Bakery was here in 1958 and then Doris' Beauty Salon in 1959. The salon became Brian's Hair Styling by 1966.

The south store was home to W. John Thompson's Shoe Repair from 1940 to 1979. Dr. C.E. Toll had the Seaforth Dental Office in the north store in the early 1970s. Roth Food Market had both stores in the 1980s, and by 1990, Culligan Real Estate occupied both.

**THE BARGAIN HOUSE !**

Amongst the numerous bargains to be secured at the above house at present are:

Furs at cost. Men's and Boys' Overcoats at cost. Ladies' Ulsters and Jackets at cost. Wool Blankets at a big discount. Knitted Wool Goods at a sacrifice. Startling values in Wincies, Dress Goods and Remnants, which must be cleared out. Jobs in Hosiery.

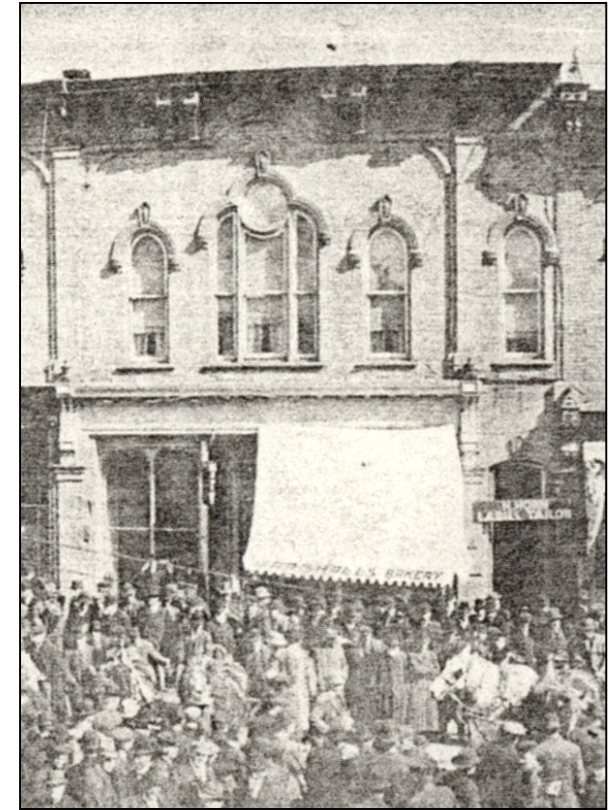
**NEW SPRING ARRIVALS.**

Elegant Prints, Ginghams, Shirts, Cottonades, Denims, Ducks, Bleached and Grey Cottons, at and below last seasons prices. Large variety of Men's, Youths' and Boys' Ready-made Suits, with style and workmanship to suit the most fastidious.

**JAMES PICKARD,**

CAMPBELL'S BLOCK. MAIN STREET, SEAFORTH.

The photograph at upper right is part of a panoramic photograph taken between 1887 and 1891. The awning is marked "Marshall's Bakery." The advertisement at left is from the March 18, 1887 issue of *The Seaforth Sun*. The one at right is from the February 28, 1890 issue.



**REMOVED ! ——— REMOVED !**

**ROBBS' GROCERY**

Has been removed to

**PICKARD'S OLD STAND,**

**NO. 3, CAMPBELL'S BLOCK,**

Where will be found a first-class stock of

**GENERAL GROCERIES**

also Cured Meats in

**HAM, BACON, SPICED ROLL, SAUSAGE, ETC.**

We invite the public to come and inspect our stock before purchasing elsewhere and they will find our prices right every time.

**Robbs' Grocery.**



# A.G. Ault & D. McGregor Block

10 & 12 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1877-78

William Ault had a grocery store here in 1868-71. Alexander ("Aggie") Ault took over the grocery in 1872 and was the tenant of the store when the frame building burnt in 1876. Ault's property was valued at \$3,000; he had only \$800 in insurance. William Campbell bought the north part of this property after the fire.

Dr. W. R. Smith, physician and surgeon, had an office to the south of Ault's grocery in 1869-70. Also next door in 1869-70 were Thomas and Sarah Simons, confectioners who also sold fruit and fish. T. Simons was also a house and sign painter in 1870-71. Thomas Garniss, a tailor, was the tenant here from 1872 to 1874. The *Feb. 19, 1874* issue of *The Huron Expositor* reported the property changing hands.:

Property Changes – Mr. D. McGregor, of Harpurhey, has purchased the store and lot at present occupied by Mr. Garniss, nearly opposite the Mansion House, for \$950. Mr. McGregor intends opening in these premises a book bindery and stationery store.

Daniel McGregor & Son was the occupant of this store when the fire started next door in Mrs. William D. Griffith's grocery and candy shop in 1876. The building, books and stationery were valued at \$2,000; he had \$1,000 in insurance.

It is likely that A.G. Ault and Daniel McGregor co-operated in building the two-store brick block which replaced their burnt-out store buildings in 1877-78. The red tones to the brick of north half distinguish Ault's building from McGregor's. The

upper façade is beautifully proportioned into four window bays divided by projecting brick pilasters surmounted by a raised brickwork frieze. The windows of the north half extend lower than those of the south half and have a small oblong pane above the regular four-paned window. The heavy, ornate window labels with imitation keystone are made of moulded concrete. The windows sills of the north windows are wood while those of the south windows are concrete. The upper cornice has been removed. (See the story about the Michael Jordan Block for a photograph showing the original cornice of this building.) The storefront cornice with dentils and end brackets has also been removed. The main floor now has doorways, at either end, to the two stores. The original doorway placement was in the centre of each store. All of the original storefront has been removed from the lower façade.

A.G. Ault moved into his unfinished store in November of 1877. Samuel McLean joined Ault in business in 1881-82. Ault went out of the business for a few years and B.B. Gunn occupied the store between 1887 and 1891. When Gunn moved up the street to the corner store, Ault resumed his grocery business here. *The Huron Expositor* reported on September 4, 1891:

We understand that Mr. A.G. Ault intends starting in the grocery business again in his own store, that at present occupied by Mr. Gunn. Mr. Ault was very popular when in business before, and no doubt many of his old customers will be pleased that they will have an opportunity of doing business with him again.

Ault advertised as the "Seaforth Tea Store." An ad

**T. SIMONS,**  
HOUSE & SIGN PAINTER.



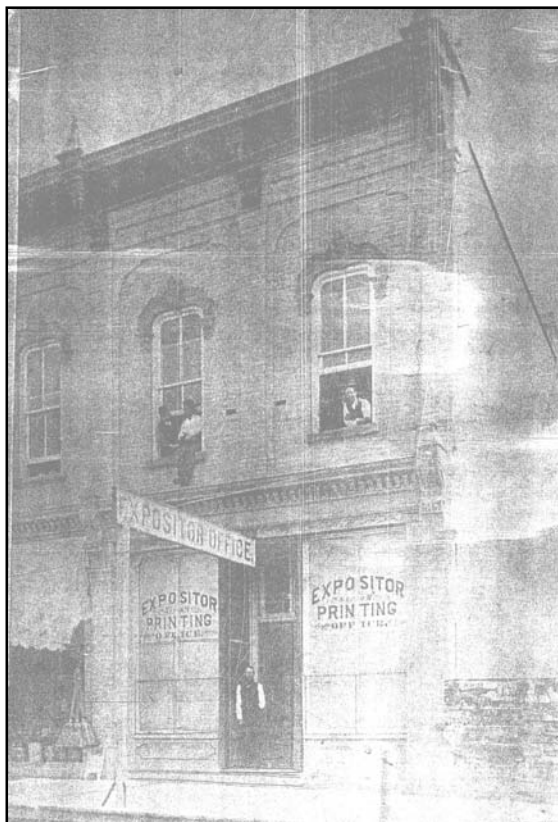
All work done in First-Class Style. Orders to be left one door North of Dr. Smith's office. 67-3m.

**Note The Fact!**  
THAT  
**C. J. Paltridge's**  
**NEW GALLERY,**  
Is now complete with a new  
**VOIGHTLANDER INSTRUMENT.**  
NEW Backgrounds, &c., &c. None but  
first-class pictures taken, and satisfaction guaranteed.  
GALLERY over Dr. Smith's Office, next door to F. Meyer's.  
Seaforth, Aug. 13, 1868. 36-6m.

Advertisements from *The Huron Expositor* February 5, 1869 and August 27, 1869.

in the 1893 *Huron Expositor* indicates that he also tried his luck, for a while, in selling ready-made clothing for men and boys, dress goods, shawls, mitts, etc. His main business, though, was groceries. A.G. Ault remained in business here until his death some time in 1915.

George D. Haigh had taken over the north store by 1914. His grocery business was here until 1932 when William Arnold, also a grocer, replaced him. He was here only a year when Alex McGavin took over the store from him. McGavin had the store until some time in 1940, after which time it stood vacant. Gordon Wright opened a furniture repair store here in 1944, John Kelland, Tire Sales, followed in 1945, and Harry Parnell, of the Parnell Tire & Battery Shop, in 1947.



This photograph was taken c. 1900. Ault advertised lower prices for those customers who paid cash. As did many other merchants, he also accepted goods in kind, like butter, eggs, and produce. The architectural details of the original storefront are visible here, e.g., the cornice with dentils and end brackets, the pilasters at either side, the inset doorway with transom, and plate-glass windows.

B.F. Christie started a butcher shop in the north store in 1954. He was also the owner of the building at the time. Christie was in business here until the late 1950s. John Cardno Insurance was the tenant here in 1960. The McKillop Mutual Fire Insurance Co. had offices here, as did W.E. Southgate, in 1966. By 1987, the *Huron Expositor* office had moved into the north store.

In 1881, Murdo Y. McLean moved his newspaper printing business from the building on John Street to the south store here, until this time occupied by Daniel McGregor's stationery store. The McLean Bros., Murdo and Alan, published one of the local weekly newspapers, *The Huron Expositor*. McLean Bros. bought *The Seaforth Expositor* from W.F. Luxton and George W. Ross and assumed its editorship with the December 9, 1879 issue. M.Y. was succeeded by his son, Keith, and he in turn by

## A. G. AULT'S GROCERY, SEAFORTH,

*Is the Proper Place to Get What  
You Want First-Class, and*

**"DON'T YOU FORGET IT."**

**AULT'S STORE!**

**TUNE: "CORK LEG."**

If you want a drink to please,  
Purchase some of Ault's Fine Teas;  
Now pray do not call me a joke,  
At Ault's you'll get first-class Kaoka.

A little voice does sweetly mutter,  
Go to A. G. Ault's for Butter;  
You're always sure to get it there,  
Crystal, Glass, and Crockery Ware.

He keeps Canned Fruits, Sardines and Salmon,  
Tomatoes, Peaches, 'taint no gammon;  
Starch, Blue and Soaps, Dried Hops in paper,  
With A I Sugar from Jamaica.

If Brooms won't suit you, 'tis your fault,  
For not buying them from A. G. Ault;  
His Scrubbing Brushes and his Pails,  
To please the public never fails.

Flour, Bailey, Oatmeal, Rice and Feed,  
Ault can supply what'e'er you need;  
Hair Oil to make your heads look slick,  
Maple Molasses good and thick.

To close I think it only fair,  
To say Ault uses all folk's square;  
So call on him, though you're a stranger,  
A Tory, a Grit, or a Granger.

These lines are respectfully dedicated to the  
patrons of A. G. AULT, Grocer and Provision  
Merchant, Main Street, Seaforth.

his son, Andrew Y. McLean. A.Y. McLean remained active in the paper's operation, along with his daughter, Susan, into the 1970s. Signal Star Publishing of Goderich bought the business in 1982. At the time of its sale the McLean family held the record for the longest continuous ownership of a Main Street business – 112 years. The newspaper office moved one door north in 1985.

# Michael Jordan Store

14 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1895

Andrew Calder had his photography studio at this location, next door to Mrs. Griffith's confectionery, from 1872-76. He also sold sewing machines. When he lost his building and photographic stock to the fire of 1876 it was valued at \$600; he had no insurance. Calder temporarily "fitted up rooms over Mrs. Markey's grocery store" and later moved to another location on Main Street.

Thomas Downey, the owner of the middle part of Lot 9 throughout the 1880s to mid-1890s, used the property to store lumber. Sydney Jacobs, a tinsmith, seems to have had a small shop here in 1893-95. Michael Jordan, a grocer with a shop just south, bought the property in 1895 and had the present brick building constructed.

The building is grey cement brick with red brick detailing. The grey brick has an irregular, moulded surface. There are four square pilasters which become round above the second-floor windows. The two colours of brick were used to create bands across the upper façade and to accent the gently arched windows. The tall, narrow windows were placed at a lower level on the façade than those of the building to the north. The cornice at both levels has been removed. The two inset doorways at either end have metal posts at the inner edge of the doorway. The woodwork panels on the inset walls of the doorways appear to be original. The building is remarkable in that its design and colouring are so different from its neighbours on Main Street, although it is quite similar in appearance to the Commercial Hotel further south.



The photograph at left, taken c. 1900, shows M. Jordan's grocery store. In May of 1896, "Mr. M. Jordan ... placed a handsome new delivery wagon on the road. It was made at the establishment of Mr. John Kale." Jordan had his grocery business here until his death some time in 1901.



A family photograph taken by Andrew Calder between 1873-77.

George Baldwin had a store here for a few years from 1903-05. Then, Richard H. and Martha Peck had a music store at this location for many years. Maud (or Martha?) Peck took over the business in 1928. Peck's music store continued in business here until 1950. The store then became a bakery for several years, first run by James McDonald, then by Glen Smith. Smith was the building's owner by 1966. Trapnell's Bakery was in business here at that time. The Tasty-Nu Bakery & Cheese House opened shop here in the late 1980s and was here for many years. For a few years in the early 1970s, Agnes McClinchey had a restaurant here.



# James Murphy Block

16 & 18 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1877

*F*ranz Meyers had his house, and south of it his Checkered Harness Depot, on this lot in 1863. But, James Murphy was the owner of the house and store from 1872-76. When fire struck, Murphy lost his store, his stock of groceries, his dwelling house and household furnishings valued at \$4,800; he was insured for \$2,200. Murphy replaced the burned buildings in 1877 with a brick building containing two stores. He moved his Checkered Store and Tea Depot into the north store and was here until 1883.

David and John Currie had a dry goods, fancy goods, tobacco and confectionery store in the south space from 1877-79. A succession of four other confectioners ran a business in the south store in the 1880s after the Curries left. In 1886, Mrs. W. Clement had a restaurant here. J.C. Smith & Co. opened a private bank in this store space in 1891 and were here until 1897.

C.L. Papst and Thomas O'Connor opened a new music store in the north store in 1890. Peter Dill and Harry Speare, Tailors and Furnishers of men's clothing, moved into the north store in 1893 and were here until February 1897. The June 11, 1897 issue of *The Huron Expositor* informed the public:

Harry Speare, successor to Dill & Speare, moved to larger store, Feb. 26, 1897, West side Main street, Whitney's Block, next door to Henderson's Ground Floor Gallery – Tailoring & Gents' Furnishings.

Matthew Williams, a grocer and the owner of the building by this time, replaced Dill & Speare. He was soon succeeded by J.A. Hingstone and R.A.

Sparling, Painters, when he moved his business north to the corner store.

B.B. Gunn opened a second store and occupied both of the stores here in 1900. By 1905, a number of different businesses occupied both stores for one or two years at a time. Matthew Williams again had his grocery in the north store from 1907-09. His wife and daughter continued the business into the 1910s. W.J. Allan had the south store.

In 1921, Isaac Hudson, a produce merchant, had the south store; David Stewart, a butcher, had the north store. The next year, Silverwoods Dairy occupied the south store and were here until 1927. By 1929, there was again a produce store in the south part and George Cameron, had taken over the butcher shop.

By 1933, B.F. Christie was the butcher at work in the north store and he was in business here until 1957. In 1934, Leonard Bolton had a barbershop in the south part. The next year, Leona Mac Box had a hairdressing shop in the south store. Bertha Box took over the hairdressing shop and Fred R. Parsons had the barbershop in 1940-41. Ernest L. Box, a coal merchant, was the property owner at this time and he had the north store from 1939 to 1944. Frank Kling, Plumbing & Heating Supplies, had the south store for a couple of years in 1943-44, then it became a pool hall run by E.M. Hadfield and then by C.G. and Frank Lee.

Advertisements from *The Huron Expositor* of February 5, 1869 and February 7, 1873.

IT IS WORTH YOUR WHILE, IF YOU WANT  
**A GOOD SET OF HARNES!**  
TO CALL AT F. A. MEYERS'  
**Checkered Harness Depot,**  
Where you will see the best and largest stock of  
*Team & Fine Harness, Saddles, Trunks, etc.,*  
Seaforth, October 20th, 1868. West of Toronto. 46-6m.

**NEW STORE IN SEAFORTH.**

The subscriber would respectfully announce to the inhabitants of the Town of Seaforth and surrounding country that he has fitted up the building hereafter to be known as the

**CHEQUERED STORE AND TEA DEPOT,**  
Situate on Main-street, nearly opposite the Mansion Hotel, where he has laid in and is now opening a large and well selected stock of Teas, Coffees, Sugars, Tobaccos,

**WINES AND LIQUORS IN WOOD AND BOTTLES,**  
**FRUITS NEARLY ALL KINDS,**  
Comprising Raisins—Layer, Valentia, Seedless, &c., Currants, Figs, Dates and Prunes, Lemons and assorted Nuts, Sardines, Crosse & Blackwell's mixed Pickles, with a full supply of

**GENERAL GROCERIES,**  
And all articles usually kept in a

**FIRST-CLASS GROCERY STORE,**  
Comprising in part  
Brooms, Pails, Tubs, Washboards, Halter Rope and Bed Ropes all lengths, and

**CHINA, CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE,**  
Tea Sets in plain china, Tea Sets in gold band china, Tea Sets in best granite, Tea Cups and Saucers, Plates, Dishes and Bowls, all sizes

**HOTEL, TAVERN AND SALOON KEEPERS**  
Will find it to their interest to call at the

**CHEQUERED STORE AND TEA DEPOT,**  
Where they will find good Wines and Liquors at

**VERY MODERATE PRICES.**

The subscriber having had long experience in the Grocery Trade, and possessing a good knowledge of the Markets, and having bought his Stock for cash and his expenses being very light, is able and determined to sell for the smallest possible profit for cash, on which principle he proposes to conduct all his transactions, both in buying and selling.

Inhabitants of the Town of Seaforth and Counties of Huron and Perth, you are cordially invited to give the CHEQUERED STORE AND TEA DEPOT a trial, where you will be sure to get as good value for your money as can be got in any Town or City in Ontario.

REMEMBER THE PLACE.  
**THE CHEQUERED STORE AND TEA DEPOT,**  
Nearly opposite the Mansion Hotel, Main-Street, Seaforth.

**JAMES MURPHY.**



Christie's butcher shop in the north store became O'Shea's Men's & Women's Wear by the 1960s. By the 1990s, Anna's Dress Shop, had moved into this store space.

The south store became a beauty parlour in 1957, run by Robert McPherson, Beautician. Grace Kerr was a Beautician in Roberts' House of Beauty in the early 1960s. By 1966, the business here was called the Snip & Curl Beauty Salon. Box Furniture eventually expanded their store into this space.

The building appears to be of-a-piece with the neighbouring store block to the south. The entablature detailing, pilasters and window labels are the same as the building to the south and the Ault & McGregor Block to the north.

It is a 2½-storey yellow brick building with four pilasters marking off three window bays. The section to the south is wider and has a larger window. The roof cornice and the storefront were restored to their original appearance, to match Box Furniture to the south. At the storefront level, the doorway insets and windows are as they were originally.



The photograph above is part of a panoramic taken c. 1900. The James Murphy building is to the right of the store with the awning. At the time, B.B. Gunn's general store was here.

**DILL &  
SPEARE**

... . MERCHANT  
... . TAILORS

AND

**Gents' Furnishers**

Recognize no superiors in their line.  
You pay nothing extra for the best  
by dealing with us. Honest work at  
a reasonable price is our motto.

Your patronage solicited at

**DILL & SPEARE'S, Seaforth.**

One Door South of Expositor Office

**J. C. SMITH & CO.,  
BANKERS.**

A General Banking business transacted.  
Farmers' notes discounted.  
Drafts bought and sold.  
Interest allowed on deposits.  
SALE NOTES discounted, or taken for  
collection

OFFICE--First door north of Reid &  
Wilson's Hardware Store.

**SEAFORTH.**

Advertisements from left: *The Huron Expositor*, August 2, 1895; and, March 10, 1893.

**COAL**

**QUALITY-SERVICE**

**E.L. BOX** (43)

An enameled metal sign used to identify and advertise E.L. Box's business. (*Seaforth & Area Museum*)

# William Robertson Block

20-22 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1877

*Home to Box Furniture* for many years now, this 2½-storey yellow brick block was built in 1877 for William M. Robertson. In 1863, William M. Robertson and Co. were hardware merchants with William O. Reid as manager. They conducted business in a frame building on part of this site until moving into the north part of the Thomas Kidd Block on the opposite side of Main Street in 1869.

George Ewing had a butcher shop next to

William Robertson's hardware store in the 1860s. By the time of the fire in 1876, Robertson's store was vacant and Jones & Rowcliffe had furniture warerooms in the south store. Part of the property was owned by Sam and Margaret Stark. After the 1876 fire, Robertson bought this and the adjacent land and built his large store block.

It was "the finest warehouse in town," a large 35' x 126' (11 x 38 m) block with basement and two flats or apartments. In one store they sold builder's hardware. In the other, they sold carriage hardware, wagon and carriage material upstairs, and oils, paint, glass, etc., in the basement. At the rear was a large iron and steel warehouse. Robertson moved his "Sign of the Circular Saw" store into the new building in November of 1877 and continued in business until 1883.

Robertson & Reid became Reid & Wilson Hardware by 1884, still operating under the "Sign of the Circular Saw." Reid & Wilson advertised as hardware and iron importers. They were in business until 1909 when McIntyre & Willis, also hardware merchants, took over.



Reid & Wilson's Hardware as it was in 1900. Note that the architectural details of the original have been beautifully recreated so that the existing building looks much as it once did.

SIGN OF  
THE



CIRCULAR  
SAW

SOLE AGENTS IN SEAFORTH,  
HARDWARE MERCHANTS, SIGN OF THE CIRCULAR SAW, MAIN STREET, SEAFORTH.

*Has now been Thoroughly Tested in Competition with all other Makes, and proved to be the Best.*

**WE GUARANTEE IT TO STAND A GREATER STRAIN THAN ANY OTHER MAKE,**

*And the Superiority of Four-Barb over that of Two is acceded to by all who have used both kinds.*

**THE LYMAN FOUR-BARB STEEL FENCING WIRE**

WILLIAM ROBERTSON & Co.,

Huron Expositor advertisement May 6, 1881.



The brickwork of the entablature, the pilasters and the window labels of the upper façade are the same design as that of neighbouring building to the north. The upper cornice with decorative brackets and finials, the storefront cornice with dentils and finials, are part of extensive restoration work done in 1990.

In 1916, James E. Willis opened a silent movie theatre called The Strand. A 1921 advertisement for "Better Motion Pictures" announced a rise in ticket price to "Adults 25¢ Children 15¢" up from 15¢ and 10¢, for such great photoplays as *The Revenge of Tarzan*, Mary Pickford's *Pollyanna*, and Douglas Fairbanks in *The Mollycoddle*. The Strand was in business into the 1920s. At the same time, George C. Bell had a garage next door.

The stores were vacant for a few years in the late 1920s. In 1928, Marshall Stewart opened a pool hall. At the same time, Norman Nichol had a paint shop; A.D. Sutherland, an Insurance Agent, had an office; and, John Regeir used part of the store space for car storage. Into the 1930s, C.M. Smith ran the pool room in the rear part of Elgin Close's barbershop. In the late 1930s, there was also a ladies' hairdressing parlour. The pool room continued as a popular hangout through the 1940s.

By 1945, Richard Box had moved Box Furniture to this location and by 1955, Box Furniture occupied all of the original William Robertson Block. In 1990, extensive renovations were made to the block and the adjoining James Murphy Block to the north. Box Furniture expanded into part of the James Murphy Block, next to Anna's Dress Shop.

## REID & WILSON, HARDWARE MERCHANTS.

Just received a large stock of Cattle Chains, imported direct from England. American Safety Tubular Lantern, the best in the world. Apple Parers—all styles and prices.

REID & WILSON, Hardware and Iron Importers, Main-st, Seaforth.

LIGHT. LIGHT. LIGHT.

—x—

REID & WILSON

Show this week the finest assortment of

LIBRARY LAMPS,  
TABLE LAMPS,  
LAMP GOODS,

In Western Canada.

The above are all directly imported and embraces the latest American styles. If you do not need them yourselves they make the most suitable and handsome Christmas and New Years presents to give your friends.

Reid & Wilson,

Iron and Hardware Importers, Seaforth.

Advertisements above: *The Huron Expositor*, December 31, 1886; *The Seaforth Sun*, March 18, 1887; right: *The Huron Expositor*, January 28, 1916.

**Strand**

*The Coolest Place in Town*

Now Showing

RUTH STONEHOUSE  
in  
"THE ALSTER CASE"  
A powerful, gripping, detective drama  
PRICE 11c  
Friday Evening .... Children 5 Cents

EXTRA SPECIAL  
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday  
BRYANT WASHBURN  
and  
MARBARET CLAYTON  
in  
"THE PRINCE OF GRAUSTARK"

Seaforth is one of the first towns in Canada to see this picture, and you should take advantage of this opportunity to see two of the world's best motion picture actors and biggest successes. The high rental of this picture compels the management to increase the admission to FIFTEEN CENTS—and it's worth twice that.

**Strand**

# Sam Stark Block

24 & 26 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1877

Sam Stark had four stores on this lot, next to William Robertson's hardware, in the 1860s. George Ewing had a butcher shop in one, Stark had a shoe shop in a second. W.J. McCleary had law offices in a third, and Dr. John Campbell had his home and office in the fourth. After the 1876 fire, Stark sold part of the lot to Robertson and built a brick block adjoining Robertson's block in 1877. The architectural detailing of Stark's Block matches that of Robertson's Block, and others, to the north. Stark's Block was destroyed by fire in the early 1990s. The Elliott Financial building now stands on part of the lot where Stark's Block once was.

In 1876, the stores owned by Sam Stark were occupied by Stark, John Eades, a barber, and Mrs. Charles Graham's millinery store. Stark's new brick block was occupied by Thomas Coventry's Boot & Shoe shop in the north store until 1880; James McGuffie & Co.'s liquor store in the middle store, also to 1880; and, Henry Mitchell's Fancy store in the south store. Mitchell's store was taken over by a victualler by the name of John Martin who was here for just one year. The Misses Grieves, dressmakers, had three rooms above from 1877-81.

By 1880, Francis Holmsted, a lawyer, owned the Stark Block. William Logan had a business in the north store in 1880, but was soon succeeded by George Good. Good had a grocery here until 1884 when he moved further south to a corner store. Maggie Ferguson, a dressmaker, had a shop here in 1885. James McGuffie's store was now McGuffie & Robertson's seeds store, until 1881. It was replaced by John Killoran's liquor store some time in 1881 to

1886. The south store was a grocery operated by Hugh Robb from 1881-85 and by William and James Robb in 1886. Robb's grocery moved to No. 3 Campbell's Block in early 1890. Above one of the stores, Holmsted had law offices, off and on, for many years.

NEW

## Liquor Store.

---

We take pleasure in announcing to the people of Seaforth and surrounding country that we have opened out a new liquor store comprising the the coicest brands of

### Wines and Liquors,

selected and bought from one of the leading wholesale hoses in the Dom inion.

Old Port Wines from England. Sherry and Grape Wine from France. The Celebrated

"MARSALLA"

### Sacramental Wine

from Spain-- warranted pure. D. K. and Hinks Holland Gins. Mountain Dew from Scotland. Guinness' Porter bottled by Burke, from Ireland. Carlings Amber Ale. Old Rye, Malt, and superior Whiskeys from H. Walker & Son, Windsor. Hennessy, Martell, Jules Robin Brandys.

All these liquors are specially selected for medicinal purposes and family use, also several other kinds of liquors, which we hope will give every satisfaction to our customers. Remember the place

Two Doors South of Robertson & Cos.  
Circular Saw.

## W. KILLORAN.



The picture above is part of a photograph taken in June 1878. William Robertson's circular saw sign marks his hardware store. The boot marks Thomas Coventry's store which is the north part of Sam Stark's Block. The building to the south, projecting into the street, is Patrick Megary's brick block. The advertisement to the left is from the June 8, 1883 issue of the *Seaforth Sun*.



Archibald and James Scott were the proprietors of Scott Bros. Music Store in the north store from 1889 to 1901. The middle store continued to be a liquor store run by Henry Jackson from 1892-95. Part of the middle store also housed the Dominion Bank from 1893-95. The south store was occupied by J.P. Dopp, a butcher, throughout the 1890s. Holmsted



The storefront of Scott Bros. Music Store taken 1897.

had his law offices in the middle part from 1896 to 1901 after which time it and the other stores were vacant or had short-term tenants for a year or two. The south store was a laundry between 1902-06 operated first by Fang Kee, then by Charlie Yew, and lastly by Charles Hinas.

Alfred Box ran a successful restaurant in the north store space for decades, starting some time in

the 1910s and until 1942. Willard Elliott joined Box in 1933. Mason and Agnes Harvey took over the restaurant in 1942. and by 1945, the restaurant was James McDonald's Bakery.

At about the same time in the early 1910s, the middle store became a billiard hall, first run by John Bell, then by Louis Atkinson in the 1920s, Joseph Doyle and Joseph Nigh in the early 1930s, and by W.G. Gill in the late 1930s and 1940s. In the late 1940s and 1950s, the Seaforth Farmers' Co-operative had a produce store here. By 1958 and into the 1960s, it housed Gingrich's Appliances.

James Cleary had a grocery in the south store by 1916. The May 17, 1935 issue of *The Huron Expositor* reported: "Store is Enlarged and Redecorated - Extensive alterations have been completed on the grocery store of Mr. J.J. Cleary here. The floor space has been greatly enlarged and the interior completely redecorated. The alterations were made by Harry Hart, while John F. Scott did the decorating." Cleary was in business at his "Red Band Store" until 1955.

In 1951, the Simpson's (later Simpson-Sears) Mail Order Office was located in the north store. The Eaton's Order Office followed, in 1955, moving into the south store. Anstett Jewellers had replaced Gingerich's in the middle store by 1975. Anstett's and the Sears Order Office were still here in the 1990s when the Stark Block burnt and was later demolished.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

**JAMES MCGUFFIE & CO., SEAFORTH,**

BEG TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF SEAFORTH AND SURROUNDING COUNTRY THAT THEY HAVE LEASED THOSE

EXTENSIVE PREMISES IN STARK'S BLOCK,

Main Street Seaforth, where they intend carrying on the business of

**WHOLESALE AND RETAIL**

**WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.**

*They have Received a LARGE and FIRST-CLASS Stock of LIQUORS. which have all been Bought at the LOWEST CASH PRICES,*

So that they will be able to supply their customers with the Genuine Article at a Moderate Rate.

The Store will be under the Management of Mr. H. C. MALCOLMSON, lately with Messrs. Killoran & Ryan, and we trust to have a visit from our friends before the Christmas Holidays.

Hotel-Keepers who may favor us with their custom will meet with Special Inducements.

**JAMES MCGUFFIE & Co., Seaforth.**

**GOOD NEWS FOR THE BAREFOOTED**

AND ALL PARTIES WHO WISH TO BUY LARGE QUANTITIES OF BOOTS AND SHOES FOR A SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY.

TO KEEP abreast of the times in the General Reduction in Prices of all kinds of Goods—but more particularly, if possible, to induce people to buy for cash—I have determined to make the following reduction in prices to cash buyers in Custom Made Work:

**Gents' Long Leg Boots, all kinds, 25 cents per pair.  
Shoe Packs and Short Boots, all kinds, 12½ cents per pair.  
Ladies', Boys' and Girls' Boots, all kinds, 12½ cents per pair.**

I have just opened an Immense Stock of Factory Made Work in all the different lines, which I think intending purchasers ought to see before purchasing elsewhere, especially my Men's and Boys' Riveted Work, which undoubtedly surpass anything in the trade in Factory Made Work. All of which will be sold at a reduction corresponding with the above to cash buyers. Parties buying on time will be charged the old prices. As I am the first in my line in Seaforth to pull down the prices, I trust the public will show their appreciation by an extensive patronage, as I am determined to make it to their advantage to do so.

Sign of the BIG BOOT, Stark's Block, East Side Main Street,

**THOS. COVENTRY, Seaforth.**

Advertisements from *The Huron Expositor* of February 21, 1879.



A photograph of the interior of Jim Cleary's store c. 1920. The advertisements, clockwise from top: *The Huron Expositor*, June 30, 1893; November 6, 1891; and, January 28, 1916.

**J. J. CLEARY**  
 "A Red Band Store"  
**GROCERIES**  
**Fruits - Vegetables**  
 "Where Quality Rules"  
 PHONE 117 : Free Delivery Service

**DOMINION BANK,**  
**MAIN STREET (NEAR ROYAL HOTEL),**  
**SEAFORTH, ONTARIO.**

**GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.**

Interest allowed on deposits of \$1.00 and upwards at highest current rates. NO NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL REQUIRED.

Drafts bought and sold. Collections made on all points at lowest rates.

Farmers' Sale Notes collected, and advances made on same; favorable terms. **BUSINESS ACCOUNTS SOLICITED.**

**SEAFORTH**  
**Musical : Instrument**  
**EMPORIUM**  
**Scott Brothers,**  
**PROPRIETORS,**  
**SEAFORTH, - ONTARIO.**

**PIANOS.**—Dunham, New York; W. Bell & Co., Guelph; Dominion Piano Company, Bowmanville.

**ORGANS.**—W. Bell & Co., Guelph; Dominion Organ Company, Bowmanville; D. W. Karn & Co., Woodstock.

The above Instruments always on hand, also a few good second-hand Pianos and Organs for sale at from \$25 upwards. Instruments sold on the instalment plan, or on terms to suit customers. Violins, Concertinas and small instruments on hand also sheet music, books &c.

**SCOTT BROS.**



# Patrick Megary Store

30 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1877

The first building here on the north part of this lot, in the 1860s, was Sydney Jacob's tinsmith shop. The September 24, 1875 issue of *The Huron Expositor* reported on "Gradually Disappearing Buildings on Main Street" noting that the "frame building on the opposite side of the street, recently occupied by a laundry was also removed to a lot bought by P. Megary who will build a brick store next season." George Forsythe had the laundry here in 1875. On the south part of the lot there was another frame building where George Baxter had his Dining Saloon in the 1860s. Megary had both buildings torn down to make way for his new brick building. It was Megary's almost completed brick block that checked the fire of 1876, saving a row of frame buildings further south. The window casings in Megary's new building were all burned, but were soon repaired. He opened his bakeshop for business before the year was out.

Patrick Megary's bakery was here until 1876 when Thomas Daly took over the store. Daly, who was one of the first children born in Egmondville, had a grocery and meat store here for many years, until 1921. J.F. Daly, a jeweller, set up shop in part of this store in 1895-96. He then moved across the street to a store in the Cardno Block.

Apartment rooms above the stores were let in 1888-89 to a dentist, W.J. Fear, and, in 1890, to W.S. Ferguson, MD.

After Thomas Daly retired from business, the store was occupied for a few years by a pool hall run first by Elgin H. Close, 1923-25, and then by Marshall Stewart, 1926-27.

In 1928, Samuel Shinen opened a dry goods store here. He became the building's owner in 1948. Over the years, Shinen's evolved into a clothing store. The business was still here in the early 1980s. By 1990, Bee's Clothing Store had replaced one of the longest running businesses in Seaforth.

## Don't Miss These Values

**NOW IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO BUY YOUR  
SUMMER NEEDS AT REDUCED PRICES !**

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| <p><b>WOMEN'S DRESSES</b><br/>Clearing ALL our Summer Dresses. Some less than half-price.</p> <p><b>SHEERS</b><br/>Plain and Flowered Sheers with Slips. Sizes 14-52. Regular to \$6.95. Now <b>\$2.95 to \$5.50</b></p> <p><b>Wash Silks and Sharkskins</b><br/>Beautifully style, tailored and swing skirts. Sizes 14-46. Light and dark backgrounds. <b>\$1.95 and \$2.45</b></p> <p><b>One Rack of Smart Dresses</b><br/>To clear — Sheers, Crepes and linens. <b>\$1.45</b></p> <p><b>ALL SPRING COATS REDUCED TO CLEAR</b></p> <p><b>Full Fashioned PURE SILK HOSE</b><br/>All newest shades. Sizes 8½ to 10½. <b>69c</b></p> <p><b>BLOUSES</b><br/>Summer Sheers, Voiles and Organdy; stripes, checks and plain. Really smart. Only <b>89c</b></p> <p><b>ALL SLIPS AND UNDERWEAR GREATLY REDUCED</b></p> | <p><b>HATS</b><br/>Smart White and Colored Straws—Sailors, Off-the-Face and Turbans, at practically half-price.<br/><b>ALL OTHER MERCHANDISE REDUCED ACCORDINGLY</b></p> <p><b>MEN'S SUITS</b><br/>Newest patterns, still British Woolens. All sizes; double or single breasted. <b>\$19.95</b></p> <p><b>Light Colored SUMMER SUITS</b><br/>Regular \$18.00. To clear <b>\$10.95</b></p> <p><b>PANTS</b><br/>Grey Flannels. Reg. \$2.50 and \$2.95. All sizes. To clear <b>\$1.75</b></p> <p><b>TWEED TROUSERS</b><br/>Smart patterns. Sizes to 38. To clear <b>\$1.95</b></p> <p><b>WASH PANTS</b><br/>To clear <b>\$1.00</b></p> <p><b>ALL WORKING CLOTHES GREATLY REDUCED</b></p> <p><b>UNDERWEAR REDUCED 15% DURING SALE</b></p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## SHINEN'S



This photograph, taken during a parade in 1940, shows Shinen's, James Graves' store to the south and J.J. Cleary's Red Band Store in Sam Stark's Block to the north. Arnold Westcott's jewellery store is in the north part of Graves' store block and Verna Graves paint and paper store is in the south part. At left, an advertisement from a special carnival issue of *The Huron Expositor* July 24, 1940.

Patrick Megary's store is a 2½-storey white brick building. It was set four feet forward of the other buildings to its north, making it stand out from the rest of stores on the street until the Graves Block was built in 1897. The cornice was removed from both the upper and storefront levels. A replica of the original storefront cornice was added in the early 1990s. There are three window openings each with two very narrow and long windows. The windows are unusual compared with other buildings on the street: the segmented brick label surrounds extend to the base of the window and there are no window sills. On the storefront level, the doorway is central and inset. A plain doorway with a rectangular transom light divided in two, at the north end of the façade, leads to the second-floor apartment.



# James Graves Block

32 & 34 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1897

When W.H. Spencer came to Seaforth in the 1860s, he opened a jewellery store in a small shop on part of this lot. A second small shop housed Robert P. Tait's Saddlery. Miss Hart had a millinery shop on part of the lot in 1869-70. Mrs. Rumley had a confectionery store in the other shop in 1875 which was then taken over by Thomas Coventry's boot and shoe store. Miss Bessie McDonald had a fancy goods and dressmaking establishment in the south store from 1879-84.

James Constable and later, Patrick Mulcahy, had a barbershop in the south store in the early 1890s. In 1894, James Graves bought the property. He was a painter and he opened shop in the other store while Mulcahy continued his work as a barber. By the fall of 1897 Graves had his new brick block completed.

John F. Daly, a jeweller and optician who also sold marriage licenses, was the first occupant of the north store. Daly had the store until 1902, at which time he moved across the street to the Cardno Block and John Bulger, also a jeweller, took over in the Graves store. O.L. Hess succeeded Bulger in 1909. By 1915, Fred S. Savauge was the jeweller here. Savauge was in business at this location until 1924. John F. Daly moved back into this store from 1925 until 1927 when Arnold Westcott took over from him. Westcott started out in the jewellery business as a clerk in Daly's store in 1921. Westcott stayed in business here for the next 32 years. In 1960, John A. Anstett, Jewellers, was here and continued in business until the early 1970s. The north store is unique in having been a jewellery store for most of

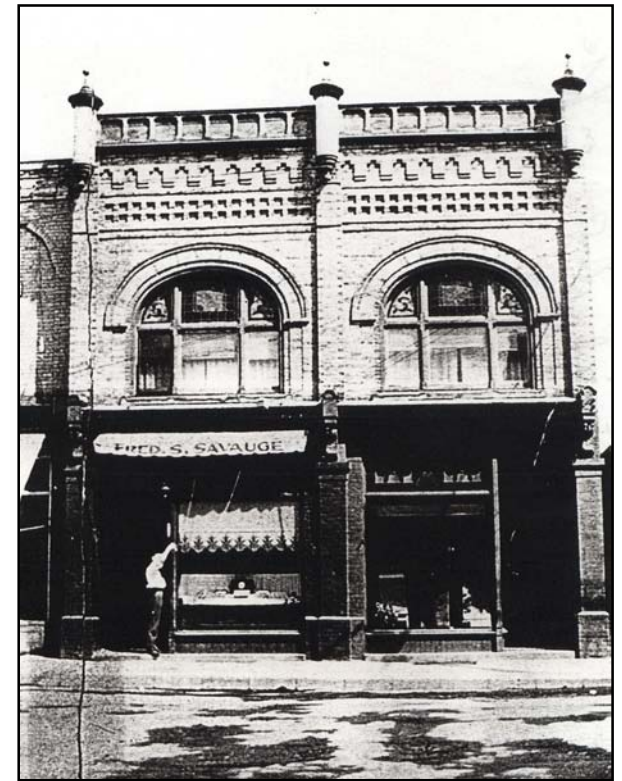
its life. This ended by 1975 when James Etue opened his insurance office here.

James Graves himself was the first occupant of the south store. The store remained under the name of Graves' Wallpaper & Paint until the early 1980s. Orval V. Weston and Miss Cleta Dickson were the proprietors of the store from the 1950s on.

The James Graves Block is a 2½-storey yellow brick building with two stores. (The brick has been painted.) The building is set forward of the Megary store to the north creating another slight jog in the street. The cornice with its prominent finials capping each pilaster, visible in the picture at right, has since been removed. There is a detailed brickwork frieze and three pilasters with large windows set between. The windows have a rowlock arch above. The window itself is divided into three stained glass sections above and three plain glass sections below.

The main floor cornice with decorative brackets has been removed. There are two inset doorways, one to each store, at either end of the façade. The pilasters all continue from the second level to the lower level.

Above: The interior of John F. Daly's jewellery store, the first occupant of the north store, as shown in *Souvenir of Seaforth*, 1900. Below: The James Graves Block with Fred S. Savauge's jewellery store in the north part and Graves' Wallpaper & Paint in the south part.



## The Newest Jewelry

The artistic advances constantly being made in Fine Jewelry are reflected in the stock which we have assembled together for Christmas. We have many exclusive designs. In giving a piece of Jewelry from Daly's you have the satisfaction of knowing that the quality is beyond question. Eighteen years of jewelry selling in your midst has demonstrated to you that what you buy here is always strictly as represented. Remember we are always pleased to show you our stock. You are invited to call and see our Christmas Specialties whether you purchase or not.

# J.F.DALY

SEAFORTH  
Issuer of Marriage Licenses.  
Established 1892.



Wishing  
our many  
friends and  
patrons a  
Happy and  
Prosperous  
New Year

## Savaugé & Stollery

Jewelers and Opticians  
Issuers of Marriage Licenses  
Phone 194 open evenings.

## AT GRAVES'

Wallpaper & Paint Store



You'll get compliments galore when your friends see what a wonderful difference **SUNWORTHY Wallpaper** makes !

- PLASTIC COATED
- WASHABLE
- Easy To Apply
- FADE-PROOF
- Many Ready-Pasted
- INEXPENSIVE, TOO!



You can decorate the Walls of a Room for as Little as

# \$4.90

## GRAVES'

Wallpaper & Paint Store

PHONE 7

SEAFORTH

Advertisements from *The Huron Expositor*, December 16, 1910; December 31, 1915; and, at left, the November 1, 1962 issue of the *Seaforth News*.



# John S. Porter Store

36 & 40 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year original building built: c. 1865

There were two frame buildings on this lot in the 1860s. John S. Porter, a merchant who bought and sold skins, furs and wool, had an office in the north store. He also advertised himself, in 1874, as a “one-horse banker” and exchange broker.

R.N. Brett, a leather dealer, had a shop in the north store from 1878-85. By 1886, the store was divided. James Dobie had a barbershop in part of it and E.J. Vanstone, Merchant, had a business in the other half. Albert Milburn was in part of this store from 1887-90 and John Laird from 1891-98, while a succession of businesses – a barbershop, a general merchant’s shop and a bakery – were in the other part.

By 1899, the north part of the north store was a saddle and harnessmaking shop first run by John Ward and later by Andrew Oke. The south part of the building housed John Bulger’s jewellery store.

By 1914, the Canadian Express Telegraph office and Charles Consigney’s shoe repair shop were in the north building. A barbershop was again one of the businesses in the building by 1918 and through to 1940. Leonard Bolton was the barber for many years. He was joined by John Pullman in 1934 and Pullman continued on until 1940. The other part of this building housed a variety of businesses throughout the 1920s. It was again a repair shop in 1928, run by Michael Brown for one year and then by George Seip until 1934. The last incarnation of this building was into a restaurant run first by Willard Elliott from 1929 to 1958 and then by James E. Elliott until the early 1970s. It was the Hessen Haus restaurant when the building burned in 1982.



1914 Old Boys parade – east Main Street with Charles Consigney’s shoe repair shop in the north store under the sign of the boot; Broadfoot & Box Co. in the south store. Below: *Huron Expositor* ad January 24, 1873.

**SHROUDS! SHROUDS!**

**M. ROBERTSON,**  
CABINET MAKER AND UNDERTAKER,  
Johnson’s Old Stand,  
Main street, Seaforth, has now on hand a good  
assortment of  
**SHROUDS**  
Which he can furnish cheaper than they can be  
got elsewhere. 205

John Kidd had a tinsmith shop next door, to the south of Porter’s shop, by 1863. Kidd later added building supplies and hardware to his business mix. J.D. Fee took over in 1866, but by 1868, it was home to Johnson Bros. Hardware under the “Sign of the Mammoth Stove.”

In 1872, Matthew Robertson moved his furniture and undertaking business into Johnson Bros.’ old stand. Earlier, in the 1860s, Robertson had two frame buildings just south of the railway tracks where he employed George Soole to make coffins, as well as furniture. At his new location Robertson

**FURNITURE  
SELLING OFF.**

I have come to the conclusion to sell off  
MY ENTIRE  
~~STOCK OF FURNITURE~~  
AT COST

For the next Thirty Days, and Just.

COME ALONG ALL YE  
Married, Unmarried and About Getting  
MARRIED,

And I Will Give You

**SUCH BARGAINS**

As cannot be attained elsewhere,  
**AS I MUST SELL**  
To prevent the Sheriff doing so.

I saw him the other day, and he gave me  
**THE WINK,**  
But don’t mention it, as it is a Secret.

I knew at once that something was up.  
SO COME ALONG AND BE AHEAD OF HIM.

You will find the Place.  
**MATT. ROBERTSON’S OLD STAND,**  
Main Street, Seaforth.  
**JOHN S. PORTER.**



advertised “the cheapest furniture in town.” An 1875 advertisement advised patrons of his new “steam cabinet factory” where he made furniture of “thoroughly seasoned lumber” as well as “coffins, caskets, and burial robes of all sizes.”



Matthew Robertson was the first official undertaker in Seaforth. In 1872, he moved his furniture-making and undertaking business north to this store on the east side of Main Street. John S. Porter, and then Broadfoot & Box Co., carried on in the same business at this location, into the 1940s.

In 1877, John S. Porter, who was by now in the hardware and furniture trade, bought Robertson's business and buildings. In September 1881, Porter advertised six highly finished chairs for the low sum of \$2.00. A native of Brandon, Suffolk, England, Porter came to Canada in 1857. He was a successful businessman in Seaforth for 33 years. The notice of his death, in the January 27, 1899 issue of *The Huron Expositor*, called Porter “one of Seaforth's oldest and most successful business men” who “possessed, in a high degree, the confidence of his partons, and was the business confidant and advisor of many of the older settlers.” Porter sold his business to John H. Broadfoot and William T. Box in 1894.

Broadfoot & Box Co. had their furniture store here until 1940. The building was torn down. The land was used for salvage storage for three years and then E.L. Box used it for storage for his coal business until 1953.

In 1955, James J. Cleary built a cement block building on the site. *The Huron Expositor* of December 16, 1955 announced to its readers: “32 Years in Seaforth – Cleary Opens IGA Market.” Cleary had been in business in town since returning home from the west in 1923. He bought the grocery business operated by the United Farmers of Ontario, in the building a few doors to the north. Cleary managed the IGA grocery into the early 1960s. Joseph J. Wilkinson then took over the business and was here for about 10 years. He was followed by Bruce Hoelscher. The building was demolished in the early 1990s.

## The Red Front Furniture Store

Has been renewed, renovated and enlarged, and now we are in a position to offer the public all the newest designs of Parlor, Bedroom and Dining Suites at very tempting prices. Also a very nice line of Chairs in all the newest styles. New line of Pictures just in, very cheap. We extend a cordial invitation to every one to come and see us and our stock.

### UNDERTAKING.

This department is complete with a large selection of the best goods, and obliging attention given to this branch of the business.

Night calls promptly attended to by our Undertaker, Mr. S. F. Holmes, Goderich street, Seaforth, opposite the Methodist church.

**BROADFOOT, BOX & CO.,**  
**SEAFORTH.**

## John S. Porter's Furniture Warerooms

—AND—

## Funeral Reform

ESTABLISHMENT,

**SEAFORTH, - ONT**

Being determined not to be undersold by other establishment, I am now selling furniture at only 10 per cent. above cost. Would also say respectfully to the people of Seaforth and surrounding country, that I keep no other than first class stock in all the branches of the undertaking department, bought from the best firms and on such business principles that enables me to sell at much lower rates than Mr. Robertson quotes. He accuses me of publishing what he terms “clap-trap.” Now, the wide-awake people, will no doubt be able to define what he means by this term and come to a sensible conclusion of who deserves their patronage: the man who is obliged to cut down his prices, or the man who has been the means of breaking up this monopoly and starting an honest and much needed reform. If those who have had dealings with this scientific undertaker will compare his previous charges with his present quotations, I am sure their eyes will be opened to gross injustice in the time of their trouble. I would here say that I only intend to conduct all funerals that I may be favored with on strictly honorable principles. My Funeral Director, Mr. Holmes, will give every satisfaction, having had both city and town experience for a number of years. He will attend all night calls. Residence—North Main Street, nearly opposite Salvation Army Barracks. JOHN S. PORTER.

P. S.—I beg to apologise to the public for this controversy on such a delicate subject, but as I have to defend myself against a combination and do justice to a non-combine, I feel compelled to do so. JOHN S. PORTER.

The advertisement to the left is from the March 2, 1900 issue of *The Huron Expositor*. The advertisement above is from the July 12, 1889 issue.

# Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

44 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1905

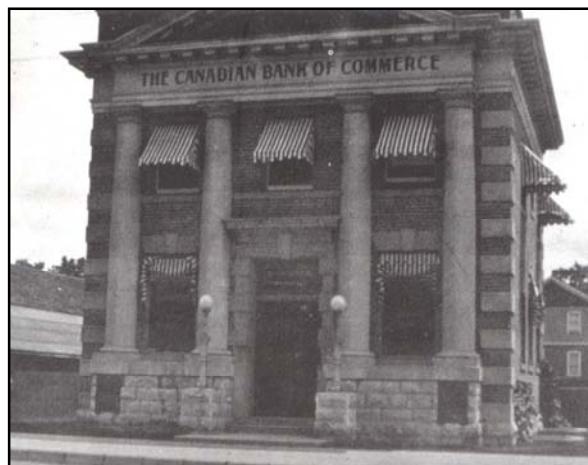
Simon Powell, and later Dr. T.T. Coleman, owned this lot and the one behind it backing onto Victoria Street. Powell had a hotel stable on the back lot and this was the only building here until the Canadian Bank of Commerce was relocated and the present building was erected in 1905.

The CIBC building is a good example of the Classical Revival style of architecture. The four engaged columns supporting the entablature and pediment are distinctive elements of this style. These columns are made of wood. Dentils outline the deep triangular pediment. The entablature, as you can see in the above right photograph, once displayed the bank's name.

The red brick is accented by white stone, in particular the large quoins of white stone at the corners and the foundation of rusticated stone. The doorway, up three steps from the sidewalk, has square stone projections topped by lights. The doorway is flanked by rectangular windows topped by concrete straight-moulded labels with imitation keystone. Above the doorway, and the sign above it, is a cornice supported by three brackets between the two central columns and projecting beyond the columns. Between the columns are three square windows on the second floor.

This impressive structure was built by Seaforth contractors. It cost slightly over \$10,000.

Long before the Canadian Bank of Commerce built the present bank, it opened a branch in Seaforth on December 19, 1878. The bank was then located in the Dominion Block just south of the Commercial Hotel.

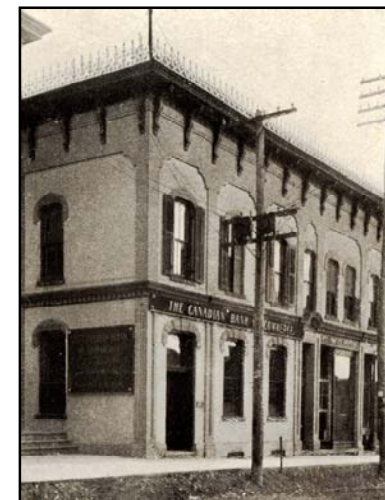


Here, the Canadian Bank of Commerce is dressed with striped awnings on all the windows.



The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce as it is today. The name was changed in 1961.

The Dominion Block was built in 1874 by William Elliott and Alex Armitage. When it was completed later that year, what was then The Royal Canadian Bank, moved from the Commercial Hotel building and into the north section of this block of three stores.



The Canadian Bank of Commerce in the Dominion Block at 94 Main St.

In the 1880s, Charles St.Clair Simpson was the bank's accountant and William Blackwell was the Teller. When the Bank of Commerce moved to its new location, the Bank Manager was G.E. Parks, the Accountant was D. Kennedy, and the Teller was W.H. James. The bank's manager from 1918 to 1932 was James Mullen, who lived in the Lorne Villa.

**THE**  
**CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.**  
**HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.**

|                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Paid up Capital, - -</b> | <b>\$6,000,000.</b> |
| <b>Rest, - - - - -</b>      | <b>1,400,000.</b>   |

*President, Hon. Wm. McMaster.*

**SEAFORTH BRANCH.**

The Seaforth Branch of this Bank continues to receive deposits, on which interest is allowed on the most favorable terms.

Drafts on all the principal towns and cities in Canada, on Great Britain, and on the United States, bought and sold.

Office—First door South of the Commercial Hotel.  
689

A. H. IRELAND, Manager.

*Huron Expositor May 6, 1881.*



# Post Office

52 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1911-13

Seaforth Post Office exhibits features of Romanesque Revival architecture: the square clock tower and the round-headed windows, echoed by the tower cornice. It was built on a standard plan designed by architects at the Department of Public Works. The standard plan was for a corner lot, but no suitable one was to be had in Seaforth, so the plan was modified placing the tower to the side of the front. The main section is a 2½-storey rectangle with mansard roof. The Department of Public Works also used a standard plan for the layout and construction of its post office buildings. Most post offices built between 1897 and 1914 were constructed of brick on stone foundations with a wooden framing system, and lath and plaster walls. The floors and stairs were wood, except for the concrete basement floor and tile bathroom floor. The interior is unadorned, apart from the simple, moulded plaster cornice.

In the main post office area. The main floor was usually left as a large open space for the post office proper. All post office buildings had a caretaker's apartment located on the top floor.

Despite restrictions posed by a standard design, individual buildings were tailored to their surroundings. Seaforth Post Office was not only adapted to the site and the scale of the buildings around it, but to the Second Empire design of the Cardno Block directly across the street, and the town hall further down Main Street. The Post Office has a balanced façade and a projecting central tower in keeping with the main features of these other two buildings. The Post Office was built during a time of economic prosperity. Seaforth was one among many



Note the rusticated stone foundation and the use of the white stone in the banding and window sills.

small southern Ontario towns to prosper from a national shift toward an economy based more on industry and manufacturing. Seaforth had many things to recommend it for the site of a new post office building. It was on a direct railway line between the two busy ports of Goderich and Buffalo. The transportation of goods was a main income source for the town, goods such as the products of its salt wells, woolen, flour and flax mills, sawmill, foundry and cabinet factory. It was an important market town and had been a postal station for many years. There were two telegraph offices and two daily newspapers. As an outpost of Goderich, Seaforth collected customs revenues as well as post office revenues.

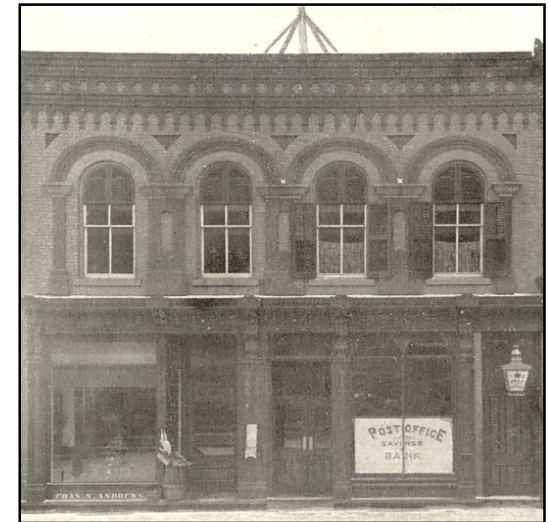
In 1908, Seaforth applied to the federal government for a post office and customs building. The

land was bought by the government on February 8, 1909 for \$4,000 and the contract to build was signed July 4, 1911. The building was completed in 1913.

The first post office in Seaforth was opened on December 1, 1859 with Alfred M. Patton as postmaster. There is no record of its location. From 1863 to 1869, the post office was in the James Dickson Block, the first brick store built in Seaforth at the corner of Main and St. John streets. In late 1869, the post office was moved south on Main Street to the north store of the newly built Samuel Dickson Block where it was until 1913.

Since the 1860s, various stage routes were used to deliver mail. One of the earliest was a daily stage route from Seaforth to Wroxeter leaving Seaforth at 4 pm and arriving in Wroxeter at 10 pm; the return trip was made the next day. In the 1870s, if the postmaster could not deliver a letter due to an inadequate or illegible address, he would have a list of names published in the local newspaper.

Rural Route service was introduced in 1909. Horse-drawn vehicles were used into the 1930s, weathering the elements to deliver mail.



The Post Office in the Samuel Dickson Block at 87 Main St. South



# Dominion Bank Block

56 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1960

Killoran and Ryan had a 1½-storey frame building on the north part of this lot by late 1863. Here they sold groceries, flour, feed and liquor. In October 1869, they moved to their new 2-storey brick store built on the south part of the lot. The Currie brothers, John and David, had a restaurant, billiards room and confectionery in the old frame building for most of the 1870s.

The north building was divided in the late 1870s. For many years, F.G. Neelin had the *Seaforth Sun* printing office, and a Custom Office, in the north part. The south part housed a variety of businesses. Thomas D. Ryan had a liquor store and Oscar Rudolf managed a billiard room in back. James Constable's barbershop was in part of the south section in 1879. Louis Thorne had a combined groceries and liquor store here from 1882-83, then A.M. McGregor took over for a year. Next, Isaac Dunlop had a bakery here for two years. Throughout the 1890s, Donald McIntyre had his shoe repair shop here.

In the early 1880s, the Dramatic Club met in rooms over the north stores. The Y.M.C.A. held their meetings here in the late 1880s-early 1890s.

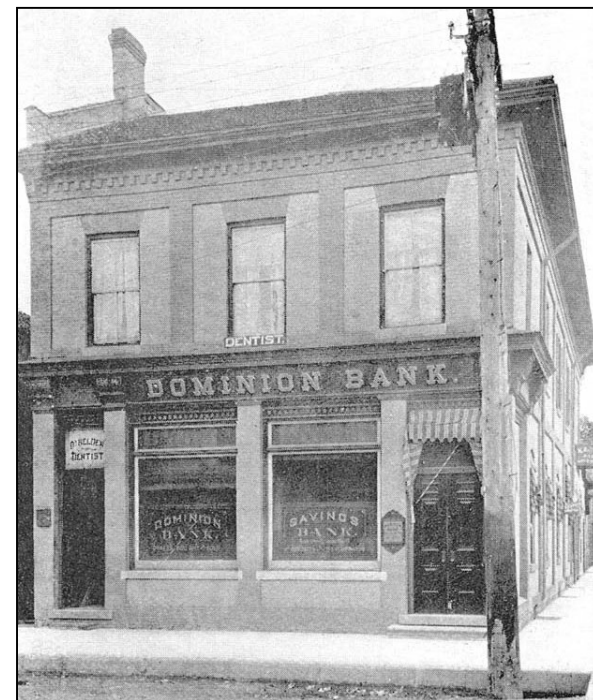
P. Mulcahy's barbershop was in the north store's south part from 1897 to 1901. Thomas Quigley, shoemaker, took over from McIntyre in 1904 and Charles Consigney succeeded him in 1906. Consigney's shop was burned in March of 1908 and no use was made of this part since then. W.J. Duncan started his leggings manufactory in the south part in 1908. Mrs. H. Cammond had a fancy goods store here in 1909. The building was torn down in 1910.

After Killoran & Ryan moved out of the brick store in 1882, Louis Thorne had the groceries part of his business here for two years. George Good then opened his grocery store here and was in business here until 1895.

The Dominion Bank opened in Seaforth in May, 1893, in the Sam Stark Block. The May 12 issue of *The Huron Expositor* reported: "The Dominion Bank, which opened for business here last week ... are having their office very neatly fixed up and show every indication of having come to stay." In March



George Good published this combination cookbook and advertising booklet in 1888. In it he promoted his grocery store as well as other local businesses. (*Seaforth & Area Museum*)



The Killoran & Ryan store built in 1869 - the building was bought by the Dominion Bank in 1896. In this photo from *Souvenir of Seaforth*, 1900, Dr. F.G. Belden was the dentist upstairs. H.R. Jackson & Son had a liquor store in the east part. R.S. Hays, Barrister, had offices here.

of 1896, the Dominion Bank bought the Killoran & Ryan building and moved the bank to this location.

The east part of the Dominion Bank building housed businesses and offices. R.S. Hays, later Ross & Hays, had law offices here for many years. H.R. Jackson & Son had a liquor store, and later, Joseph Weber had a business here. Stewart Bros. was here for a few years starting in 1917. Sidney Pullman John Dennison and Walter Robinson had barbershop here in the 1920s and 1930s. Pullman continued at this location until the new bank building was built in 1960. George Israel also had a tailor shop here in the late 1930s. In the 1940s, E.C. Chamberlain, Dominion Clerk & Insurance, had offices here. A.W. Sillery had a law office here in the late 1950s.



**SEEDS.** Buy Your Seeds from L. Thorne,  
Grocer and Seedsman, Seaforth, **SEEDS.**

and then insure a good crop. Not an ounce of old seed in stock.

**STAR FAMILY GROCERY.**  
L. THORNE.

# Another Big REDUCTION!

IN THE PRICE OF  
**TEAS AND SUGARS.**

**THE STAR GROCERY**

STILL LEADS.

Whenever the market drops, down comes the price at the  
Star Grocery. There is a big drop at present  
in both the Sugar and Tea market.

20 lbs. of Good Sugar for **\$1.00**  
5 lbs. of Good Japan Tea for **1.00**

Extraordinary preparations for Christmas. New Fruits of  
all kinds now arriving. Canned Goods of all kinds.

**A Great variety of China,  
Crockery & Glassware.**

**Christmas PRESENTS Suitable  
for Everyone.**

A full stock of the celebrated Li-Quor Tea. A handsome  
volume free with every 3 pounds.

**GEORGE GOOD.**

The photograph at right shows the interior of Sydney Pullman's and John Dennison's barbershop c. 1926. The men, from right to left, are: Cliff Pearce, Sid Pullman, John Dennison and Walter Robinson. The boy in Pullman's chair is Frank Sills. Pullman had a barbershop at the back of the Dominion Bank Block from 1926 until the building was demolished in 1959. (Photograph: Seaforth & Area Museum S998.1.2007) Advertisements, counter-clockwise from top: *Seaforth Sun*, June 8, 1883; *Seaforth Sun*, March 18, 1887; *Seaforth Sun*, June 8, 1883; and, *The Huron Expositor*, December 9, 1898.



**THE SEAFORTH SUN**  
IS PUBLISHED  
Every Friday Morning  
AT THE OFFICE  
MAIN STREET, SEAFORTH, ONTARIO  
—BY—  
**FRED. G. NEELIN.**

## TERMS:

paid strictly in advance, \$1.50 per annum, otherwise, \$2. No paper discontinued till all arrears are paid, except at the option of the publishers.

## RATES OF ADVERTISING

First insertion, per line..... 10  
Each subsequent insertion..... 3

Business cards not exceeding six lines \$4 per annum, from six to ten lines, \$5.

The number of lines to be reckoned by the space occupied, measured by a scale of solid Nonpareil.

Advertisements without special directions will be inserted until forbid, and charged accordingly.

Advertisements of stray cattle, articles lost or found, and others small advertisements, \$1 for our insertions.

# H. R. Jackson & SON.

DIRECT IMPORTERS OF

Jules Robin & Co's Brandy, Cognac, France; Jno. de Kuyper & Son, Holland Gin, Rotterdam, Holland; Booth's Tom Gin, London, England; Bulloch & Co.'s Scotch Whisky, Glasgow, Scotland; Jamieson's Irish Whisky, Dublin, Ireland; also Port and Sherry Wine from France and Spain, Agents for Walker's Whisky, Ontario; Royal Distillery and Davis' Ale and Porter, Toronto.

## To THE PUBLIC:

We have opened a retail store in connection with our wholesale business in the rear of the new Dominion Bank, in Good's old stand, where we will sell the best goods in the market at bottom prices. Goods delivered to any part of the town free.

TELEPHONE 11.

1518-tf



# I.O.O.F. Building

58 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1874

The International Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) were the first, in 1874, to build on this lot fronting Main Street. The first business in the store was William Logan and Robert Jamieson's "Sign of the Golden Lion" dry goods store. The November 6, 1874 issue of *The Huron Expositor* noted: "The Oddfellows' building is being proceeded with rapidly and will soon be ready for occupation. Messrs. Logan & Jamieson have leased the store, and will occupy it as soon as it is completed." They continued in business here until the end of 1896.

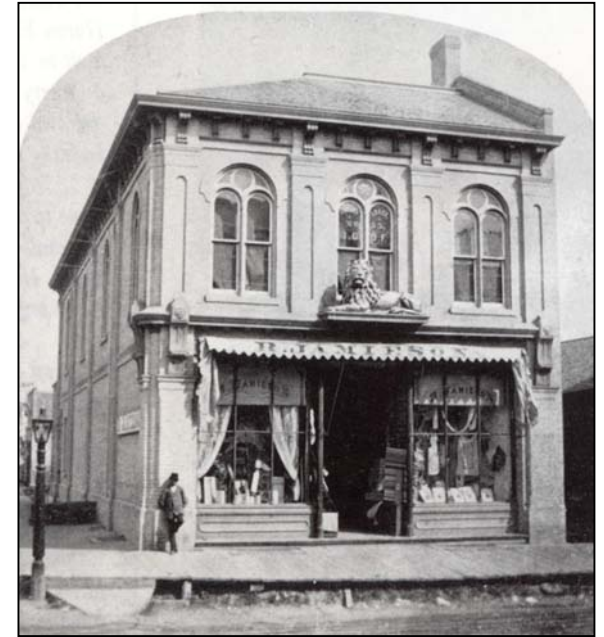
The I.O.O.F. Society has owned the building, and occupied the hall upstairs, since its inaugural meeting February 5, 1875. The Edelweiss Rebekah Lodge also held meetings here since 1912, and the Order of the Eastern Star since its organization in 1946.

*The Huron Expositor* kept its readers informed about business changes over the years. On February 14, 1896 they reported: "Mr. J.F. Clark, who has been carrying on business in the Golden Lion Store during the past year, has decided to close his business in town and go to Port Hope." Clark had taken over the business late in 1893. The next week, on February 21, 1896, it was reported: "Mr. J.L. Smith has purchased the stock of Mr. J.F. Clark, Golden Lion Store, and is now remarking the stock and intends opening soon." And, on December 18, 1896: "New Furniture & Undertaking Store – Leatherdale & Landsborough – opened up in the old Golden Lion Store formerly occupied

by R. Jamieson – Leatherdale having taken his diploma at the Champion College of Embalming." Leatherdale & Landsborough had a Furniture Emporium where they sold the New Williams sewing machine and operated a funeral department. John Landsborough was in business here until 1901.

Valentine Knechtel and Alexander McKenzie took over the Furniture & Undertaking business. They advertised upholstery as a specialty and also made parlour suites, and odd and fancy chairs to order. They also sold sewing machines.

J.C. Grieg was the next merchant in business here by 1906. In the March 23, 1906 *Huron Expositor*



Robert Jamieson's "Sign of the Golden Lion" store in c. 1885. Jamieson was in business here from 1877-1892.

THE GOLDEN LION

1877



1877

SHAWLS. SHAWLS. SHAWLS.

R. JAMIESON, having received the Shawls advertised in last week's *Expositor* as having been purchased from the Agent of a Glasgow Warehouse, is showing the Cheapest and Best Assorted Stock of them ever shown in Seaforth.

LADIES' JACKETS a Specialty this season—from the number we have sold already our customers appreciate the Bargains. LADIES' TIES, a Splendid Assortment.

**TAILORING DEPARTMENT.**

This season we are showing a very large Stock of Worsted Costings, Trowserings, Tweeds, &c. A glance at the Stock kept at the Golden Lion this year will convince the most skeptical that for variety, price and style it cannot be surpassed. A Good Fit Guaranteed or No Sale.

**GROCERY DEPARTMENT.**—A Full Supply of all kinds of Groceries. Just step in and get a sample of 50 cent Tea.

SIGN OF THE }  
GOLDEN LION. }

R. JAMIESON, Seaforth.

*The Huron Expositor*, September 21, 1877.

The Greig Clothing Co. advertised for "2 first-class coat makers, 1 vest maker, 2 first-class trouser makers, and 3 assistants" for their tailoring department. They paid the "highest price for butter and eggs."

By 1914, there was again an undertaking business in this store. Samuel T. Holmes, a funeral director and licensed embalmer who had worked for Broadfoot & Box, set up his own business here.

John A. Baldwin had a hardware store here from 1948 through the 1950s. Irwin Trewartha took over and operated Irwin's Hardware throughout the 1960s. By 1975, Seaforth Automotive & Industrial Supply, under the United Auto Parts banner, opened for business here.

The building has Italianate features in its brickwork and windows. The upper façade of three window bays is divided by projecting brick piers and surmounted by a decorative brick and wood frieze with wood brackets. The arched windows have decorative upper sections.



# Strong's Red Block

60 – 64 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1893

**T**hese same stores and shops lined this part of the east side of Main Street until 1892. In May of 1892, some of the buildings were destroyed by fire. Afterward, the adjoining buildings were torn down to make way for Strong's three-store red brick block and the new Town Hall.

*The Huron Expositor* of May 27, 1892 reported that the fire was caused by a hanging lamp in W.G. Glen's restaurant. John Ward, Saddler, was the occupant of the second store and the CPR Telegraph Office adjoined Glen's restaurant. The article went on to say:

We understand that Mrs. A. Strong intends rebuilding on her property on Main Street recently destroyed by fire. The remains of the old buildings, as well as those to the south, are going to be pulled down and three handsome brick stores erected in their stead. This will add very much to the appearance of Main Street and we are sure that there will be no lack of tenants as this is one of the best stands in town and has never yet been idle. We are convinced that the investment will be a good paying one and return a handsome dividend.

The first tenants of the new block were Matthew Robertson, Cabinetmaker, and James Stewart, a Grocer and Restaurateur.

In the 1860s, James Hatt owned this lot and the one-storey building on it. By 1869, John Logan had his "Manchester House" here, a dry goods and grocery store. Logan was in business until August



Above - *The Huron Expositor*, October 21, 1870;  
Below right - May 28, 1875.

1872 when William Logan and Robert Jamieson bought his bankrupt stock. Logan & Jamieson had the Golden Lion store on the northwest corner.

In the late 1860s to the early 1880s, this part of Main Street was a hub for the harnessmaking, wagonmaking, and shoemaking trades. William Grassie had a wagonmaking shop next door to Logan's Manchester House, to the south, from 1867-70. Sylvester Steeple took over making wagons here in

1871. At the same time, Alex Stewart had a blacksmith shop in this area from 1867-71. William Oliver had a saddlemaking shop from 1879-82, on part of this property at this time owned by the Currie brothers, David and John.

The next shop to the south was McIntyre & Willis' shoe store. John McIntyre and Robert Willis made boots and shoes here from 1870 to 1883. John McIntyre was the sole proprietor from 1880-84. Edward Latimer took over from him and continued in business here until 1886. The Hamilton Bros., later Hamilton & McGinnis, had Red Front Shoes here from 1887 to 1889.

In the north part of the next store was John Campbell's "Sign of the Golden Collar" saddler shop. At the same time, Thomas Bell had a furniture and undertaking business in the south part. Both took advantage of their location across the street from a prominent merchant, advertising their businesses as "opposite Kidd & McMulkins."

Campbell and Bell were succeeded by a number of other saddlers throughout the 1870s – James Wilson, W.H. Oliver, and Thomas McDonald. By 1873, Thomas Bell has purchased land and moved his business. James Wilson owned the south part of this lot, Lot 18, and was in business from 1870 to 1889. Oliver and McDonald may have occupied space vacated by Bell.



After Logan's "Manchester House" went out of business in January 1873, George Redmond had a business here for one year and W.H. May for one year after Redmond. Then, George E. Henderson, a Saddler, replaced May and was here until 1892.

Eliot Grieve had a shoemaking shop in part of Henderson's store from 1878-79. The Misses Wright had a fancy store before him, from 1876-77. Three different barbers, James McMullen, Joseph Klinkhammer, and Robert Abraham, had barbershops here in the 1880s. Klinkhammer advertised his Palace Barbershop in 1884 "between Jamieson's & Henderson's" and offered "shaving, hair cutting, shampooing, and dyeing in all styles." Richard Deem, a tailor, was the last tenant, in 1887.

Next door, in the late 1880s, was George Ewing, a butcher. He owned this piece of property by 1890. Duncan McCuaig, a grocer, was here in 1891.

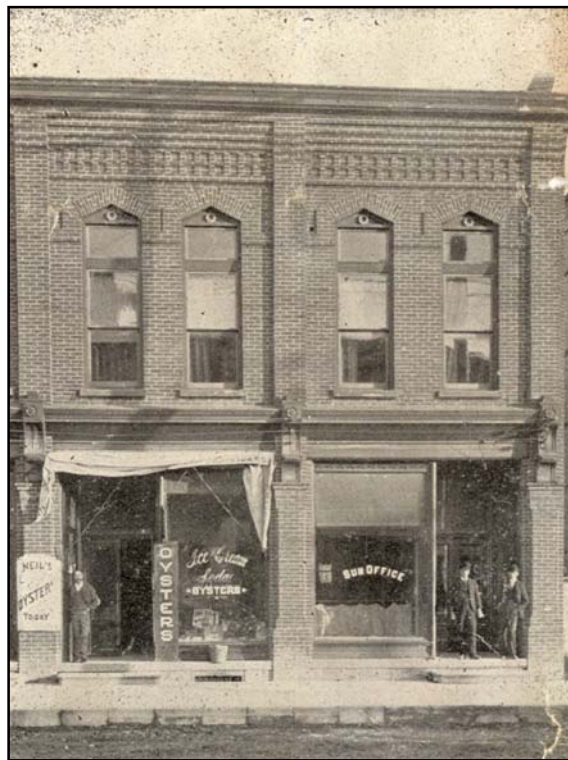
Further south, next to James Wilson's saddlery, was another butcher, or victualler, James Thomas, who plied his trade here from 1879-82. There were two shops here by 1885. James Burgess opened his City Restaurant, and confectionery, in 1881 and he served his customers here until 1890. In the north part, Donald McIntyre had a shoe store from 1885-89. Then, C.L. Papst had a jewellery store in this part from 1890-91 and John M. Best's law office was in the south part.

This section of east Main Street changed after the fire that destroyed some of the frame buildings here in 1892. Mrs. Alonzo Strong, the property owner, had a three-store, red brick block built. The property to the south was sold to the Town of Seaforth for its new town hall.

In 1894, J.C. Greig and R.J. McDonald were the proprietors of Grieg & McDonald Clothiers in the first store, in the north part of Stong's red-brick block. They were in business here from 1895 to



At left, Greig & McDonald's Clothier store next to Jamieson's Golden Lion store, in 1900. Above, the interior of the Greig & McDonald store taken at the same time.



Oscar Neil's Oyster Restaurant and the *Sun* newspaper office. The building's original architectural details are clear in this photograph taken in 1900.

1903. The business then became Greig & Stewart and moved to Johnson Bros. old stand. In 1905, the Greig Clothing Co. occupied the Golden Lion store.

After Greig & McDonald left the first store, the Bright Bros. moved from their store, north in William Campbell's Block, to this store where they were in business for the next 14 years. They also had a workshop on the second floor.

The middle store was, for many years (1900-23), Oscar Neil's restaurant where oysters, ice cream and sodas were featured delectables. Before Neil, James Stewart had a restaurant in space formerly occupied by Hamilton & McGinnis, from 1889 to 1899. The middle store space continued to be a restaurant into the early 1930s.

Next to Neil's restaurant, in the south store, the *Seaforth Sun* was published by Fred G. Neelin from 1896 to 1899. W.J. Westcott succeeded him, then came L.M. Appleford, W.R. Vale, and R.D. Croft. James F., Donald and Cyril Snowdon published the *Seaforth News* here from in 1916 into the early 1930s.

The John Case family bought Strong's Block in 1907. In the 1920s, the south stores, and the second floor above, were used as a dance hall. Large chaperoned dances and private dance parties were held in the Case Hall. Part of the space was also used



for drill practice. The children's demonstrations of their skills were a popular local entertainment.

In 1932, the Regent Theatre, with a seating capacity of 300, opened in the middle and south store spaces. Herb and Florence Sutherland of St. Marys had purchased the building; they were the owners of a chain of Huron County theatres. Movies such as "Rebecca" starring Olivier and Fontaine, "His Girl Friday" starring Grant and Russell, "The Singing Dude" in technicolor, Deanna Durbin's "First Love" and "A Girl, A Guy, and a Gob" with Lucille Ball, played here into the late 1950s when dwindling audiences led to the theatre's closure. In its heyday, two movies were shown every night except Sunday, as well as a Saturday matinee for kids. A ticket for the Saturday matinee cost 15¢, adults paid 65¢. The matinee movies were usually the same ones which entertained the adult audiences in the evening, there being no "restricted" or "adult only" movies shown in these days.

In the late 1940s and throughout the 1950s, the south store became the Carol Lyn dress shop run by Dolena McQuaid and Mrs. Walker Hart. The Toronto Dominion Bank was here briefly, while its new building was being constructed. Gordon Tyndall had his barbershop here in the late 1960s and 1970s. Later tenants, in the 1980s and 1990s, were Don's Shoe Place and Weurth Shoes.

Lee Learn bought the block in May of 1959 and that fall began remodelling the building. Apartments replaced what had once been a dance hall in the upper floor. In 1960, Learn equipped a dairy room at the back of what was then Sid Pullman's barbershop, to be used by The Maple Leaf Dairy.

By the late 1960s, the McConnell Stewart Law Office occupied the north part of the building. Deloitte & Touche Accountants, the current occupants, were here by 1989.



The Strong Block when it housed the Regent Theatre. Below, advertisements from the January 28, 1916 and July 24, 1940 issues of *The Huron Expositor*.

**The Regent Theatre**  
**RELAXATION**  
**COMFORT and**  
**ENJOYMENT**

MAINTAINED  
 FOR YOUR

TWO SHOWS EACH NIGHT—7.30 & 9.15  
 Matinees Holidays and Saturdays

|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>THE</b><br/> <b>REGENT THEATRE</b><br/> <b>SEAFORTH</b></p> <hr/> <p>Mon., Tues., Wed.<br/>         Madeline Carroll, Brian Aherne and<br/>         Louis Hayward, in<br/> <b>"MY SON, MY SON!"</b></p> | <p>THURS., FRI., SAT.</p> <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p><b>THE</b><br/> <b>FIGHTING</b><br/> <b>69TH</b></p> </div> <p>With James Cagney, Pat<br/>         O'Brien and George Brent</p> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



**BACHELORS!**  
**GET MARRIED,**  
 AT ONCE, AS  
**FURNITURE**  
 IS  
**25 per cent. Cheaper**  
 AT  
**THOMAS BELL'S**  
**WAREROOMS.**

---

HE HAS ADDED  
**STEAM POWER**  
 To his Facilities, and is now selling  
*Wholesale and Retail.*  
 Be Sure to Call before Purchasing Elsewhere.

---

WARE ROOMS OPPOSITE KIDD & McMULKINS.  
 WORK SHOP, CORNER OF MARKET SQUARE.  
 TURNING done on the Shortest Notice.  
**COFFINS** kept constantly on hand.  
**A HEARSE FOR HIRE.**  
 SEAFORTH, JUNE 30, 1870.

—RED FRONT,—  
 —FOR—  
**BOOTS AND SHOES.**

---

**HAMILTON BROTHERS,**  
**SEAFORTH.**

---

We have a nice, complete stock of Boots and Shoes on hand at present, and they are going to be sold at prices to suit the times. All our goods are of the very latest styles, and of the best quality. We would invite everybody to call and see our stock, and we are satisfied that we can make the prices right.

If you want anything in Ladies' goods in French Kid Butt, Dongolia Kid Butt, or Laced; Oil Goat, Butt. or Laced; Polished Calf Butt. or Laced; Oxford's Shoes in French Kid, hand turned; Dongolia Kid, hand turned; Polished Goat and a great many cheaper lines. Also Toe Slippers, Wigwams, Wine-colored Oxfords, and a great many other lines. In Men's goods we have a nice assortment of Bals. Gaiters, Low Shoes, and a lot of heavy goods for every day wear. Also Boys' Misses' and Children's goods in large quantities; in fact, almost anything you want.

---

**TRUNKS AND VALISES.**

Another shipment just arrived, to be disposed of very cheap. We always keep a large stock on hand, and you can have a nice choice. Remember the place, Latimer's old stand, now the red front.

**HAMILTON BROTHERS,**  
 SEAFORTH, LATIMER'S OLD STAND,  
*Wholesale and Retail Dealers, Headquarters, Stratford.*

**THE SIGN OF THE GOLDEN**



THE subscriber begs to inform the public that he has just received a great variety of Saddles and

**TRUNKS,**  
 Which he is prepared to sell  
*At Prices Almost Unparalleled.*

---

**COLLARS** of every description, warranted not to hurt the horse's neck.

---

In the way of Harness,  
 OF ALL KINDS,  
 He is, as heretofore, in a position to give his customers as good value for their money as any other establishment in Ontario.  
 Quality of work and material employed indisputable.

**SHOP OPPOSITE KIDD & McMULKINS.**  
**JOHN CAMPBELL.**  
 Seaforth, Feb. 12, '69. 63-41.

**JAMES BURGESS,**  
 OF THE  
**CITY RESTAURANT,**  
**SEAFORTH,**

Has a complete stock of Confectionery and all kinds of Fruits and Vegetables in season fresh. Ice cream and temperance drinks always ready. The best brands of Cigars and Tobacco. Lunch served at any hour. Every attention paid to customers. A call solicited.  
 Remember the place—directly opposite Market street, Seaforth.

**JAS. BURGESS.**  
 N. B.—Glass' bread always on hand

From left: *Huron Expositor*, October 28, 1870; July 12, 1889; August 27, 1869; July 18, 1884.

# Town Hall

72 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1893-94

Seaforth Town Hall is a fine example of late 19th-century civic architecture. The style is a simple version of Romanesque Revival, commonly used at the time for administration buildings. A key feature is the central tower projected out from the main part of the building. The front entrance, hidden beneath the gabled porch, has a tall round-arched opening. The round arch is echoed in the windows and window hoods, the original doorway opening to the fire hall, and in louvered windows at the top of the tower. Subtle detail was added to the red brick walls in the raised banding and decorative panels.

The building originally housed the fire hall on the main floor, town offices on the second floor, and an auditorium with stage on the third. The Mechanics' Institute also had a home in the Town Hall.

A *Huron Expositor* article written May 4, 1894 had this to say about the new Town Hall:

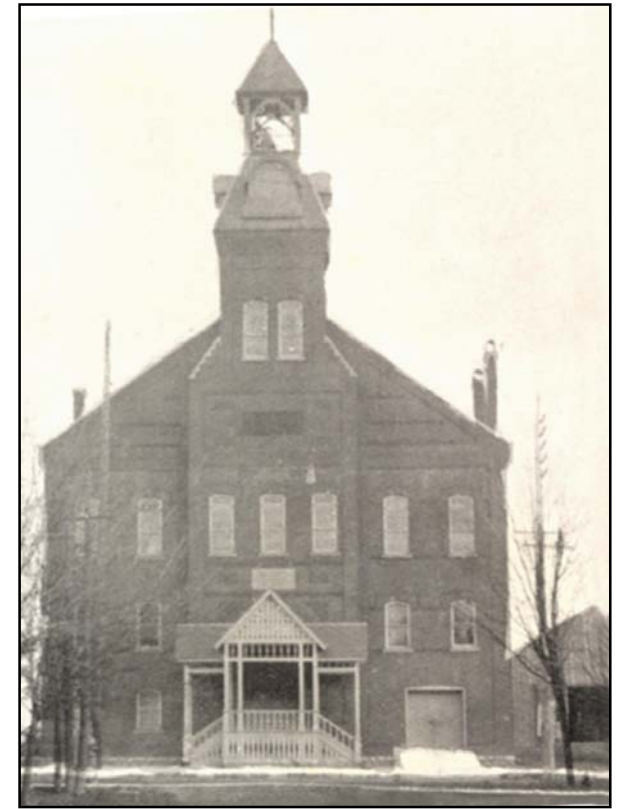
The building, not anything elaborate, is showy enough for a town of this size and it will be serviceable as if it cost three times the money. In fact, we are safe in saying the town has got good value for every dollar spent. The exterior of the building is very good, while the interior could not be better arranged for convenience and comfort, and it will supply the requirements of the town for a great many years to come. The rooms are large, airy and conveniently situated, and there is ample accommodation for every department of the town's municipal machinery.

An earlier *Huron Expositor* article of March 2, 1894 remarked on the magnificent view to be had from the bell tower: "On a bright, clear day, Clinton can be seen with the naked eye, and the whole surrounding country is spread out below one like a map."

The original Town Hall was in the Market building at the intersection of Market and Jarvis streets. The Market House was a large two-storey frame structure built in 1866. It was used as town hall, fire hall, drill hall, council chamber, and market building with the town scales. To save money on rent, the town clerk's office moved from Market House in February 1882. On August 23, 1891 the Market House burnt. Although arson was suspected and a \$300 reward offered, it was never claimed. The unique position of the Market House in the intersection of the two roads was lost when the road was changed soon after, closing the Market Square part of Jarvis Street.

In 1892, the citizens decided on a location for a new town hall, but heated debate continued over the type and cost of the building to build. A vote of the ratepayers taken in March 1893 decided for a three-storey over a two-storey hall. Young & Causey of Stratford won out over local bidders and was awarded the contract in April, at an estimated cost of \$8,250. The finished cost was closer to \$10,000.

Long before the Town Hall was built on this lot a number of small businesses flourished here. From the 1860s to 1872, Alonzo Strong owned the land and had a livery and sales stable well back on the lot. Thomas Bell took over the livery in 1872. Earlier in 1871, Bell sold his furniture and cabinet stock to Messrs. Sparling & Scott. The August 3, 1873 *Huron Expositor* informed the public: "Messrs. Davidson &



The Town Hall when newly built c. 1900

Campbell, of the Commercial Hotel, in company with Thomas Bell, have purchased from Armstrong of Brussels and Ross of Seaforth their stage business between Seaforth & Wroxeter." By September 5<sup>th</sup>, it was reported that Bell had taken full control and by November had purchased land and planned to build a new livery stable. Plans soon changed, however, as by January 1874 Bell had resold the Seaforth-Wroxeter stage line back to Armstrong.

In 1873, Alonzo Strong bought all the land adjoining the Commercial Hotel for \$1,200. *The Huron Expositor* reported in their November 6, 1874 issue: "Mr. Strong has completed his building opposite Market street, and one of the stores is already occupied by Messrs. Strong & Fairley, and



the other has been leased by a gunsmith and watchmaker." Strong & Fairley had a grocery store.

The Dominion Telegraph Company built a frame office to the south of Strong's building in 1873. William Elliott was the agent in charge when the office opened for business in June 1873. A succession of barbers had shops in part of this building – John R. Wood in 1876, John Eades, in 1877-78, James Constable in 1879-80, James McMullen in 1882-83, and Joseph Klinkhammer in 1884. James Best, a Barrister, had law offices here from 1886 to 1889.

The grocery in the north part of Strong's building was run by Matthew Morrison from 1876 to 1882; George Good was here, briefly, in 1884. Amandus and Thomas Beam, Butchers, had a shop in this space in 1885-86, becoming Beam & Archibald in 1887-88. Luke Beatty & Co. had a store in the south part in 1876-77. Sydney Jacobs had a tinshop in this store 1878-79. Robert Willis had his shoe shop here in 1880; John Kidd Jr. had a business here in 1882; and, N.A. Glass ran a bakeshop here in 1883. James Burgess had the bakery and confectionery here from 1884 to 1890. W.G. Glen was the baker and restaurant owner here in 1892.

Part of the telegraph office building was occupied by James Ward's harnessmaking and saddlery shop in 1879-80, and again from 1886-92. In the interim years, it was a butcher shop run first by Thomas James in 1882, then by R.A. Winter in 1883, and John Butt in 1884.

*The Huron Expositor* of May 27, 1892 reported that a fire in the frame buildings owned by Strong was caused by a hanging lamp in W.G. Glen's restaurant. John

**THERE IS NOTHING LIKE LEATHER**  
WHEN IT IS MADE UP INTO **GOOD HARNESS** SUCH AS YOU FIND AT **J. WARD'S, SEAFORTH.**



*Where you will find all Kinds of Harness Made up in the Latest Styles.*

**REMEMBER**, if you want a Fancy or Substantial Harness J. WARD can give you better satisfaction as to **QUALITY** and **PRICE** than any other maker in the County. A Trial is all that is wanted to secure regular custom.

**J. WARD, Seaforth.**

**BAPTISM OF FIRE.**  
**BEATTY & Co.**

Have been one of the heaviest sufferers by the recent fire, but they still live. They beg to inform their old friends and the public that they have

**MOVED THE BALANCE OF THEIR STOCK,  
SAVED FROM THE FIRE,**

Into the Store next door South of Mr. Morrison's Grocery, which they purpose Selling Off at a Great Bargain. In a few days they will receive

**A FRESH STOCK OF DRY GOODS,  
WHICH WILL BE SOLD AT LOW PRICES.**

They invite all their old friends and others to give them a call.  
All parties having accounts running will please call and settle early, as money is much needed in the present crisis.

**L. BEATTY & Co., Seaforth.**

**THE SEAFORTH  
INSURANCE AND LAND AGENCY.**

**ALONZO STRONG**

**IS AGENT for Several First-Class Stock, Fire  
and Life Insurance Companies, and is prepared  
to take risks on**

**THE MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.**

Strong had an office in part of his frame building from 1876 to 1885; ads from *Huron Expositor* of February 9, 1877; September 14, 1877.

Ward, Saddler, was the occupant of the second store and the C.P.R. Telegraph Office adjoined Glen's restaurant. Alonzo Strong had died just months earlier, in February of 1892, so it was his widow who was left the task of rebuilding. She sold this lot, Lot 19, to the Town of Seaforth.

The small part of the lot between Strong's Block and the Town Hall had remained vacant since the fire in 1892. Many years later, in 1955, a small building was added to the north end of the Town Hall, to house the police station. In 1957, the fire hall was converted to the town Clerk's Office, Council Chambers and PUC office, and the front porch was removed. These renovations reportedly cost almost as much as the original building. The front porch, with wheelchair accessibility built in, was reconstructed in 1989. Further changes were made to the interior after Seaforth Town Hall became the hub of the amalgamated municipality of Huron East. The building now houses municipal offices, Council Chambers, and the Seaforth & Area Museum.



In this photograph taken in 1914 you can see the original location of stairway leading to the second floor.

# Commercial Hotel

84 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1895

The lot on which the Commercial Hotel is built was held in trust, in the 1860s, for the Gouinlock children. The trust was overseen by Dr. William Chalk, their grandfather, and when he died in 1868, by James Crombie. So, it was Dr. Chalk with whom Thomas Knox negotiated the land sale. Knox and his wife had kept a hotel at Seebach's on the Huron Road, and later, had Knox's Hotel in Harpurhey. They were now planning to move their hotel business to Seaforth.

When Thomas Knox bought this lot in 1866, he built a large brick hotel. A vault was built into the north part and, in the fall of 1866, the Royal Canadian Bank, the first bank in Seaforth, opened for business. M.P. Hayes was the bank manager. By 1875, the bank had moved into the north part of the neighbouring Dominion Block. The bank in the hotel became a private bank in 1884, first operated by S.G. McCaughey and William Logan, then by J.C. Smith, and later, Robert Logan, until 1897.

Richard L. Sharp was the hotel keeper in the late 1860s. He also ran the Commercial Livery and Stage office east of the hotel. Sharp's Hall, a frame building, was built at the back of the hotel and served as a meeting hall and entertainment venue.

On November 1, 1872, *The Huron Expositor* reported a change of hotel ownership: "Thomas Knox of Knox's Hotel has sold out to Mr. Davidson of Mitchell, and John Campbell of Seaforth." On August 8, 1873 the public was informed that: "Messrs. Davidson & Campbell, of the Commercial Hotel, in company with Thos. Bell, have purchased from Armstrong of Brussels and Ross of Seaforth

Sharp's Hall, Seaforth.

*For One Night Only!*

Saturday Evening, August 29.

A Series of Popular Personation Concerts, by

JAMES TAYLOR,

(a la Sam Cowell)

Champion Conique of Great Britain and America. (wearing the Prince of Wales Medal, studded with 108 diamonds,) assisted by his attractive Musical Olio Troupe.

Mr. J. Spackman, Business Manager.  
Mr. G. E. Barton, Director.

*Tickets 25c.; Reserved Seats 50c.*

*Huron Expositor, August 27, 1869*

their stage business between Seaforth & Wroxeter." The arrangement was short-lived; William Armstrong was again the stage operator by 1874.

Davidson had showers and baths installed in the Sharp's Hall in 1876, for use by guests and boarders at the hotel. A billiard room was added to the hotel and opened in early 1877.

In 1874, the Seaforth town council fixed the hotel license fee at \$55. That same year, an overnight stay in the Commercial Hotel, with supper and breakfast included, cost \$1. Single meals were 25¢ and farmers, with two horses to stable, paid 35¢ for hay and dinner. An advertisement in the July 30, 1874 *Huron Expositor* noted: "This house is the best in Seaforth for commercial travellers and farmers, as



The original Commercial Hotel was built by Thomas Knox in 1866. This photo was taken some time before 1893 when the barbershop at the left of the picture was torn down to make way for the town hall. Joseph Klinkhammer's Palace Barber Shop may be the one pictured here. The hotel had a barbershop in it for many years.

its accommodation is first class while the prices are as low as the cheapest hotels. The rooms are large, well furnished and perfectly clean, while the best attention is given to all who patronize the house. There is a large stabling in connection with the hotel and hostlers."

Alexander Davidson owned the hotel for four decades. He and John M. Campbell shared hotel-keep duties throughout the 1870s and 1880s. In 1889, Richard Roche was hotel manager, James C. Leary was the bartender, and James McGuffey was the bookkeeper. William Bishop replaced Roche as hotelkeeper in 1894.

Fire destroyed the original hotel building on the night of April 17, 1895. Davidson immediately made arrangements to build the present cement block hotel at a cost of \$7,450.00. On October 21, 1895,



the doors of the new Commercial Hotel were again open to serve the public.

G.E. Henderson, who earlier had the hotel by the railway station, was the Commercial Hotel's hotelkeeper, along with L.C. Delacey, from 1900 to 1907. Alex McLennan then joined Delacey and he went on to become the hotel's owner by 1919.

By 1898, the north part of the hotel was used as a telegraph and express office. William Somerville was the operator for many years. In the winter of 1908, as later described in a *London Free Press* article:

It may have been overwork, it may have been an all-gone-to-pieces feeling, or it may have been something else, that caused [Somerville] one day to decide that a desirable addition to the one-man office staff would be something in the nature of a real live, young man, country-bred.... He wanted someone to meet trains, and handle express of all kinds, incoming and outgoing; wanted someone to collect from the different places all the express parcels, packages and bundles to be sent... The newcomer would be expected to deliver telegrams and other kinds of messages throughout the town. It would also be his duty to look after the caring for the horse and express wagon.... In short, the thing needed was something akin to a human colt always ready for action at first tightening of the reins.

The young man he hired was Malcolm McKellar. Mac took over the express part of the business in 1911 and all telegraph office duties in 1914. A bicycle replaced horse and wagon, and Mac McKellar kept things moving, into the 1950s.

In 1921, Charles Dungey bought the hotel and was the hotelkeeper. Roy Dungey managed the hotel for a number of years starting in 1928. Sydney Dungey opened drycleaning business here in 1931



The Commercial Hotel as pictured in *A Souvenir of Seaforth* published in 1900. You can clearly see the horizontal bands linking the window arches and sills of each storey. Pilasters mark off four sections vertically across the facade. Note that there are four separate entrances. Ads, from top right: *Huron Expositor*, February 20, 1891; *Seaforth Sun*, June 8, 1883; *Huron Expositor*, March 11, 1898.

and Roy ran a restaurant in the hotel starting in 1946. In 1964, the Dungeys sold to John Chernes of Preston. Since then, ownership of the Commercial Hotel has changed, but the building has remained an important part of the town's architectural heritage.




## Are you Losing Your Hair ?

If so bear in mind that

**Prof. Dorenwend, of Toronto,**

**Will be in SEAFORTH, at Commercial Hotel, on Tuesday, March 15,**

with all styles of his famous art Hair Coverings, Ladies' Wigs, Bangs, Switches, Wavy Fronts, etc. ; Gent's Wigs, Toupees, etc. These goods are so true to nature that the closest observer cannot detect falseness. The beauty adding qualities and the protection afforded the head have appealed to the sound sense and good judgment of over 100,000 people who are wearing the Professor's productions. Properly arranged hair, whether natural or artificial, produces a refined and youthful expression on the face, and a visit to Prof. Dorenwend will secure the best advice on the subject. Remember at

**Commercial Hotel, on Tuesday, March 15th**

**W. SOMERVILLE,**  
General Express and Telegraph Agency,  
**SEAFORTH, ONTARIO.**

Two Express Trains each way, daily. Ask for our special produce and money rates. Telegraphic connections everywhere  
1192

**FARMERS'**  
**BANKING HOUSE**

**M. P. HAYES,**

BANKER,  
SEAFORTH, - ONT.

Office in the premises under Davidson's Hotel, formerly occupied by the Bank of Commerce.

**NOTES AND BILLS DISCOUNTED.**

**ENGLISH AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE PURCHASED.**

*FARMERS' SALE NOTES BOUGHT.*

Drafts issued, payable at par at all Branches of the Bank of Commerce.

Interest Allowed on Deposits.

Money to Loan on Mortgages, at Six per cent.

**M. P. HAYES,**  
Manager and Proprietor.

# Dominion Block

90 – 94 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1874

Before the Dominion Block was built, there was a two-store building here. In 1864, Christopher and Frank Paltridge had their photograph gallery in one part. William Rolls had a drugstore and his home in the other part. George and William McPhillips, Provincial Land Surveyors, built their home south of this store. When it was advertised for sale in 1873, it was listed as “a handsome private residence.”

In April 1874, William Elliott and Alex Armitage bought this lot and the lot to the east. On the Victoria Street lot they built a house for the Bank of Commerce managers. This house later became Seaforth's first hospital.

On Main Street, Elliott and Armitage had the Dominion Block built, also in 1874. The November 6, 1874 *Huron Expositor* reported on the building's progress: “The brick work on the large building being erected by Messrs. Elliott & Armitage, on the McPhillips property, is now completed. Mr. Copp, of Kippen, the contractor, has made an excellent job, and has finished his contract in good time. Mr. Copp is a good workman and a reliable man, and the proprietors were fortunate in placing the work into his hands. This building will be a very important addition, as well as an ornament, to the town, and we trust it will prove a remunerative and profitable speculation to the enterprising gentlemen who have invested their means in it. Mr. Walsh has the contract for the carpenter work on this building and also on the Oddfellows' hall and store.”

When the Dominion Block was completed, what was then the Royal Canadian Bank, moved into the



**BEAUTIFUL HAIR,**  
**NATURE'S CROWN.**

You Must Cultivate it.

**GRAY HAIR**

Is a certain indication of  
Decay at the Roots.

**MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S**  
**Hair Restorer**

Restores gray hair to its natural color and beauty  
and produces luxuriant growth. It gives the hair  
beautiful gloss and delightful fragrance.

Manufactory and Sales Offices,  
35 BARCLAY STREET and 40 PARK PLACE, N. Y.  
AND  
266 HIGH HOLBORN, London, Eng.

Seatter and Rolls, Druggists, agents  
of Seaforth. For Sale everywhere.  
January 28th. 1869. 60-ly.

OATS OATS OATS OATS OATS OATS OATS

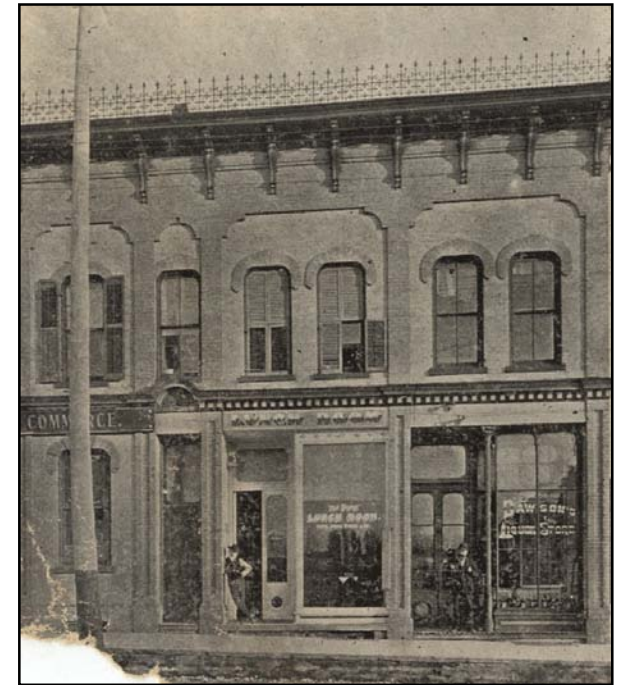
**TWO CAR LOADS JUST ARRIVED**

**AT BROWNELL'S.**

*FARMERS, Please Call and See Samples of SEED WHEAT, from  
Minnesota, a Splendid Change.*

**NO. ONE WESTERN CORN ALWAYS ON HAND.**

*J. BROWNELL, Dominion Block, Seaforth.*



The Dominion Block as shown in *Seaforth Biographical & Historical*, a 1902 souvenir edition of *The Seaforth Sun*. Occupants of the building are the Bank of Commerce, Charles Wilson's Lunch Room and Edward Dawson's Liquor Store. The advertisements at left are from *The Huron Expositor*, August 13, 1869 and February 9, 1877.

north of the three stores and was here until the Bank of Commerce building was built in 1905.

Joseph Brownell had a grocery store in the second store. William Elliott had a bookstore and a telegraph office in the third part. On March 3, 1875 *The Huron Expositor* noted: “Dominion Book Store – Mr. Wm. Elliott has opened a new Book & Stationery Store in the Dominion Block, south of the Commercial Hotel. He has a first-class stock of new goods, and will sell cheap. See advertisement next week.” Also, in the same issue: “New Grocery – Mr. Joseph Brownell is opening up a choice stock of family groceries in the Dominion Block,



nearly opposite the post office, and will be ready for business tomorrow. His advertisement will appear next week." Brownell had his grocery here until 1882. Elliott's bookstore was replaced by Charles Papst's stationery store in 1877 and then by Beattie & Gouinlock's Salt Association offices from 1879-82, and Alex Armitage's office above from 1879-85.

For the next 25 years the south store was a liquor store first run by John W. Carroll in 1884, then by Edward Dawson from 1888 to 1908.

When the Bank moved out, the Kruse brothers owned the lot and building, and had a butcher shop in the north store from 1905 to 1907. John Beattie was the next long-term tenant of this store. He was the owner of the block by 1909 and had a dry goods and variety store here until 1935.

Ladies and Gentlemen  
GO TO  
**STEWART'S**  
OYSTER BAY  
**RESTAURANT,**  
CONFECTIONERY, FRUIT STORE  
AND TOBACCONIST.

---

**Everything New and Fresh.**

---

Bank of Commerce Building, Two doors  
South of the Commercial Hotel, Seaforth.

James Stewart had his Oyster Bay restaurant in the middle store from 1888-90. The advertisement is from *The Seaforth Sun*, February 28, 1890.

Fred G. Neelin ran the Customs Office in the middle store for a few years starting in 1909. By 1914, John Rankin had his conveyancing and insurance business here which was taken over by Frank Rankin in 1922 when John Rankin died. John J. Huggard, a barrister, had law offices here for 12 years from 1923-35.

John Bach moved his electric goods, machinery and implement repair business into the block in 1935. He had the north and middle store at this time. The south store was still a shoe and harness repair shop, at this time run by Ray Cartwright. Hugh Thompson took this over in 1937. By 1945, Bach owned the Block and occupied all three stores into the late 1960s.

The building is in the Italianate style. In the earlier c.1900 photograph, the polychrome brickwork is distinctly visible making the window bays stand out. Also of note is the wrought-iron cresting along the roof line. There are six window bays of varying width divided by projecting brick piers and surmounted by a highly decorative projecting wood parapet, visible in the later photograph at upper right. The original storefronts are also clearly shown in both photographs. It appears that by the time the c.1915 photograph was taken, the entire block had been painted. The semi-circular piece in the storefront cornice sets the entrance to the second-floor apartments apart.



In the Dominion Block c.1915 were Beattie's Fair in the north store, here from 1908 to 1935 when Beattie opened his 5¢ to \$1 store in the Cardno Block. John Rankin's insurance office and Russell Sproat & Co.'s flour and feed shop. Beattie and Rankin were longtime occupants, but the tenants in the south store changed every few years until 1925 when Fred Barlow opened his shoe repair shop.



John Rankin discusses an investment or insurance policy with a client, c. 1915. Rankin died in 1922 and, about four years later, his widow married the lawyer, J.J. Huggard, who took over the Rankin agency. In 1936, Huggard absconded with \$70,000 in bonds representing the life savings of several area residents. He later surrendered to police and served time in jail.

# Seaforth Printers Building

96 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1932

**D**r. Simon Lubelski, Surgeon Chiropodist, opened an office in the north part of Marvin Pillman's tailor shop in 1869. To the south, in another attached building, was Lubelski's Beauty Salon. In it were hot and cold shower baths. As indicated in the advertisement of April 14, 1870, Marvin Pillman took over management of the baths and, it appears, moved his tailoring business into the salon. Pillman, along with his brother, Frank, owned this lot by 1874. Marvin Pillman had his tailoring shop here until 1890.

Pillman & Co., Carriagemakers, established a carriage works on the south part of the lot in 1874. They had a large two-storey frame building with a showroom on the main floor. The painting and trimming was done on the upper floor. At the rear were the blacksmithing and woodworking shops. Pillman & Co. made buggies and carriages that ranged in price from \$90 to \$200. They regularly employed about 10 men. Pillman & Co. were in business here until 1887 when they moved to Goderich Street just east of Main. The John Smiths, Sr. and Jr., also wagonmakers, took over the site. By 1894, James Beattie, a grain buyer who now owned the lot, had an office in a building on the south part. Smith continued to make wagons at this location until 1903.

After Marvin Pillman retired from tailoring in 1890 at age 70, the building which housed his shop was used as a home. By 1914, this building was no longer there.

James Hays and William Chapman, both stonecutters, had a marble-works on the north part of the lot where they made tombstones. Their shop is just visible, to the south, in the c.1915 photograph of the Dominon Block.

The frame building on the south part of the lot was a laundry by 1923, operated first by W.H. Lee, then Tung Him, and finally by Wing Wong until 1934. Infected clothing at "John's" Chinese Laundry was blamed for a smallpox scare in the early 1900s.

In 1932, the Snowdon brothers bought the north part of the lot and built the existing building to

**NEW  
Gents Furnishings  
ESTABLISHMENT.**

.....

I would respectfully call the attention of the public to my splendid stock of

**SCOTCH, ENGLISH, AMERICAN AND CANADIAN  
TWEEDS SUITABLE FOR SUMMER WEAR.**

**Suits Made up in the Latest Styles.**

Summer Shirts and Drawers, New Styles of Linnen Collars, new styles of Suspenders  
Marseilles Ties, etc., etc.

Call and get my prices and see my stock. These goods will be sold at astonishing prices

**Remember the Place—Next to the Bank of Commerce building.**

**M. K. PILLMAN,**

**The Cheap Clothier of Seaforth.**

Advertisements, clockwise from the top: *Seaforth Sun*, October 31, 1884; *Huron Expositor*, October 21, 1870; *Expositor*, August 13, 1869.

## NOTICE. BATHS! BATHS!

MR. PILLMAN,

**H**AS pleasure in announcing to the gentlemen of Seaforth, and vicinity, that the BATHS formerly kept by Mr. Lubelski are now ready for use, and he hopes that by keeping everything clean and comfortable to receive a liberal share of public patronage.

## TAILORING!

MR. PILLMAN,

**W**OULD also beg to state that he is carrying on the

## TAILORING BUSINESS,

In all its branches; in the shop formerly occupied as a Barber Shop, and from his long experience in this business, feels confident in saying that parties favouring him with their orders, will have there garments made in a manner which will be second to the work of no other establishment in Seaforth.

**A TRIAL I RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.**

Seaforth, April 14, 1870

123-tf

**D**R. LUBELSKI, SURGEON CHIROPODIST, respectfully informs the public of Seaforth and surrounding country that he is prepared to cure Corns, Bunions, Chilblains, Ingrowing Nails, Large Joints, and all diseases of the human foot. Guarantees a successful treatment, without pain or soreness. Office directly opposite Griffith Davis's Dry Goods Store, Main Street.  
Seaforth, Dec. 14, 1868. 53-tf



house their printing office. Here they published *The Seaforth News*.

The Seaforth Printers building is an unusual single-storey concrete structure with a decorative boomtown front façade. The side elevation to the south is undistinguished.

The laundry building was used at this time as a meeting place for the Senior Men's Euchre Club. Instigated by J.M. Govenlock in 1935, the club met here until the early 1950s. In November of 1963 the building was bought by the Boy Scouts and moved to Egmondville where it was torn down in 1964.

**To Gentlemen!**

**M. K. PILLMAN,**

**SEAFORTH'S**

**WELL-KNOWN TAILOR**

Wishes to inform the gentlemen of Seaforth and vicinity, that he now has as nice an assortment of Cloths suitable for all kinds of garments, as can be found in any similar establishment in the county. He has also added a very nice and complete stock of

**Gents' Furnishings.**

Having engaged the services of Mr. JAMES LEATHERLAND as cutter, he is prepared to guarantee satisfaction in style and fit.

Prices reasonable as usual. His shop is first door south of the Bank of Commerce building. Give him a trial and satisfaction is assured.

**M. K. PILLMAN,**

**SEAFORTH.**

**PILLMAN'S CARRIAGE WORKS, SEAFORTH.**

**THEY ARE AGAIN TO THE FORE.**

**PILLMAN & CO.**

**BEG to state to those in want of Buggies that they have now on hand as good and handsome a collection of**

**NEW BUGGIES! NEW BUGGIES!!**

**Of various designs and styles as can be found in any shop west of Toronto. They are all made by themselves, and they can consequently warrant them as to workmanship and material.**

**REPAIRING OF ALL KINDS.**

**Promptly attended to and neatly and substantially executed, and satisfaction guaranteed.**

**TRIMMING.**

**We are also prepared to take orders for Trimming Vehicles of all kinds, and can guarantee a first-class job at reasonable prices.**

**CALL AND GIVE US A TRIAL**

**And be convinced that we can do better for you than most other firms in the Trade.**

**PILLMAN & Co., Seaforth.**

**N.B.—Buggies and Light Wagons made to order if desired.**

The advertisement at left is from *The Huron Expositor*, December 31, 1886.

The above ad is from the May 6, 1881 issue.

# John Gallop Building

100 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1928

Long before Gallop had this building built in 1928, Thomas Bell bought the lot from Franz Meyer in November 23, 1873. *The Huron Expositor* reported:

Mr. Thos. Bell has purchased from Mr. F. Meyer, the corner lot on Main Street opposite McIntosh & Morrison's carriage factory and intends erecting on it next spring a dwelling house and livery stable." Bell did build a livery on the back of the lot and, nearer to Main Street, a large frame building where he kept his carriages. Bell's home was north of this building.

David McNaught was the property owner in 1875. Goerge Whiteley was the livery man. It was Arthur Forbes who bought the Commercial Livery from Whiteley in 1876.

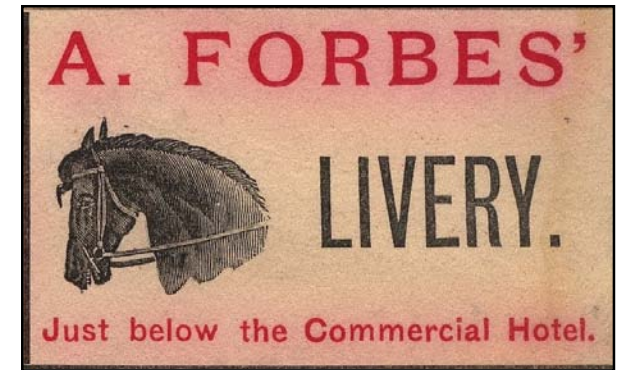
In 1878 to 1882, a building on part of the north half of the lot was used as the Fireman's Hall. Forbes owned the building by 1883 when it ceased to be the Firemen's Hall. Forbes owned the entire lot by 1890 and continued to operate the livery stables throughout the 1880s. William Hunter worked for Forbes as a hostler in 1888. From 1895 to 1900, W.M Ward had a saddlery shop on the north part of this lot. Forbes owned the livery until 1904, but Thomas Levey was the livery man in 1899-1902 and, Wilfred and Gilbert Morrow, young men of 23 and 21 at the time, took over in 1903 and were the owners by 1904.

The livery stable was burned on May 18, 1915. Arthur D. Strong of Galt was the property owner at the time. Little was done for many years with the building which remained on the lot until, in 1928, John Gallop bought the lot and had the existing building built. Gallop started as an Implement Agent but later had a garage, machine shop and car sales shop in his new building. In 1931, there were two gas tanks and pumps here. The tax assessment records for 1933 indicate that Mrs. Gallop, John's mother, ran the pumps.

In 1944, Kenneth Campbell bought the property and opened his Electric & Welding business. At the end of the decade, Campbell sold to Scott Habkirk who used the building and land for bus storage and maintenance. Habkirk Buses, later Habkirk Transit, was here until the early 1980s.



Ken Smith Pools was in business in the Gallop Building in the early 1990s. The photograph clearly shows the boomtown or corbie-stepped roof.



Advertisements, above: an early 1890s Queen's Hotel register; below, *The Huron Expositor*, February 9, 1877.

**THE COMMERCIAL LIVERY,  
SEAFORTH.**

**ARTHUR FORBES,**

**HAVING purchased the Stock and Trade of the Commercial Livery, Seaforth, from Mr. George Whiteley, begs to state that he intends carrying on the business in the old stand, and has added several valuable horses and vehicles to the formerly large stock. None but**

***First-Class Comfortable Vehicles and Good Reliable Horses Will be Kept.***

**Covered and Open Buggies and Carriages, and Double and Single Wagons always ready for use.**

***Special Arrangements Made With Commercial Men.***

**Orders left at the stables or any of the hotels promptly attended to.**

The John Gallop building is a one-storey structure of grey textured block with red mortar. The roof is pitched but hidden by its boomtown, or corbie-stepped, gable end. The stepped gable end is the distinctive architectural feature of this building.

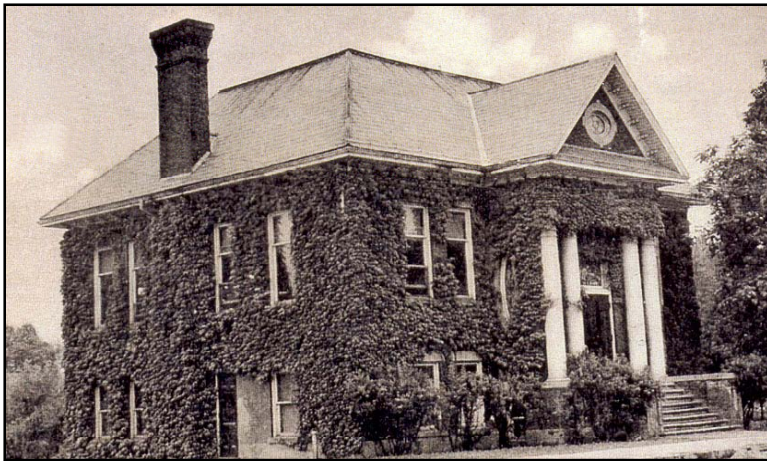


# Carnegie Public Library

108 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1912-13

The design of Seaforth's Carnegie Public Library has elements in common with other Carnegie libraries: a classical style, which included an exposed basement, a centrally located main entrance, a classically columned portico, and a symmetrical arrangement of windows. The style is primarily based on Beaux-Artes ideas of symmetry and design used for civic buildings like town halls, post offices and banks in Ontario from the 1880s. Although the exterior designs of Carnegie libraries were not dictated by condition of the grant, most architects followed the classical style.



The ivy-covered façade of Seaforth Carnegie Library.

Between 1901 and 1923, a total of 125 Carnegie libraries were built in Canada, 111 of them in Ontario. On April 1912, Seaforth received promise of a grant from the Carnegie Foundation. Seaforth Library was

built with \$10,000 of grant money the town had received from the Carnegie Foundation. James Bertram, who oversaw the Andrew Carnegie Foundation grants program, had a personal tie to Seaforth; his wife, Janet Ewing, was a native of Seaforth. (Bertram and his wife are buried in the Maitlandbank Cemetery.)

John Finlayson was hired as the architect-builder. He waived his fee so the town was able to purchase the lot at the corner of Main and George Streets. Harry (or Henry) Edge, who lived in what is now the Lavoie House, began work on the building in 1912.

Libraries in Ontario evolved, in the 1850s, from subscription or Mechanics' Institute libraries. Seaforth Mechanics' Institute and Library Association was incorporated in 1869, having moved to Seaforth from Harpurhey. It had a membership of 200. From 1878 on, the Mechanics' Institute provided books and a reading room, with billiards and games at the back of the reading room. Few small town libraries had permanent facilities at this time. Seaforth's Mechanics Institute was located above Thomas Kidd's south store at the corner of Main and Market Streets.

After the Free Libraries Act was passed in 1882, the name was changed from the Mechanics' Institute Library to the Seaforth Public Library. In 1894, the library moved to a room on the second floor of the newly completed Town Hall.

William F. Luxton, who was for a short time between 1869-70 the publisher of the *Seaforth*



The library once had a tennis court on the side lawn. When this photo was taken in 1918, the Main Street was bricked.

*Expositor*, was the librarian for the Mechanics' Institute and Library Association. William Moore followed Luxton as librarian and held office for many years. The next librarian, John Thompson, died at age 30 of typhoid. On September 17, 1907, his sister, Greta Thompson, who had assisted him, took his place. She continued in the job for the next 50 years.

In 1967, the Seaforth Public Library joined the Huron County Library which serves all municipalities in Huron County from 11 main branch libraries. Seaforth Public Library is a major reference centre popular with local history and genealogy researchers.

Renovations were made to the building in 1984, and again in 1995, modernizing it and adding wheelchair accessibility. Today, the library has a Friday morning story hour for children, a noon and an evening book club, free internet access and training, and a cyber-camp for kids provided through the Community Access Program.

Long before the library was built on this lot, James R. Ross had his Dominion Hotel here in the late 1860s and early 1870s. Thomas Sephens owned

the entire lot in 1870 and retained ownership of part of the lot until 1876. Thomas Sharp had a livery on part of the lot in 1869, but in January 1870, *The Huron Expositor* reported that Ross had opened a new livery stable in connection with the hotel. In 1871, he expanded business to include a new line of stages. Later that year in October, Ross moved his hotel and stage business further south on Main Street east, near the station, property formerly occupied by Matthew Robertson's cabinetmaking business. Tax assessment records show that Ross was still the hotel keeper at the Dominon Hotel from 1871-74 and became the owner of the property in 1874.

Franz A. Meyer owned a blacksmith shop on the south part of the lot and John Murray was the tenant blacksmith here in the 1860s. John Smith and William Grassie, both wagonmakers, worked here in 1867 and 1868 respectively.

By 1875, Robert Hays was the property owner and hotelkeeper. But by 1877, Thomas Hays was the owner and John W. Carroll the hotelkeeper. Carroll worked in this capacity until 1887, becoming the owner of the hotel in 1884.

Joseph Bell assumed ownership of the hotel and became the hotelkeeper in 1888. Henry Abell was employed as hosteler and Levi Strong as bartender. Bell sold the hotel to James Dick in 1892. There were four different hotelkeepers in the 1890s, but James Dick was here the longest, from 1892 to 1897.

One very cold February night in 1899, the hotel was destroyed by fire. Jacob Kling was the hotel's manager at the time.

On the southwest corner of the lot, Alex M. Campbell had his implement shop and office from 1876 to 1899. After the fire, this part of the lot became hotel property. James Dick continued to own the property until 1909 and is listed as a tenant, but he did not rebuild the hotel.

Frank Allen, a horsebuyer from Goderich, later owned the lot. He sold the property in April 1912 to the Library Board. That year A.P. Joynt bought the barn and other buildings on the lot and had them removed.

**LIVERY STABLE.**

**J**AMES ROSS desires to inform the public that he has opened a New Livery Stable in connection with his hotel, where parties can be accommodated with first class horses and vehicles, at reasonable prices.

Seaforth, Jan'y. 21st, 1870. 97-tf.

**ROSS'S STAGE LINE.**

**W**E HAVE much pleasure in announcing to the public that Mr. Ross has, at great expense, fitted up his stage in a manner which secures the greatest comfort and convenience of passengers. A stove has been fitted up in the stage, and passengers are as warm as if sitting at their own fire-side. All wishing to go north by stage will find it to be to their advantage to go on Ross's Mail Stage. Low fare and fast horses.

265-4 J. R. ROSS, Proprietor.

Advertisements from *The Huron Expositor*, March 25, 1870 and January 24, 1873.



# Houghton's Hotel

126 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: c. 1870

George A. Houghton was one of nine innkeepers granted a tavern license in March 1871. At that time he was innkeeper of the hotel next door. By 1881, Houghton ran Houghton's Hotel across the street, and owned the lot. Before Houghton, Sutherland's *County of Huron Gazetteer and General Directory for 1869-70* notes that this was one of seven hotels and was called Lloyd's Hotel. Peter McGregor of Brucefield bought it in November 1884 and used the adjoining stables as a horse-sales stable.

In 1885, part of the hotel property was converted into a roller skating rink. The rink soon became the Seaforth Curling and Skating Rink, in December 1886, and remained so until 1906.

The W.A. Willis Shoe Company opened here in 1906, with Harry Willis as the manager. In September 1907, Willis had the large frame building behind his west Main Street store moved to this property. He manufactured leggings here as well as children's shoes.

In March 1909, the Anderson Taylor Company opened a clothing factory here with W.E. Southgate as manager. By 1914, it was W.E. Sanford & Co., Manufacturers, but D.C. Taylor and George Anderson still owned the property until 1922. The factory was in business here until the late 1920s.

In November 1930, the clothing factory was became a furniture factory. George Hanley of Stratford managed Avon Chest Ltd., Chest Manufacturers. They made cedar chests here for four years. John Boshart and Sons Ltd. took over and began making a wider range of furniture such as dining suites, bedroom suites and bookcases.

After a fire on November 17, 1945, the white brick building was repaired and enlarged. In 1945, there were 56 people employed at Boshart & Sons Ltd. When they started manufacturing furniture here in 1930, the wages paid were 15¢ to 20¢ an hour.

Boshart Furniture was still here in 1965, but by 1974 Canadian Tire, with Fred Tilley as manager, had moved from their store north on the west side of Main Street to this location. The Canadian Tire store was here into the late 1980s. Bethel Bible Church is the current tenant and owner.

The property to the north of Houghton's Hotel was owned by David McCulloch in the 1860s. The frame building here housed two families at the time. John Kyle bought the property in 1875 and used it as a grocery store until 1886. In 1887, Richard Clark bought the lot and continued to run a grocery here.



This photograph was taken between 1894 and 1899. It shows the buildings on the east side of Main Street north from the railway tracks. The large building to the north of the Grip House (right foreground) is the Curling Rink. The frame building next door is Richard Clark's home and grocery store. James and John Nevills' marble works was next, and next to that, with the horse sign marking its spot, is Dr. Campbell's veterinary clinic. Arthur Forbes had his livery and John Smith had a wagonmaking shop next to the north. Between the Smith's shop and the Dominion Block was a house which earlier had been Marvin Pillman's tailor shop.

He lived in the house part of the building for a number of years then rented to various tenants. Margaret Clark assumed ownership of the property and continued to operate a grocery store here throughout the 1930s. The building was empty when it was burned on August 12, 1939. The property was then sold to Boshart.

The property to the north of the hotel was occupied for many years by a marble works where tombstones and monuments were made. In the 1870s, Calder Bros. Marble Works was housed in a frame building on the lot. Henry Messett took over in 1874. David Grant succeeded him in 1887. M.L. Messett continued as owner until he sold to W.M. Gray in 1891. John Neville, a stonecutter, was the business owner. James Neville became the business and property owner in 1894. Neville was in business here until 1909 when James Hays, also a stonecutter, took over and William Thompson bought the property.



This is part of a stereoscope photograph taken between 1887 and 1890. The sign over the boardwalk in foreground right reads "M.L. Messett" and marks the monument works owned by Messett and operated by David Grant.



Seaforth Marble Works, J. Nevills, Proprietor, as pictured in the *Souvenir of Seaforth*, 1900. At left, an ad from the *Seaforth Sun* of March 18, 1887.

**Seaforth Marble & Granite Works.**  
 MAIN STREET - - SEAFORTH, ONT.  
**H. Messett, - Proprietor.**  
 --- (x) ---  
 DEALER AND MANUFACTURER OF  
**MONUMENTS AND HEADSTONES**  
 IN ALL KINDS OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN MARBLE AND  
 GRANITE, EXECUTED IN THE LATEST NEW YORK  
 AND CANADIAN DESIGNS. INSPECTION INVITED.  
 INSCRIPTIONS CUT IN GERMAN OR ENGLISH.  
 --- x --- x ---  
 Call and see me before dealing elsewhere and be convinced that I sell at Rock  
 Bottom Prices. I use the choicest grades of stock purchased direct from the  
 quarries for cash, and therefore I am able to offer extra inducements to customers.



# Grip House

138 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: Hotel - early 1860s, Existing Building - 1968

The Grip House is the last name given to the hotel built on this lot some time in the 1860s. William Lancaster was the innkeeper here in 1867. E.P. Houghton, and then George Houghton, are listed in tax assessment records as the hotel keepers here in 1868 and 1871. According to Isabelle Campbell's history, Houghton kept his own hotel next door, on the corner to the north.

Duncan D. Rose took over management of the hotel in 1872-76. *The Huron Expositor* of February 19, 1874 reported: "Town Council - The hotel License was fixed at \$55, and shop license at \$85. A by-law was passed requiring applicants for liquor licenses to give security to the extent of \$100 each, and two sureties of \$25 each." Rose is not listed among those who purchased a hotel liquor license in 1874. Rose opened a grocery store when he left the hotel.

John Brigham was the innkeeper in 1877 but was replaced by Richard L. Sharp the next year. Sharp had previously managed the Commercial Hotel. Under his management the hotel by the railway tracks was known as Sharp's Hotel. Sharp operated the hotel until 1883 and is listed among those who received tavern liquor licenses May 3, 1883.

The next longterm hotelkeeper here, who also lent his name to the hotel, was H.P. Kennedy. From 1883 to 1890, the hotel was well known as Kennedy Hotel. William F. Flannagan succeeded him and was the hotel's proprietor until 1895.

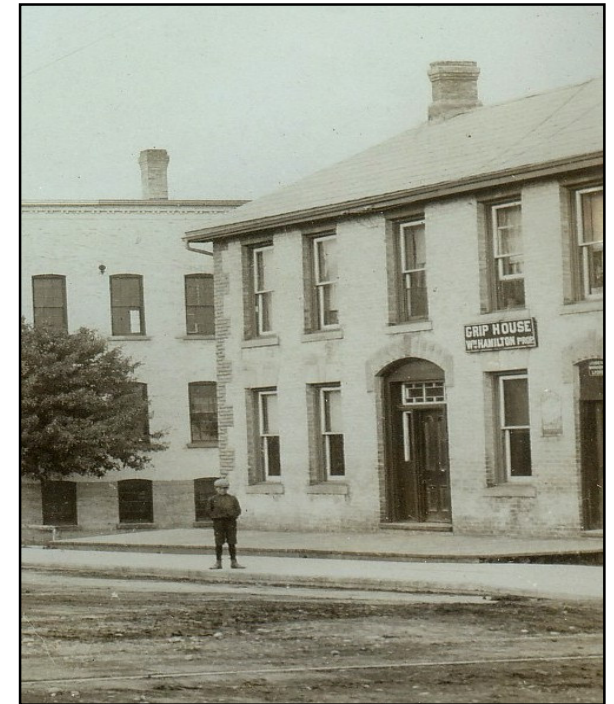
Dr. T.T. Coleman was the property owner until 1896. Mrs. John Lynch purchased it from the Coleman Estate and made improvements to the hotel. The hotel was a frame building in the early

1860s. Mrs. Lynch had a white brick veneer put on the exterior.

G.E. Henderson was Mrs. Lynch's hotelkeeper until 1900 when William and James Hunter took over. In 1903, Jonathan Miller of Benmiller assumed hotelkeeping duties for the next two years. There were five other hotelkeepers here in the 1900s – William Hamilton, J.J. FitzPatrick, H. Carnochan, and Frances Carlin.

In 1913, the Grip House ceased to be a hotel and became a factory, the W.J. Duncan Legging and Shoe Factory. Behind the building Frank Allen operated a horse-trading business which became Cudmores stables in 1924 after Allen's death.

Duncan's Shoe Factory became Seaforth Shoes Ltd., with Fred Peel as Manager, in 1950. Boshart & Sons used the Crombie Street part of the lot for



Grip House in the early 1904 or 1905 when William Hamilton was the hotelkeeper.



This photograph of the 1914 Old Boys Reunion parade shows the Grip House in the background at left. By then it was Duncan's Legging & Shoe Factory.

lumber storage. Seaforth Shoes vacated the building in 1958 and since then it was used as a storage facility. Topnotch Feeds Ltd. bought the property from the Town of Seaforth in September 1965. The old Grip House part of the building was demolished and the newer part was remodelled into a modern office for the Topnotch Feeds company. The Huron Business Centre moved into the building in the early 1990s.

*The*  
**W. J. DUNCAN Factory,**  
*Seaforth Ontario*

— Manufacturers of —  
**INFANTS', CHILDREN'S AND MISSES' TRADE-  
MARKED SHOES**

Made in Chrome and Genuine Oak Bend Soles

• •  
**Our Brands**

**SKIPALONG AND SUNNI SMILE FITSU**  
in Misses' and Children's Sizes—6 to 3

•  
**SELF-STARTER PATENTED, TINY TOTS AND  
LITTLE DAISY REG.**  
in Infants' Sizes—0 to 6

ASK YOUR DEALER TO SHOW YOU THESE LINES

Advertisement from *The Huron Expositor* July 24, 1940.



# Mansion House & Carmichael Block

1 - 7 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: Hotel 1877 Store Block 1878

Robert Carmichael was born in Scotland and came to Canada at a young age, settling first in Montreal, afterwards removing to London and then to Exeter. While living in Exeter, he ran the Francistown Hotel. Carmichael moved to Seaforth in the spring of 1860 and purchased the property on the southwest corner of Main and Goderich Streets then known as the McKernan hotel property. He replaced McKernan's log tavern

with a frame hotel and conducted this hotel for several years. In the spring of 1869, Carmichael replaced the frame hotel with a fine brick building he called the Mansion House.

The April 8, 1870 *Huron Expositor* described the new Mansion House as an imposing structure of three storeys with a full basement and a slate roof. Over each of the main entrances was a very handsome portico supported by iron columns. A portion of the ground flat was set aside for two stores, one already occupied by Fred Veal, for a grocery and liquor business. The

kitchen was in the basement and was "fitted up with all the latest improvements for facilitating the performance of the labour peculiar to this department of an extensive hotel." The northeast corner of the main floor was the barroom. A spacious hall opened up from the Main Street entrance from which lead up, and open off, the public stairway, two sitting rooms, barroom, office, and the commodious dining room. The second storey had "a number of pleasant parlors, 16

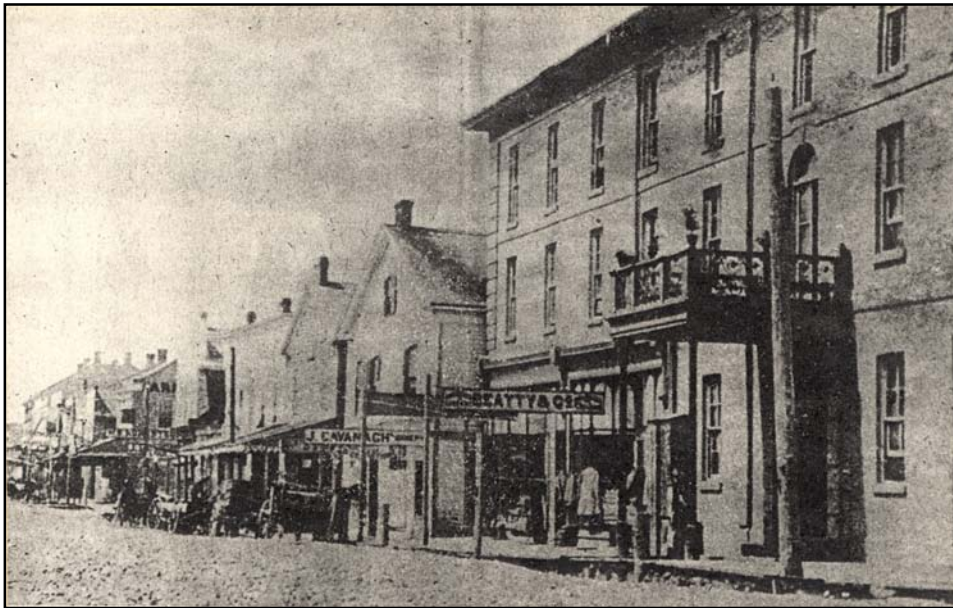
airy bedrooms, and wash, bath, and water closets." The third floor had many sitting rooms with bedrooms attached; "otherwise it is partitioned off into 23 bedrooms." Carmichael spent between \$12,000 and \$15,000.

A November 18, 1898 *Expositor* article reporting on Carmichael's death noted: "In the earlier days of the town, when Seaforth was the principal grain market for the whole country for fifty miles to the north and south of it, Carmichael's hotel was one of the most popular hostelries for the farmers when they came to market their produce." Carmichael is described as "a thorough Scot, an ardent admirer of Burns, and an excellent singer of Scottish songs. It has been said of him that he could sing Scotch songs from dark to daylight and never repeat the same ones." Perhaps Carmichael's "off-handed, genial manner" made the Mansion House a popular, and prosperous, stopping place.

The original hotel was destroyed in the "Terrible Conflagration" of 1876 in which 40 houses and business places burned. The fire started on the east side of Main Street but quickly got out of control and spread to the west side. "The Shop occupied by Mr. Coventry was the first to catch on this side, and the fire ran through the building as if it had been tinder. The [fire] engine was immediately got to play on the buildings between Mr. Coventry's shop and the Mansion Hotel, but fire spread so rapidly and the heat became so fearfully intense, that the hose men were forced to withdraw... At last the Mansion Hotel building, the most costly and beautiful edifice in town, was on fire, and the entire town seemed destined for destruction." Carmichael's loss was the greatest; his hotel building, the adjoining block of frame buildings, the hotel stock and furniture, were valued at \$27,700. He had no insurance.

Undaunted by this major setback, Carmichael "fitted up a building in rear of his former premises" and planned to rebuild in the spring. He built the present brick block with adjoining stores in 1877-78.

At the time of the fire, the two stores in the hotel



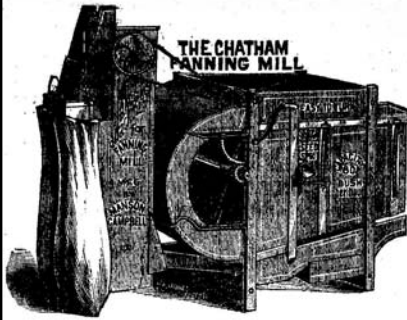
West Main Street, 1871, from the Mansion House south. Luke Beatty & Co. had a store in part of the hotel. The sign for J. Cavanagh's bakery marks his spot a little further south. In 1870, an ad in *The Huron Expositor* announced that Cavanagh had opened a "New Bakery and Confectionery in the premises lately occupied by Carmichael's Hotel, one door south of Mr. F. Veal's Grocery Store." Cavanagh sold to Mr. Alex Cardno in September of 1871.

were occupied by James Jamieson's shoe shop and John Edy's harness shop. When the new hotel was built, there were two stores in the adjoining section to the south, but no stores in the hotel itself. The stores remained vacant at first. William Carmichael had a billiard room in the hotel in 1878. Graham Williamson had a bakery in the first store in 1879-80.

In 1881, Carmichael retired and hired James Weir as hotelkeeper. By 1885, Weir co-owned the property with Carmichael and the name was changed to the Royal Hotel. William Pinkney was the hotelkeeper for a couple of years and then Weir resumed the role. Weir became the sole owner of the property in 1887. D.T. Pinkney was hotelkeeper for a number of years starting in 1903. By 1914, Lorne Weir was the manager. The Royal Hotel remained in the Weir family until 1918.

Henry Edge was the hotel's owner by 1920. His "Big Hardware Store" occupied the lower part of the hotel in the early 1920s. George Ferguson took over this store in 1925. At this time, John F. Daly had a garage on the west part of the lot.

**5,000 SOLD IN 1892.**



**158 sold at**  
**Brussels, 76**  
**at Lucknow,**  
**45 at Wing-**  
**ham, and 75**  
**at Listowel**  
**this winter.**

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY THE BEST  
**Fanning Mill and Bag Attachment**  
Made in the Dominion. It may be seen at work every Saturday at the  
ROYAL HOTEL, SEAFORTH.  
**LUKE KELLY & W. E. CAMPBELL, Agents.**

Advertisements from *The Huron Expositor*, December 2, 1904 and March 10, 1893.

John Best had law offices in second-floor rooms of the hotel building from 1927-35. Elmer D. Bell, Barrister, took over Best's offices in 1935. Keith McLean, Barrister, took over from Bell in 1940.

In the 1940s, Edmund Daly had a radio repair and storage space on the Goderich Street side. He was also a co-owner now, along with Henry Edge. Starting in 1938, Frank Kling worked as a tinsmith in George Ferguson's hardware store. After Edge's death in 1944, Walter Willis became a co-owner of the property. Orville Oke opened a pool room in part of the hotel in 1948. The pool room was here throughout the 1950s and 1960s, and its management passed to Jack Webb, Norman Greenslade, and Russell Broderick. Orville Oke was the owner of the hotel in the 1950s.

Herbert Staffen's Plumbing business replaced Ferguson's hardware in 1949. John F. Daly's Garage and Auto Sales was still on the Goderich Street side at this time, by 1954 under Edmund's Daly's management. In 1951, Harold Whyte & Son opened a butcher shop on the Goderich Street side and were

**ROYAL HOTEL**  
**SEAFORTH.**

---

**Most Modern Hotel in Seaforth**  
Fully equipped with hot and cold water bath, Ladies' Toilet Rooms, etc. Every attention paid to guests.  
**Good Stable in Connection,**  
**D. T. PINKNEY, Prop.**  
1875-td



The Royal Hotel as pictured in *Souvenir of Seaforth* published in 1900. James Weir was the hotelkeeper at the time. W.J. Clark occupied the first store to the south. W.E. and Samuel Hinchley had the second store.

in business here into the late 1960s. David Tremeer also had a barbershop in part of the hotel building by 1966, at the 3 Main Street South store, and was in business here until 1984. Broderick's Billiard Hall occupied the 1 Main Street South store.

In the late 1860s, two of the frame stores south of what was then Carmichael's frame hotel were occupied by Frederick Veal, a 27-year-old grocer who also sold liquor, and by Thomas Meares, a 31-year-old merchant. John Braidwood's dry goods store occupied Meares' old stand by the end of 1868.

Carmichael's first Mansion House, built in 1869, had two stores located in the south part. Luke Beatty & Co. occupied the first store from 1870 to 1876. Frederick Veal had the southernmost store from 1870-76.

John Cavanagh started a bakery in the frame building just south of the Mansion House in 1870, but was soon replaced by a new baker each year after – first by Alex Cardno, then John Rumley, and finally by Patrick Megary who was the tenant from 1873-76. Next, south of the bakery at the time of the





At left, the 1924 Old Boys Reunion Parade passing Henry Edge's Big Hardware Store in the Royal Hotel Block. Advertisements, *The Huron Expositor*, February 21, 1879; *Seaforth Sun*, February 28, 1890.

*The Huron Expositor* reported on October 10, 1895: "Lamb & Hinchley disposed of their seed business to Robert Scott." And, on January 28, 1896: "Mr. Sam Hinchley intends opening up a seed and implement em-porium in the store recently vacated by Messrs. Hinchley & Lamb. Mr. Edward Hinchley will be in charge."

In 1902, William A. Crich opened a bakery in Store No. 1. Crich's Restaurant and Bakery were still in business here in 1975. In an article in the April 12, 1929 issue of *The Huron*

*Expositor*, Crich's is described as "one of the largest bakeries in Western Ontario, in fact the third largest between Toronto and Lake Huron." In the course of regular business the bakery consumed "one car of flour a month, 510 bags, costing \$1,750 a car." The bakery was equipped with the most modern machinery and was, at the time, installing a bread wrapping machine. On the ground floor of the store were the ovens, bread and cake racks, storage, packing and shipping rooms while the top floor was used for flour storage and mixing. The daily output of bread was 1500 to 1800 loaves, and on Saturday 2500 loaves. Ten men were employed in the bakery and in delivery of the goods. There were three delivery trucks, each with their own route.

**HUGH GRIEVE**  
— DEALER IN —  
**Flour, Feed, and all kinds of Seed.**  
Carmichael's Block, Main Street, Seaforth.  
**HUGH GRIEVE.**

**DRAYAGE.**  
**T**HE undersigned having entered into co-partnership, are prepared to meet the wants of the Merchants of Seaforth and others who may require their services as carriers to and from the Railway freight sheds and elsewhere on most reasonable terms. Orders may be left at Joseph Brownell's Grocery store, and will receive prompt and careful attention.  
**NORMAN BROWNELL.**  
**JOSEPH ABELL.**  
Seaforth, Aug. 30, 1878. 560

fire, was John Passmore's grocery. As noted, James Jamieson's Shoe Shop and John Edy's harness shop were also located in Carmichael's adjoining block of frame buildings destroyed in the fire.

Carmichael rebuilt the Mansion House in 1877 and the adjoining two-store block in 1878, but the land to the south remained vacant for many years. In 1878 -79, Abell & Brownell, who had a drayage business, leased part of the vacant land.

Store No. 1 was occupied in 1880-81 by Graham Williamson's bakery. He was succeeded by Roderick McLennan in 1883. O.J. Clark had a grocery here in 1884-86. It was again a bakery in 1889-91, run by Walter Ingram and W.J. Clark. Clark continued on in the baking business until 1899.

Store No. 2 was vacant for the first few years. William N. Watson, a general insurance and a sewing machine sales agent, had an office here from 1883 to 1887. It then became a seed store, first run by Hugh Grieve in 1888 and then by Edward Hinchley from 1890-98. It was called Hinchley & Lamb in 1893. As



The interior of Crich's bakery in 1914. The woman is Belle Cummings and the two men are W.A. Crich and Tom McRae.

“One truck makes daily trips to Winthrop, Walton, Blyth, Belgrave and Londesboro. A second goes to Saltford, Loyal, St. Augustine, Auburn, Carlow, Nile and Benmiller. The third truck makes two trips a day; in the morning to Dublin, Staffa, Brodhagen and Beechwood, and in the afternoon to Brucefield, Kippen, Hills Green, Zurich, Drysdale, Blake,

Bayfield and Varna. Each truck has a carrying capacity of 600 loaves, besides which are carried cakes and other confections.” A fourth truck was used for short and emergency trips and a wagon was used to make deliveries in town. Night bakers were employed to make all the bread while three bakers working in the day made all the cakes and other goodies.



In this 1902 photograph of Crich's candy counters, W.A. Crich is at left, in baker's hat and apron, Tom McCrae is at right and Agnes McCrae stands behind the counter. In the foreground is a peanut dispenser – patrons often stocked up on warm peanuts-in-the-shell before paying their 5¢ admission to movies in the theatre next door.



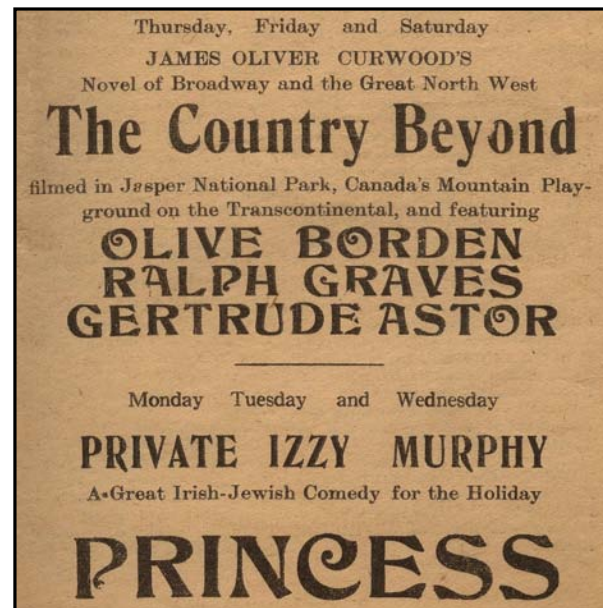
described them as “both bright, clever young men, popular with the public generally and should do a good business.” From 1908 until he retired in 1932, John McKenzie ran the Princess Theatre. By this time, although the movies were still silent, Mrs. W.H. Bullard and other pianists provided live music. Jim Thompson sold tickets.

Movies were booked in advance, but the subject of the picture was not known until it arrived and was shown. “During the week of March 12, 1911, Mr. McKenzie showed ‘The Cowboy Girls,’ a big feature

On September 7, 1907, Edward Cady and a Mr. Dill opened the Star Theatre in William A. Crich's south store, Store No. 2 in the Carmichael Block. It was the silent movie era and an old phonograph provided scratchy music. As the *Expositor* of October 4, 1907 said: “The admission is only five cents and we are sure we do not know of any way in which a person can get so much instruction and amusement combined with so little money.” The pictures were changed twice a week, on Mondays and Thursdays.

In May 1908, John McKenzie and Oscar Sproat purchased the Star Moving Picture Theatre from Cady.

The May 15, 1908 *Expositor*



*Seaforth News*, July 28, 1927

picture full of dash, vitality and go, as the advertisement of that date said. This was the first time the management knew in advance the title of the picture they were about to show.” The Princess Theatre held the record for the longest picture run for “Abie’s Irish Rose.” It ran for nine days with matinees.

The November 27, 1931 *Huron Expositor* announced the closure of the Princess Theatre after 24 years in business. McKenzie found it necessary to close because “of his inability to procure suitable silent pictures.” In September of 1932, the Regent Theatre opened on the east side of Main Street.

After the theatre closed in 1932, Store No. 2 was a produce store for many years. Merchants R.H. John and E.M. Thomson were in business here from 1932 to 1934. Hugh R. Spence & Sons, Produce Merchants, ran Seaforth Produce throughout the 1940s. During most of the 1950s, Export Packers Ltd., also produce merchants, owned the business. In 1957, Dublin Creamery & Poultry Packers Ltd.





moved in and were here until 1963. Hutton Produce, Egg Grading Station, was also a tenant here in 1958.

The stereoscope above shows Carmichael's Mansion House, and part of the adjoining store block, in about 1880. The yellow brick building is 3½ storeys with a detailed brickwork entablature including two rows of dentils. Four pilasters delineate each end of the Main Street façade and either side of the doorway. Pilasters also frame the large entranceway of the Goderich Street façade.

The main floor has a central double door, with an elegant arched fanlight visible in the photograph, but since boarded over. The main floor has been remodeled. A wide cornice of wood and square, imitation pilasters have been added. A large cut was made in the north façade and the patchwork was painted grey as was the rest of the main floor.

The second floor windows are arched with projecting brick corbels. The central, projecting balcony has decorative iron railings and supports.

The entranceway to the balcony is a large round-topped arch incorporating the door, sidelights and a transom light in three segments.

The third floor has three windows plus a central trefoil window on the front façade. The windows are round-topped with small brick label stops on a rowlock arch above each.

The Goderich Street side has a large, central entrance with balcony above and a symmetrically arranged

façade. A second doorway at the northeast corner has been closed in.

The adjoining two-store block is 2½ storeys. The cornice has been removed and metal stripping attached along the entablature. The second-floor windows have round tops in a version of the blind arcade type of brickwork. The window labels are heavy and of the rowlock arch type with label stops. The top third of the window has been closed in.

The main floor of the store block has three pilasters, one at each end of the stores and one separating them. The wooden brackets, from the pilasters to the cornice with dentils, are large and decorative. The doorway to the second floor is between the two stores. Both stores have inset central doorways.

**GOOD NEWS !**  
—FOR THE—  
**People of Seaforth !**  
—O—  
**NEW BAKERY !**  
—O—  
**AND**  
**CONFECTIONERY STORE.**  
—O—  
**J. CAVANAGH,**  
(LATE OF STRATFORD.)  
**B**EGS to inform the inhabitants of Seaforth that he has opened a Bakery and Confectionery Store, in the premises lately occupied as Carmichael's Hotel, one door South of Mr. F. Veal's Grocery Store, where he will have on hand at all times a choice assortment of  
**Bread, Fancy Cakes, Wedding Cakes, Confectionery, &c.**  
Also **ICE CREAM**, and all kinds of **SUMMER DRINKS**, such as Soda Water, Lemonade, &c.  
*Customers supplied daily with Bread at their Residences.*  
**GIVE ME A TRIAL.**  
**J. CAVANAGH.**  
**SEAFORTH, June 30, 1870.**  
**N. B. Orders for WEDDING CAKES and supplies for TEA PARTIES promptly attended to.**

*Huron Expositor, October 21, 1870*

# Carmichael's Red & White Block

9-13 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1895

his two-storey red brick building is in the Classic Revival style. The upper façade is very handsome and consists of a centre bay flanked by two side bays divided by projecting brick piers. The entire façade is surmounted by an elaborate brick frieze of superb craftsmanship. The storefronts below were altered to a modern design.



Fred Gale's Meat Market was in the north store when this picture was taken in 1901. J.W. Beattie, Butcher, followed soon after. W.H. Willis, Boots & Shoes, occupied the south store from 1896 to 1907. Robb's grocery is in the white brick store to the south.

Robert Carmichael built two frame stores on this site in 1864. Fred Veal occupied one of the stores until 1873. H.W. McCann was in the second store

until declaring insolvency in 1869 at which time Thomas Coventry, a Boot & Shoe Maker, moved in. Coventry's shoe store and Passmore's grocery were here when fire struck in 1876. From that date on the property remained vacant until 1895 when Carmichael had the existing brick stores built.

T.R.F. Case & Co., Butchers, occupied the north store from 1897 to 1900, operating for one year as Case & Chesney (George M.) until the partnership was dissolved in March 1898. Fred Gale and Winter & Stewart, Butchers, were tenants for a short time, each lasting less than a year. John Wesley Beattie, Butcher, took over and was in business for five years until 1906. Then, Sylvester and E. Everatt, Butchers, operated a successful shop here until 1914. B. Cass had the butcher shop after the Everatts.

Robert Willis, Boots & Shoes, was the first occupant of the south store in 1895. W.H. Willis, aged 28 in 1896, was a clerk in the store at that time and took over the business in 1897. He ran the store here until 1906. Robert Willis purchased the Carmichael store next door to the south and moved the shoe store there in 1907.

After Willis vacated the south store in the red brick block, F.L. Willis had a clothing store here for one year and then it became a paint and paper, or interior design, store. The store was first run by Harry Evans in 1908, then by Thomas G. Scott by 1913. Scott's paint and paper business

## FLOUR AND FEED STORE!!

**MR. ALFRED BREWER,**

**R**ESPECTFULLY intimates to his friends and the public generally, that he has appointed as AGENT

**MR. F. VEAL,**

Groser Main Street, Seaforth, who will keep on hand at all times a large stock of the very best

**FAMILY FLOUR,**

And all kindg of

**FEED ETC., ETC.**

**FLOUR DELIVERED**

In any part of the Town FREE OF CHARGE.

**THE HIGHEST PRICE IN CASH PAID**

**FOR WHEAT at Roxburgh Mills.**

**P. S—Remember F. Veal's Chequered Store, West side Main Street.**

**Seaforth, June 4th 1869.**

**78-3m.**

*Huron Expositor, June 11, 1869*

was here until the end of the 1930s. The store then was home to Boshart Electric until the two store spaces were taken over by G.A. Whitney's furniture store. Whitney also had an undertaking business. He took over the north store which was occupied by Samuel T. Holmes & Son, Undertakers since 1919. G.A. Whitney Furniture occupied both stores into the late 1960s and the north store in the late 1970s.

The white brick single-store block, adjoining the red brick block to the south, is architecturally the



same. It has the same decorative brickwork, pilasters or piers, and the same façade as the north store of the red-brick block. The storefront level is also the same with inset door flanked by two large windows.

The white brick store was vacant in the first years after it was built. The first tenant, evident in the photograph printed in *Souvenir of Seaforth* booklet published in 1900, is Robb's grocery. W.L. Talbot had a store here from 1904-06. Robert Willis then moved his shoe store into this space. By 1913, J.E. Willis had taken over the business and was here until 1921. Frederick Wigg took over and had a shoe store here until Walter Willis succeeded him in 1930. Walter Willis, then James Willis, had a shoe store here into the 1960s when it was MacDonald's Shoe Store for a time. By 1970, after so many years as a shoe store, the store became Wong's Grill.

**S. Everatt & Sons**  
**—Butchers—**

Dealers in all kinds of Meats,  
Fresh and Cured Meats, Sausage, Bologna, Summer Sausage and all kinds of fresh Meats.

**Special Attention Paid to the Hide Market**

Farmers and Syndicate Butchers, it will be to your gain to get our each prices before selling to outsiders. We lead the price in Seaforth

**S. Everatt and Sons,**  
**Seaforth.**

SEAFORTH  
**PACKING HOUSE.**  
**To HOG BREEDERS.**  
**T. R. F. CASE & CO.**

Of the Seaforth Packing House are prepared to handle any quantity of Hogs, Live or Dress, for which they will pay the highest market price. Will have man call on any parties having live Hogs to dispose of, if notified. For particulars call at Retail Store, Carmichael's Block, Seaforth.

T. R. F. CASE & CO.  
1518-t.f.



John Wesley Beattie, in the centre of the photograph, operated a butcher shop on Main Street for many years. Everatt had the shop after Beattie, from 1907-14. Ad is from the October 2, 1908 *Huron Expositor*.

**CANADIAN ANNEXATION!**

THE undersigned has annexed a large quantity of

**New Goods !!**

To his old stock, and

**REMOVED!**

The whole across the Street,  
**TO M'CANN'S OLD STAND.**

Combined, they form the best selected Stock of

**Boots and Shoes**

Ever offered to the inhabitants of Seaforth, and parties who trade there, comprising Ladies, Gents, and Childrens wear in great variety, of the very Latest Styles and best quality, and which will be disposed of at the Very Lowest Possible, Remunorative Prices for CASH. Also a large quantity of Home-made Work always on hand.

ORDERED WORK, of all kinds got up in a style that cannot fail to give satisfaction.

REPAIRING Neatly Executed.

N. B.—Don't forget McCann's Old Stand

**SIGN OF THE BIG BOOT.**  
**THOS. COVENTRY.**

Seaforth, April 29th. 7-211

Advertisements from top: *Huron Expositor*, June 18, 1897; *Huron Expositor*, June 11, 1869.

# John Kidd Block

15 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1878

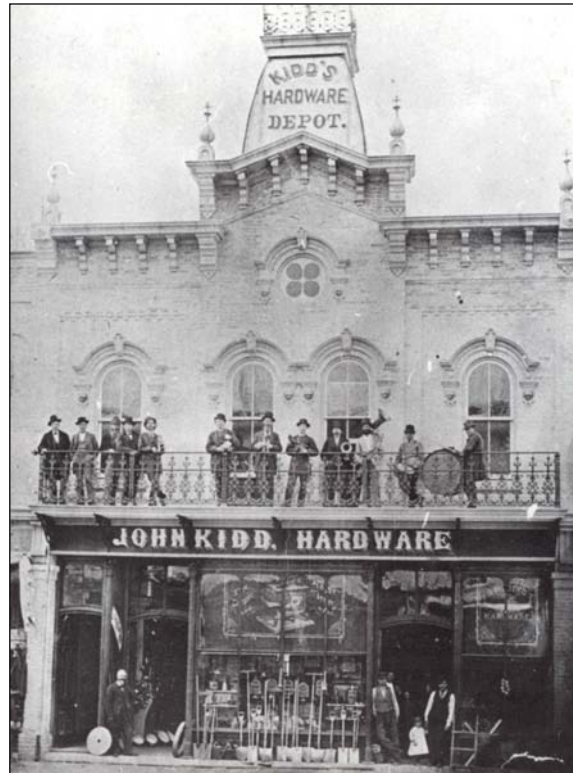
John Kidd purchased the land from Robert Carmichael and had this distinctive brick store built in 1878, replacing the frame building lost to fire in 1876. The crowning feature of this building was its central projection advertising the "Kidd's Hardware Depot" and topped by decorative iron cresting. The building itself is 2½ storeys high. The entablature is plain with two rows of dentils above a quatrefoil window. The labels on this, and the second-storey windows, are heavy, protruding, ornate metal with a keystone effect at the top. The label stops appear to be in the shape of a lion's head.

The four windows in the second storey consist of a pair of closely spaced longer windows in the centre and a shorter window either side of this pair. The top portion of the original window opening is now closed in. The window sills are concrete.

The main floor was entirely remodeled with huge plate-glass windows inserted. The doorway is inset at the south end of the façade. An original feature still evident are the two pilasters, one at each end of the storefront façade.

Arthur Veale occupied the first frame store on this site some time in the 1860s. George Dent had a general store here from 1869 to 1876.

The January 25, 1878 *Huron Expositor* reported: "Another New Brick Store – For several days during the present week workmen have been engaged in excavating for the cellar of Mr. John Kidd's new brick store. Mr. Kidd, having purchased from Mr. Carmichael the lot adjoining Mrs. Whitney's block, intends erecting thereon, in the spring, a large brick store, which he will occupy as a tin shop and hard-



Kidd began business as a tinsmith but by 1863 was also selling building supplies from a store on the east side of Main Street. Kidd's Hardware was at its west-side location from 1879 to 1892.

ware store. Thus will be added one more link in the chain of magnificent business edifices in this town."

Robert and Andrew Kidd, tinsmiths, joined the business in 1883. Mrs. John Kidd was the business owner in 1884 when the store was advertised as Mrs. Kidd's Cheap Hardware and Stove House. George was also part of the business, joining in 1885.

GEORGE DENT'S  
**NEW STORE.**  
SEAFORTH,  
IS THE PLACE FOR THE  
BEST AND CHEAPEST  
**DRY GOODS !**  
AND  
**GROCERIES !!**

He has just opened out an immense stock of everything in both lines, and would say to his old friends and all others,

*Please call and give us a trial.*

Our motto is quick sales, small profits and satisfaction to all

Remember the address,

Third door north of Scott Robertson's Grocery.

**GEORGE DENT.**

Seaforth, Jan. 21st. 1878.

111-tf.

Sydney Mullet and J.R. Jackson purchased Kidd's hardware business some time in 1892. Sydney Mullett ran the hardware store until 1900. The next hardware merchants here were Chesney & Smiley from 1901-06 and Chesney & Archibald from 1906 and into the early 1910s.



By 1914, J.F. Daly had his jewellery store in the former hardware store. Daly was a jeweller, optician, issuer of marriage licenses, and the first Ford car dealer in town. In about 1907, Daly and Alex Winter jointly purchased a Model N Ford, the first horseless carriage bought in Seaforth. John F. Daly's Garage and Auto Sales continued on business here into the late 1950s. When Daly died in 1952 or 1953, he was the longest-serving Ford dealer in Canada.

Frank Kling purchased the store in 1958. He had his plumbing and heating business here until 1966. In that year Hildebrand Paint & Paper opened shop. By 1995, Hildebrand's had expanded to include a florist shop.

**LET US SHOW YOU OUR SENSIBLE XMAS GIFTS**



COME TO OUR STORE AND BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. DON'T THROW MONEY AWAY ON "NO-COUNT TRASH." BUY SOMETHING THAT IS COMMON SENSE. A FEW LINES YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM ARE POCKET CUTLERY, TABLE CUTLERY, CARVERS IN CASES, RAZORS, SCISSORS, FANCY LAMPS, SILVERWARE, BISSELL CARPET SWEEPERS, NICKLE-PLATED KETTLES AND TEA POTS, SKATES, ETC. YOUR WIFE WOULD LIKE ONE OF OUR NEW RANGES OR HEATERS.

BUY "HIM" A GILLETTE SAFETY RAZOR.

**CHESNEY & ARCHIBALD**  
Hardware Merchants, Seaforth.



**TO THE PUBLIC.**

Having a complete line of

**Builders'**

**Hardware,**

**Stoves,**

**Tinware,**

**Dairy Supplies,**

ETC., ETC.

**Prices Right.**

We ask a share of your patronage.

**S. MULLETT & CO.,**  
SEAFORTH.

Armistice Day 1918 – celebrants pose in front of Daly's Garage and J. Wesley Beattie's Butcher shop. A sign on the doorway between the stores advertises Frank S. Beattie, V.S., Veterinary Surgeon, who had rooms on the upper floor. The advertisements below are from *The Huron Expositor*, December 16, 1910 and April 4, 1899.

# George Mitchell Store

19 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1878-79

George Mitchell had this store built in 1878. The brickwork matches that of the neighbouring Whitney Block to which it is joined. The more elaborate and decorative labels of the two upper storey windows are a distinguishing characteristic of this store.

Allan Mitchell occupied the frame store on this site from the early 1860s. W.A. Shearson had a flour and feed business here which Thomas Lee bought in early 1871. Lee ran a grocery here until the 1876 fire. He suffered a loss of \$1,000 but was fully insured.

Merchant Tailors Halley & Anderson were the first occupants of the new store in 1878. They were in business here until 1882. John L. Smith, who was in the staple and fancy dry goods and grocery business, was the next tenant in 1883. Sharp & Levins, also grocers, took over the store in 1888. Henry Levins continued in business here until 1894.

Mitchell sold to John Beattie in 1889. Frank S. Beattie, a veterinary surgeon, had an office on the second floor from 1889-94. John Beattie also had an office on the second floor from 1899 until about 1914. By 1914, J. Wesley Beattie had his butcher



## FLOUR AND FEED.

He also keeps constantly on hand, a large stock of Flour and Feed of every description, consisting of

FLOUR,

CORN MEAL,

OAT MEAL,

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR,

Bran, Shorts, Oats, Barley, Peas, &c.

Flour and Feed delivered with dispatch in Harpurhey, Egmonville and Seaforth, free of charge.

## SEEDS ! SEEDS !

All varieties of Field and Garden Seeds kept constantly on hand.

## All kinds of Produce

Taken in Exchange for Goods, at  
THE HIGHEST CASH PRICES.

REMEMBER!

SHEARSON & CO.'S OLD STAND!

THOMAS LEE.

169-41

This 1924 photo shows the George Mitchell store south of Kidd's Block. The window labels distinguish it from the Whitney Block to the south. Marshall Stewart had a flour and feed business in the south corner store and the Garden Grocery next door. The photographer D.F. Buck was in the next store, J. Wesley Beattie's butcher shop was in the Mitchell store, and J.F. Daly's Garage was in the Kidd Block. To the north were Wigg's Shoes, Holmes' Furniture & Undertaking, Scott's Paint & Paper, the Princess Theatre, Crich's Bakery, and Edges' Big Hardware Store. The advertisement above is from the March 17, 1871 *Huron Expositor*.



shop in the store. Beattie was eventually the owner of the building. He was in business here many years. In 1943, W.L. Whyte bought the butcher shop. He continued to run the shop until 1954.

In 1946, Elva Keith and Mary Clark opened a hairdressing salon on the second floor. By 1953, Keith, a beautician, ran the business by herself and was here into the late 1960s.

The store was taken over in 1955 by Melville Staffen who ran a plumbing business here until April of 1966. Ruby's Meat Market was the next tenant in July 1966. By 1970, The Seaforth Meat Market, run by William Laverty, was in business here. By 1990, Custom Art Design, run by Robert Dinsmore, was the tenant in this store, replaced by Pete's Paper Clip by 1995.

The advertisement at top centre is from the April 11, 1884 *Huron Expositor*. At bottom centre, the July 24, 1940 Carnival issue. The other two advertisements are from the July 12, 1889 issue.

**DO NOT WAIT BUT MOVE FORWARD.**

We are anxious that you should see our goods and know our prices.

**NOW IS THE TIME**

While stock is unbroken to make choice selections.

**—STILL PROGRESSING.—**

Our purchases for this season have eclipsed all former ones. We are now in a position to give you goods cheaper than ever.

**REMEMBER**

We have no real old stock on hand. Produce same as cash.

**J. L. SMITH,**

Staple and Fancy Dry Goods and Groceries, one door south of Mrs. Kidd's Hardware Store, Seaforth.

## The New Grocery, SEAFORTH. Sharp & Livens

Have opened a new Grocery and Provision Store on Main Street, Seaforth, first store south of Kidd's Hardware store. They have a complete stock of

**GROCERIES,**

**CROCKERY,**

**SEEDS,**

**PROVISIONS, &c.**

**Everything Fresh and New.**

These goods have been purchased on the most favorable terms, and will be sold **VERY CHEAP FOR CASH.**

The highest market price allowed for Farm Produce.

Our motto is profits and quick returns  
Call and see us.

**SHARP & LIVENS,  
SEAFORTH.**



# Delicious MEATS

● Regardless of what your meat requirements are, you will shop here where values are high and prices are low.

## J. W. Beattie

**BUTCHER**

Phone 196 : Seaforth

## JOHN BEATTIE,

Clerk of the Second Division Court  
County of Huron.

Commissioner, Conveyancer, Land, Loan  
and Insurance Agent.

**Funds Invested and to Loan.**

OFFICE—Over Sharp & Livens' store, Main  
street, Seaforth. 1116tf

# Whitney Block

23-27 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1877

*W* Scott Robertson, in 1863, had a grocery and seed store in the north part of Duncan & Co.'s frame building which extended to the south corner of this lot. J. Duncan & Co. occupied the south part of the building. Both were in business here until 1871. Logan & Jamieson took over Robertson's Italian Warehouse and William Ballantyne, also a shoe merchant, took over the south store, both until 1874.

At the time the building was razed by fire in 1876, Mrs. Whitney had her tinsmith shop in the north part, and a hardware store and her home, in the south part. J. Duncan, who owned Mrs. Whitney's building and two adjoining stores, suffered a loss of \$3,000 but was insured for \$2,000. Next door to the north, Miss Leitch (Leach) had a millinery shop. She lost \$500 in goods and had no insurance. Mrs. Whitney erected a temporary building while Miss Leach secured rooms over the block opposite the Commercial Hotel.

In its September 15, 1876 issue *The Huron Expositor* reported: "Mr. Duncan has disposed of the lot on the corner opposite the *Expositor* office, and facing on Main Street, to Mrs. Whitney, for the sum of \$2,150. This is a good property and well worth the money. Mrs. Whitney is erecting a frame building for immediate use and has already commenced laying down material for two large brick stores." In 1877, she let the contract to build a 3-store brick block to Walter Mullen.

The Whitney brothers, William and Charles, opened their Seaforth Stove & Tin Emporium in the south store in 1877. They dissolved their partnership

in 1883, and Charles Whitney continued in the business on his own. On August 21, 1891 *The Huron Expositor* reported: Business Change – Mr. C.M. Whitney, who has been in the stove and tinware business here for many years, and who has grown up

A LARGE  
STOCK OF HATS & CAPS!

LATEST STYLES!

JUST ARRIVED!

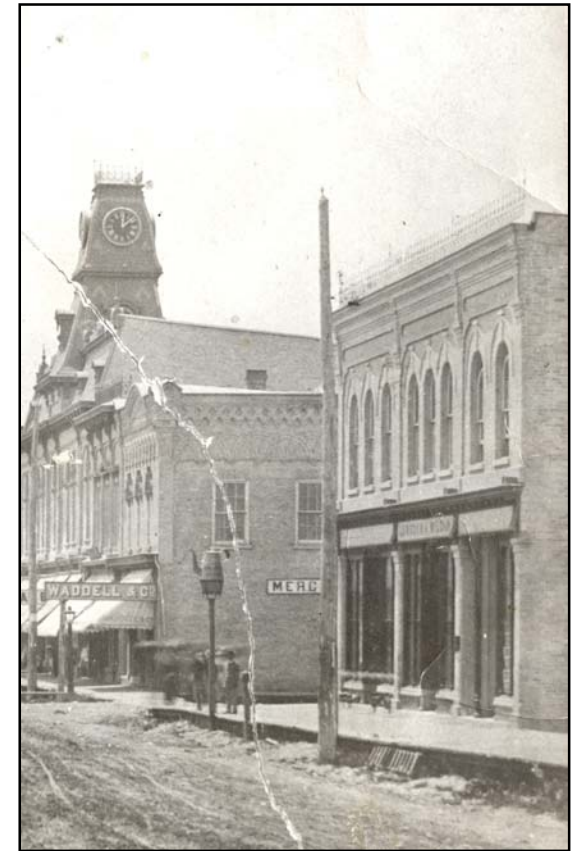


AT J. DUNCAN & CO'S,  
CALL AND SEE THEM.

**SUGAR** *Cheaper than ever!*  
**At Scott Robertson's.**

---

☞ 50 barrels Refined Sugars,  
☞ 10 hogsheads Raw Sugar, First-Class for Preserving.



The Whitney Block when newly built in June 1878. The "Sign of the Coffee Pot" distinguishes Whitney's tinshop. Lumsden & Wilson, Druggists, had the middle store and Christopher Armstrong, stationer, was in the north store. The advertisements at left are from the *Huron Expositor*, August 27, 1869 and March 17, 1871.

with the place, has disposed of his business to Messrs. Mullett & Jackson, of Toronto, who have already taken possession. We have pleasure in welcoming Messrs. Mullett & Jackson to Seaforth, and we hope their residence with us will be long and profitable. They are young men who come well recommended and having a



thorough practical knowledge of the business they undertake will, we have no doubt, push it with energy and enterprise, and we predict for them success. We do not know what Mr. Whitney intends turning his attention to, but we hope he will remain in Seaforth, as we do not want to lose any of our good citizens, although we may get others equally as good in their place.” Sydney Mullet was 27 at the time and J.R. Jackson was 24. They were in business here until 1894.

Lumsden & Wilson had their drug store in the middle store from 1877 to 1879. J. McLoughlin opened a dry goods and groceries store with millinery department in 1881 and was here until 1885. In 1887, Harry J. Scott opened a grocery here. By August 1889, he had been replaced by John L. Smith’s clothing store. Smith stayed in business here until 1893.

The smaller north store was occupied by a series of photographer’s studios starting with Charles Moore in 1879. The Wade Bros., B.J. and Walter, opened Wade’s Photo Gallery & Music Store in 1880. They dissolved their partnership in October, 1884, and Walter continued business on his own until 1887. Allan Bauslaugh, age 33 when he opened his store in 1888, was here until 1895. The May 31, 1895 *Huron Expositor* announced: “Business Change – Mr. A. Bauslaugh, who has carried on a successful photographing business in town for a number of years, has disposed of his business to Mr. W.F. Tate, of North Bay. Mr. Tate has rented the residence of Mr. James Weir on Goderich Street east and will move his family here about the 10<sup>th</sup> of June when he will take possession of the business. He comes highly recommended and will be welcomed as a worthy citizen. Mr. Bauslaugh’s many friends in town will be sorry to learn of this change as it will in

all probability necessitate his removal from Seaforth.” William F. Tate was in business here for only one year. Mr. Bauslaugh purchased a photograph gallery in Walkerton in 1896. He soon moved on to Winnipeg in 1897 where he continued his photographic art for many years.

J.P. Henderson, age 28 in 1896, took over Tate’s photograph gallery and proved more successful in the photography business, staying until 1902. Jackson Bros. replaced Henderson in 1903, L.C. Jackson becoming the sole proprietor by 1904. By 1913, J.T. Fell had taken over from Jackson and captured photographic likenesses until 1916. D.F. Buck was snapped photos here from 1917 until 1926. Samuel Jackson was the next photographer to take up business here in 1927. Isabella Jackson managed the shop on her own from 1935-39.

After Mullett & Jackson left the south store in 1894, Hugh Greive had a seed store here for a year or two. Then, Richardson & McGinnis moved in.

On November 20, 1896 *The Huron Expositor* reported: “Richardson & McGinnis, of town, will shortly remove their stock of boots and shoes to the corner store in the Whitney Block, lately vacated by Mr. Broderick. The store is to be fitted up with plate-glass front and otherwise made up-to-date.” Richardson & McGinnis were here until 1907.

Harry R. Scott Shoes took over the south store from 1908 to 1918. Then, the store was vacant for a while before Marshall Stewart expanded his business into this store thus occupying both the south and middle parts of the store block.

The middle store was a jewellery store for a while. C.A. Humber & Son ran it from 1897-99, and W.R. Counter was here until 1903. The store then remained vacant until John and William Sproat opened their grocery store in 1909. Henry Levins took over from them in about 1914 and G.F.S. Garden succeeded Levins in 1918. Garden was here only two years when Marshall Stewart moved in.



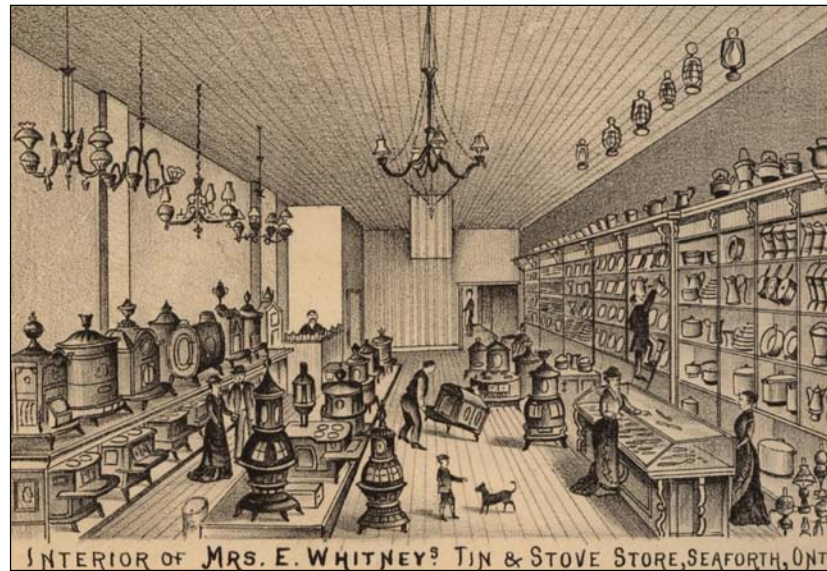
Photographs taken by Wade’s Photo Gallery, A. Bauslaugh’s Photograph Gallery, and the Jackson Bros. Photograph Gallery

Stewart was here for most of the 1920s. Jeffrey Arch was in business here briefly. Nelley Price was the next grocer in business here for many years, from 1930 to 1941. William A. Wright was the merchant here for the rest of the 1940s and most of the 1950s until the United Dairy & Poultry Co-op moved in 1958 and was a tenant here until 1964. The store was vacant for a time then Moore's Bulk Food had moved in by 1985. It was replaced by The Seaforth Meat Market, run by William Laverty, had re-located here by 1990.

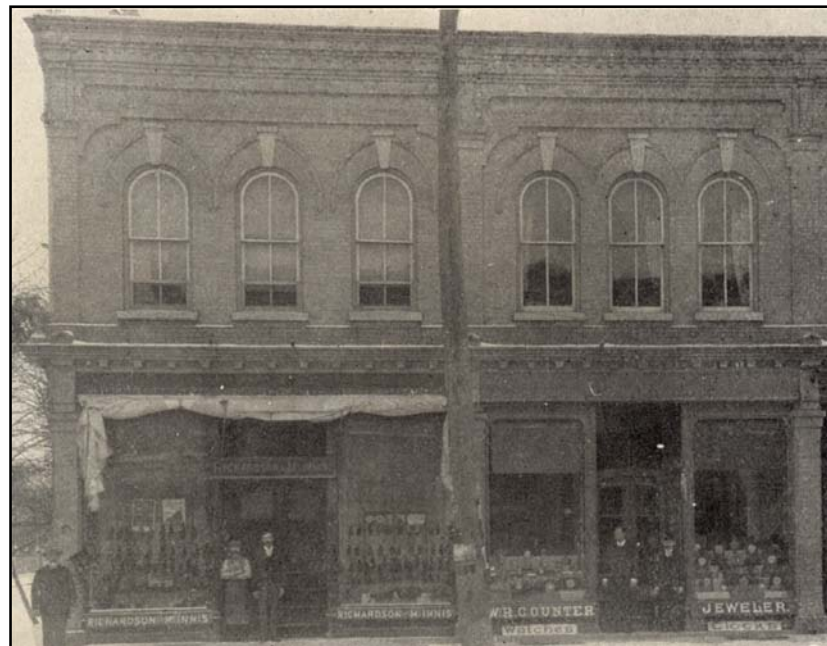
In 1926, after Marshall Stewart went out of business, Thomas Dickson had a seed store in the south part of the block. He was in business here into the early 1940s. H.R. Spence & Sons, Produce Merchants, took over the space in 1942. It was Bailey's Florist shop by 1947. Then, Garfield and William Smith purchased the store in 1953 and operated a grocery here until 1965.

The north store was John Pullman's Barbershop in the 1940s and 1950s. The Canadian Tire Store occupied the middle and north stores in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Roth's Food Market was here by 1975. Later, by 1985, Larivee Auctions had a business in the space. Seaforth Grocer was the tenant of the middle and north stores in 1995.

Whitney's Block is a long 2½-storey brick block with a handsome upper façade distinguished by five bays of varying widths within which are rounded arch windows surmounted by a decorative brick frieze. Above the windows are corbelled brick arches with keystones. The overall effect is very beautifully proportioned and detailed. The storefront façade has been completely remodeled using metal siding for the sign fascia and old brick for the window walls.



Belden's 1879 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Huron County* shows this sketch of Mrs. E. Whitney's Tinshop and Stove Store.



In 1900, Richardson & McGinnis had their boots and shoes store in the corner space and W.R. Counter, a jeweller, had the middle store.

## SPECIAL VALUES

—IN—

Ladies' Fast Black Hose,  
Ladies' Tans and Drab Hose,  
Ladies' Black Lisle Hose,  
Misses' Fast Black Hose.

## GLOVES.

Ladies' Fast Black Lisle,  
Ladies' Black Taffeta Gloves,  
Ladies' Black and  
Colored Silk Gloves.

## MITTS.

Ladies' Cream Silk Mitts,  
Ladies' Tan Silk Mitts,  
Ladies' Black Silk Mitts.

Also a choice lot of Belts. White  
Lawn Aprons at 30c, 40c, 50c; Lawns  
and Checked Muslins.

CALL AND SEE THEM

—AT—

J. L. SMITH'S,

Whitney's - Block, - Seaforth.

"SECURE your shadow ere  
the substance fades." Charles  
Moore is now in full blast in his  
new Photographic Studio,  
Whitney's Block, Seaforth. 583

Advertisements, *Huron Expositor*, June 30,  
1893; February 21, 1879.



## FALL AND WINTER GOODS

—AT—

### J. McLOUGHLIN'S, The Bargain House of Seaforth.

Piles of New Goods arrived and more coming of every description, to suit everybody, and at such prices as have never been seen before in the history of the trade.

Having finished my fifth year of successful business and pleasant relations with the people of Seaforth and surrounding country, I will begin this season by giving my old customers, and as many new ones as favor me with a call,

#### Dry Goods, Millinery and Groceries

At such low prices as will make them go home pleased, and to remember that McLoughlin's Great Bargain House, Seaforth, is the place to spend their money and do their trading.

All are invited to come and examine for themselves. Butter and Eggs taken.

J. McLoughlin, Whitney's Block, Seaforth.

## MULLETT & JACKSON, Hardware, Stove & Tin Merchants, SEAFORTH.

We are now prepared to ask a share of your patronage in Hardware, as we have a well-assorted stock of goods, including

#### Harvest Tools, Builders' Hardware, Paints, Oils, Glass and Outlery.

Also remember, we handle a fine line of Stoves and Tinware, and our Metallic Shingles are taking the lead for roofing. Inspect before putting on the wood shingle.

☞ All Orders Promptly Attended to.

**MULLETT & JACKSON, Seaforth,**  
STOVES, TINWARE AND HOUSE FURNISHING EMPORIUM.



# SHOES

### Back of Our Shoes

is our reputation for the newest styles, the best qualities and the fairest prices. We offer every patron a square deal when it comes to

### Good Shoes

at the right prices.

Just now there are some particularly smart styles for autumn and early winter already here. We invite you to come and see our display and try on some of these new models. Can you call this week?

## H. R. SCOTT

Home of Good Shoes.  
SEAFORTH

A selection of advertisements representing some of the businesses in Whitney's Block over the years: clockwise from bottom left: *Huron Expositor*, July 4, 1893; December 24, 1886; September 26, 1913; August 24, 1888; August 2, 1895.

BAUSLAUGH'S

## Photograph Gallery

Is the place to get your work done.

We make all kinds and sizes from the small Minnette or sunbeams to Life Size work. All work made by the instantaneous process. No trouble with the

## BABIES

We catch them so quickly you can have them laughing or crying, as you choose. We also have the finest assortment of Picture Frames and Mouldings in town. Also Chromos, Artotypes, etc., for sale cheap.

Give us a call.

## BAUSLAUGH,

Successor to Wade, in the Whitney Block,  
Seaforth. 1078

## Photo Studio . . Changed Hands.

Bauslaugh's Ground Floor Studio, Seaforth, has been bought out by

## W. F. TATE.

I have every facility for turning out first-class work, having engaged the services of Mr. W. Downs, late operator and manager for C.S. Cochrane's studio, Brantford. A nice selection of Frames, Etchings, Pastels, Oil Paintings, &c., on hand. Artistic photos any style, on gloss or matt surface paper. Enlargements made in Bromide, Crayon, &c. Duplicate photos of all sittings, made by Mr. Bauslaugh, can be had at studio.

Prices are Right and Satisfaction Guaranteed.

**WM. F. TATE,**  
THE GROUND FLOOR STUDIO, C4th.

# PHOTOGRAPHS.

The new operator at Wade's Gallery is thoroughly experienced. All late improvements in the art are brought into use by him; therefore, those who give us a trial may look for work equal to that of any first-class gallery.

## PICTURE FRAMES

Which are kept in great variety, are cut very close in price, and every person having a cabinet or other large picture made, will be supplied with a frame at wholesale price. Any size or design of frame made to order.

## PIANOS AND ORGANS.

We have now in stock a good display of those instruments, and as we have previously announced, any person buying direct from the store, will save enough ready cash to take them on a holiday trip at Christmas. We are desirous that every family should have the best organ or piano in the market, therefore buy the Dominion at wholesale price at

**Wade's Photo Gallery and Music Store,**  
*S E A F O R T H.*



The interior of W.R. Counter's jewellery store in 1902. Advertisement: *Huron Expositor*, December 31, 1886.



# James Dickson Store

33 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1863

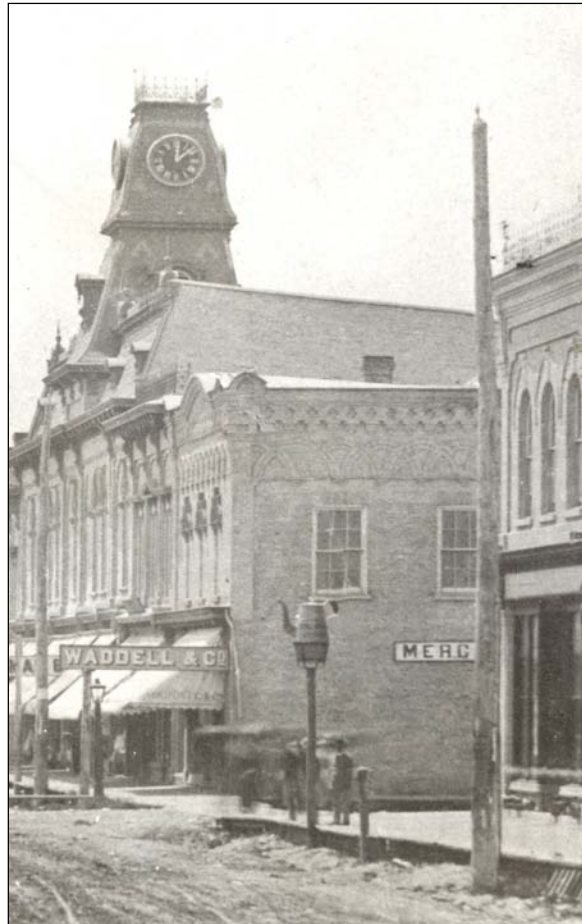
This is the first brick store built in Seaforth. It was built by James Dickson and his son, Archibald, was the first tenant, and the village's postmaster. The store housed the post office from 1863 until 1869. Samuel Dickson took over as postmaster in 1865 when Archibald was appointed postmaster of Goderich. Dr. Campbell MD had offices above the store from 1870-72.

Gray, Young & Sparling opened a store here some time in 1874. After that, Thomas Waddell & Co. had a dry goods store here for two years from 1877-78. The photograph of Main Street taken in 1878 shows his store, identified by a large over-the-street sign.

John Logan operated a successful grocery store here throughout the 1880s. Then, the Sept. 5, 1890 issue of the *Huron Expositor* noted a business change:

Hamilton & McGinnis – removed to John Logan's old stand corner of Main and John Streets, first door north of MR Counter's Jewelry Establishment.

Hamilton & McGinnis soon became Richardson & McGinnis in late 1891, and continued in the boot and shoe business here until 1896. In a notice of the business change printed in the Nov. 20, 1891 issue of the *Huron Expositor*, William Hamilton is described as "a shrewd, energetic business man [who] took an active interest in everything calculated to advance the interest of the town, and was rapidly working his way to the front as one of our most enterprising and leading citizens." He moved to Stratford to take up the large retail business he had



This 1878 photograph of the West side of Main Street shows Thomas Waddell & Co.'s large over-the-street sign.

purchased from his brother. His successor, Mr. Richardson, is described as "a young man of good business ability, steady habits, and a favorite with all

1877. WINTER. 1877.

ON SATURDAY. 20TH OF JANUARY,

WADDELL & CO.,

WILL COMMENCE A GREAT CLEARING SALE OF

|             |             |         |      |     |     |      |      |
|-------------|-------------|---------|------|-----|-----|------|------|
| DDDD        | RRRR        | Y' Y    | GGGG | 000 | 000 | DDDD | SSSS |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| D D R R Y Y | G G O O O O | D D S S |      |     |     |      |      |
| DDDD        | RRRR        | Y' Y    | GGGG | 000 | 000 | DDDD | SSSS |

READYMADE CLOTHING

HATS AND CAPS,

GENTS' FURNISHINGS, &c.

THE SALE WILL CONTINUE FOR 30 DAYS,

And the Whole of Our Stock will be

|             |           |           |           |           |           |       |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| 00000       | FFFFF     | FFFFF     | EEEEEE    | RRRRR     | EEEEEE    | DDDDD |
| 0 O F F F F | F F F F F | E E E E E | R R R R R | E E E E E | D D D D D |       |
| 0 O F F F F | F F F F F | E E E E E | R R R R R | E E E E E | D D D D D |       |
| 0 O F F F F | F F F F F | E E E E E | R R R R R | E E E E E | D D D D D |       |
| 0 O F F F F | F F F F F | E E E E E | R R R R R | E E E E E | D D D D D |       |
| 00000       | F F F F F | E E E E E | R R R R R | E E E E E | DDDDD     |       |

At PRICES that Cannot Fail to Effect

A SPEEDY CLEARANCE.

A CALL RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

WADDELL & CO.

who know him." In 1896, Richardson & McGinnis moved across the street to the corner store of the Whitney Block. Above their first store, Dr. F.W. Tweddle had a dentist's office from 1891-99.

**BOOTS FOR THE FALL.**

*Fall Weather Calls for Strong Boots & Shoes*

**HAMILTON & McINNIS**

Have made great preparations for the fall trade. We have had our premises all refitted so as to accommodate our customers properly, and we have our store well filled with a first class stock of goods.

Everybody should see our stock of **LONG BOOTS** before buying. We have imported our long boots from the United States, and they are, without exception, the finest goods we have ever handled for the money. Come and see them, they are from 10 to 20 per cent. better value than our Canadian goods. Also a full line of Women's, Misses' and Children's staple goods in kip and split, which we are selling at close prices. Another shipment of Slippers for 25c a pair. Come and get a pair of our Men's Bals., nicely made and tipped, at \$1.35. A good strong neatly made laced boot for women, all solid, for \$1.

**TRUNKS AND VALISES.**

A large shipment just to hand, which will be sold cheap at

**HAMILTON & McINNIS',**

Corner of Main and John Streets, in John Logan's Old Stand.

Above: *Huron Expositor*, November 6, 1891; Below: *Huron Expositor*, July 24, 1940 Carnival issue.

**'Things We Didn't Have Ten Years Ago**

SEAFORTH SUMMER CARNIVALS, STREAMLINE TRAINS, TELEVISION, SYNTHETIC RUBBER, POLARIZED GLASS, FLUORESCENT LIGHTING, COLORED HOME MOVIES, ETC., ETC., AND VALUES LIKE THESE:—

|                           |     |                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| WOODBURY'S FACIAL SOAP    | 24c | SUMMER TALCS              | 25c |
| SPECIAL..... 4 for        |     | SPECIAL, 14c.....2 for    |     |
| English Style FRUIT SALTS | 75c | Colgate's TOOTH PASTE and | 40c |
| 1-lb. Tin, 39c.....2 for  |     | HALO SHAMPOO, for.....    |     |
| BATHING..... 15c up       | 35c | TONEKA—A Real Tonic       | 98c |
| CAPS..... 15c up          |     | and Purifier.....         |     |
| Casplan Heavy RUSSIAN     | 98c | CASHMERE BOUQUET          | 17c |
| OIL—40-oz. Bottle.....    |     | SOAP.....3 for            |     |
| MILK OF MAGNESIA—32-oz.   | 59c | CIRCUS POPCORN PIE        | 10c |
| SPECIAL.....              |     | New and Tasty.....        |     |

**McKindsey's Drug Store**

We Do the Best Photo Work in Town

In 1899, the store again became the site of a grocery, The Maple Leaf Grocery, run by Peter Dill until 1907. Dill placed this ad in the Nov. 21, 1902 issue of *The Huron Expositor*.

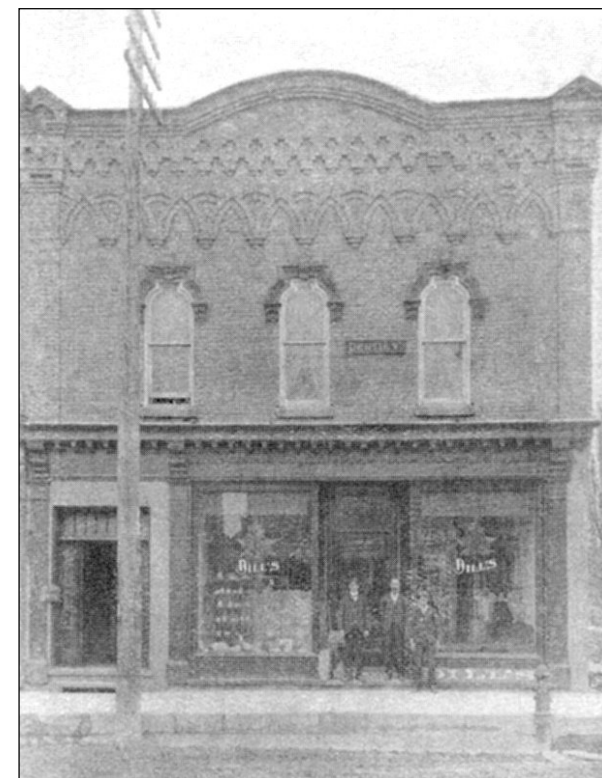
New Christmas fruits just received. A fresh stock of crystalized cherries, peaches, apricots, pineapples and green gages. If you want high class goods you will get them at the Maple Leaf Store.

Dr. R.R. Ross had the dentist's office above, and later had an office at the John Street side. Dr. J.A. Munn purchased the dental practice of Dr. R.R. Ross in 1925. In 1927 Dr. W.C. Sproat, a young medical doctor aged 26, rented office space here.

For many decades the building was occupied by a drug store. Charles Aberhart's Pharmacy was here for 30 years from 1908 to 1938, run by Charles Sr., and later by his son, Charles Aberhart Jr. The Aberhart name became a well-known one in the 1930s when a brother, William, a radio evangelist popularly known as "Bible Bill" was elected leader of the Alberta Social Credit Party.

In 1939, Charles Aberhart's drug store gave way to RR McKindsey's. McKindsey was here almost as long — for 27 years until 1966.

In 1996 the store went back to its roots, in a way, becoming a modern-day version of the old dry goods store, a variety store. Bob & Betty's Variety was in business here until 1997. At that time Nifty Korner's, a giftwares and electronics store, was started by Danica and Jim McNichol.



Peter Dill's Maple Leaf Grocery is shown here in a photograph taken about 1900. A small sign between two upper windows advertises Dr. R.R. Ross' dental office.

The building is yellow brick. Note the wide band of decorative brickwork and the curve of the roofline. The main floor has been renovated, but the heavy protruding cornice with Italianate brackets and dentils is much the same as when the store was built. The detailed window labels and label stops, along with the sills, are made of concrete. A unique feature of the building today is the angled entrance at the northeast corner. In the early photographs you can see that both original doorways face Main Street. The doorways, particularly the one leading to the second floor, are in the Canada West Classical Revival style with rectangular sidelights and transom.



# Moses R. Counter Store

35-37 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1874-75

Two large British flags marked the location of L.R. Corbey's store here from May of 1869 until 1874. A May 14, 1869 advertisement in *The Huron Expositor* declared that Corbey had re-opened R.H. Collier's store and was selling "the entire bankrupt stock ... at a fearful sacrifice." Six months earlier, R.H. Collier had advertised an extensive list of goods "as cheap as those of the largest wholesale houses in the city." He sold fancy repps and Empress cloth, stylish millinery, mantles and cloakings, boots and shoes, "clouds" and furs, new fruits and fresh groceries, crockery and glassware.

In 1874, Moses R. Counter, a 28-year-old watchmaker who had established a business in the village in 1867, bought part of Lot 32 from James Dickson. The *Huron Expositor* of November 6, 1874 reported: "The brick work on Mr. Counter's building is now completed, and the roof is being put on. This will be one of the neatest and handsomest buildings on Main street. Mr. William Shaw was the contractor for the brick work of this and the Oddfellows' building, and the workmanship on both is most creditable to his skill as a mechanic. Mr. Alexander Scott has the contract for the carpenter work on Mr. Counter's building."

Mr. Counter opened his jewellery and fancy goods store here on March 1, 1875. He ran a successful business and, in 1890, turned it over to W.R. Counter. W.R. was less successful, declaring insolvency by the end of 1895. Fred T. Davis, Jeweler, bought the stock, but he was here for just one year. W.R. Counter opened another jewellery

store a few doors north on the same side of Main Street (see the story for Whitney's Block).

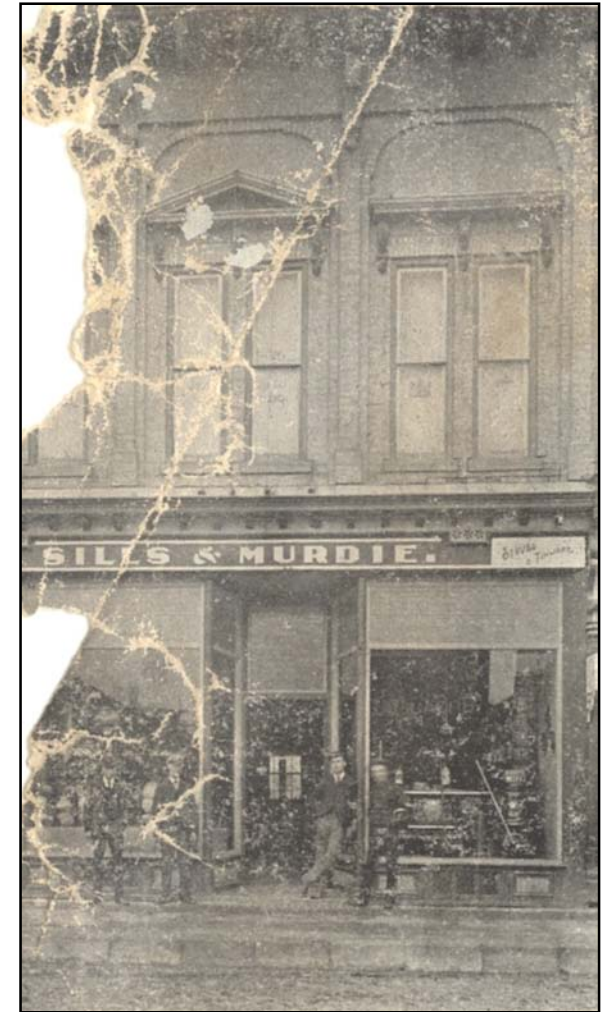
In 1874, the Britannia Masonic Lodge, No. 170, rented the hall above Counter's store at \$100.00 per year. The hall was officially opened on March 3, 1875. To this day, the Britannia Masonic Lodge owns and occupies the same space.

By 1896, the building was owned by Dr. R.E. Cooper of Constance. George A. Sills and William Murdie opened The Central Hardware Store here in 1897. George A. Sills operated the hardware and tinsmith business here from 1905 to 1921, before moving down the street to the present location of the Sills Home Hardware store.

Thomas Ferguson, opened a clothing and dry goods store here in 1922 and was here for two years. The next occupant was R.J. Gibb, who also ran a clothing store called The Toggery Shop, here from 1925 to 1927. Charles and Harry Stewart were the next clothing merchants to have a store in this space. They were in business here from 1929-31.

Angus Carter, a grocer, moved into the store in 1932. By this time J.W. Thompson, a farmer, was the owner of the lot and store. Dominion Stores, with T.J. Kiernan as manager in 1935 and Eric Griff in 1937, were in business here from 1935-38. The next grocer to occupy this store was Ross Sproat who opened for business in 1939. Sproat and his wife, Emma, were here 11 years, until 1950. Other grocers here in the 1950s were Orville Cooper in 1951-52, Levi Eckenswiller from 1953-58, and Mr. Cooper again in 1959. The Masonic Society became the owner of the building by 1955.

By 1965, there were two stores located in this building. John Pullman had a barbershop in the



Sills & Murdie's Stoves & Tinware store as shown in *Seaforth Biographical Historical*, a 1902 souvenir issue of the *Seaforth Sun*.

north store space. Donald Eaton, an insurance broker, had an office in the south store space. They were both in business here into the late 1970s.

More recent occupants of the store were the Knitter's Loft Shops in the late 1980s and Primrose & Panache in the early 1990s. By 1994, Tremere Commercial Printers had opened for business here.

It is a 2½ storey yellow brick building. The upper storey is divided by four narrow pilasters with imitation braces to the entablature above. Inset between the pilasters are three sets of narrow rectangular windows with flat, gauged labels. The roof cornice has been removed (the photo of McFaul's store in the Cardno Block story shows you what the cornice likely looked like). The main floor cornice is still in place supported by many small brackets. Beneath the main floor cornice are two small decorative grilles placed in from either end of the façade. At either end of the façade are huge wooden scroll brackets, taking up the top third of the main floor height at this point. Round metal pillars frame either side of the inset centre doorway. At the south end of the façade is the doorway to the second floor. Its transom lights have been closed in.

**CENTRAL**  
*Hardware Store,*  
**SEAFORTH.**  
**Steel Ranges.**

Call and examine our Steel Ranges before purchasing from pedlars. It takes 28 inch wood, and has an extra large oven, and will cost you \$25 less.

Complete stock of Sap Buckets and Spiles at bottom prices. Sap pans made to order. Get our prices for Builders' Hardware.

**Sills & Murdie**  
**HARDWARE,**  
Counter's Old Stand, Seaforth.

**EASE AND COMFORT**



**THE BLESSING OF PERFECT SIGHT.**

There is nothing so valuable as perfect sight, and perfect sight can only be obtained by using Perfect Spectacles, the difficulty of procuring which is well known.

Messrs. Lazarus & Morris, Oculists & Opticians, Hartford, Conn., Manufacturers of the Celebrated Perfected Spectacles, have after years of Experience, and the erection of costly machinery, been enabled to produce that Grand Desideratum, Perfect Spectacles, which have been sold with unlimited satisfaction to the wearers in the United States, Prince Edward's Island, and Dominion of Canada, during the past nine years those Celebrated Perfected Spectacles never tire the eye, and last many years without change.

Sole Agent for Seaforth, M. R. Counter, from whom only they can be procured.

LAZARUS, MORRIS & CO.,  
Montreal.

**WE EMPLOY NO PEDLERS.**

Seaforth, Jan'y. 21st, 1870.

76-ly.

Advertisements, starting at left, are from the March 11, 1898 and March 25, 1870 issues of *The Huron Expositor* and *The Seaforth Sun*, October 31, 1884.

**AMERICAN WATCHES.**

—(x + x) = —

Fall in prices in all kinds and grades of American Watches

**TWENTY PER CENT. LOWER THAN EVER.**

—A FULL LINE AT—

**COUNTER'S JEWELLERY  
EMPORIUM.**

The Finest, Largest, and Cheapest stock in the Country

—IN—

JEWELLERY,  
WATCHES,  
CLOCKS AND  
SILVER-PLATED WARE.

**REPAIRING**

In all the Branches of Watches, Clocks and Jewellery, fine Watch repairing a specialty, (23 years experience.) All work guaranteed to give satisfaction. Look out for the tree of Silver Ware in window. It is the place.

**M. R. COUNTER,**

THE LEADING AND RELIABLE JEWELLER

Directly opposite J. S. Porter's cheap cash furniture store.

**STOP!**

Come and See my Baby  
Carriages.



# Cardno Block

39-47 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1877

Cardno Block was built in 1877, at a time when Seaforth was at an economic peak, and soon after the fire of 1876 had destroyed much of Main Street to the north and east.

Alexander Cardno already owned the adjacent lot to the south when he bought this property from Simon Powell. Powell, an inn keeper, had a hotel here from 1873 to 1877. In 1873, in the hotel or in a separate store on the same lot, was William Newman's barbershop and William Ault's grocery store. Cardno tore down the hotel and adjacent building to make way for his block of "five large commodious stores." With the building of Cardno Block there was to be a complete and unbroken brick row from John to Market Streets.

Cardno Block is the largest block in the town, built in an eclectic Second Empire style. Belden's 1879 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Huron* describes Cardno Block: "In it is located the celebrated Cardno Music Hall. The building is of white brick, two full storeys, besides basement and mansard; it is of very handsome design with brown stone trimmings, and slate-covered. The central part is surmounted by a beautiful tower of rectangular superficies, with truncated roof in two courses, in the upper one of which are circular openings for clock-dial, and the whole is crowned by wrought iron cresting resting on an ornate cornice, adding materially to the general effect. Mr. Cardno has placed, at great expense, a public clock in this tower, and a handsome or more conspicuous one is not seen in any city or town in the country. The works are from a celebrated Boston manufacturer, and cost about \$1,000, packed and ready for shipment; and

the adjusting and other necessary works in connection with its erection cost an additional \$1,000. The whole structure cost over \$30,000 and is lighted throughout with gas manufactured on the premises." Cardno Music Hall had its grand opening on the evening of December 15, 1877.



When this picture was taken in 1880 Hoffman Bros. sold cloth and clothing from the two north stores; Laidlaw & Fairley ran The Central Grocery from the centre store under the clock tower; A.G. McDougall & Co.'s Dry Goods store was next under the sign of the three 7s; and, at the south end, was A. Cardno's grocery store.

*The Huron Expositor* of January 25, 1878 reported on "The New Scenery for the New Hall" saying that Mr. L.F. Wheeler of Tecumseh, Michigan had been engaged for several weeks to paint eight different scenes, and "with exquisite skill and taste" had produced a landscape, rocks, woods, a street, parlor, kitchen, bedroom, and prison. Will Clarke, a scenic artist from Clipper, New York, was hired to handpaint the stage curtain with a central scene of a fisherman and a castle, bordered by advertisements for local businesses.

The large main ballroom has a 23' (7.7 m) ceiling with a stage at one end and a balcony at the opposite end. There are also dressing rooms and a banquet hall. The long wooden benches used to seat the audience made set-up easy for a variety of functions.

Advertisements in local newspapers announced such entertainments as "a grand dramatic comedy," a vaudeville show, an opera company performance, a dance, or a lecture. The Hall was "crowded to excess on the occasion of the ex-Monk preaching .... Every available seat, including the steps to the stage, was occupied" one Sunday in January 1878.

Seaforth Collegiate Institute held its graduation ceremonies here. Cardno Hall was a gathering place for

events sponsored by local service groups and a forum from which politicians could address their platforms. Patriotic concerts were given during World War I, some led by Grace McFaul Mullen, a Seaforth native and singer who lived in the Lorne Villa mansion.

The first tenants in the five Cardno Block stores, starting with the north store, were Alex Cardno's clothing store, Hoffman Bros., Laidlaw & Fairley, McDougall & Halley, and Alex Cardno's bakery. Alex Cardno vacated the north store and Hoffman Bros., William and Samuel, expanded their store into this space in 1880. W.W. Hoffman was operating the store by 1887 and was in business here until 1897. Laidlaw & Fairley ran The Central Grocery in the middle store until 1886. J.C. Laidlaw took over and was here until 1894. (John Fairley opened his own store in Sam Dickson's Block in 1889.) McDougall & Halley operated under the banner of A.G. McDougall & Co. until 1880. C.W. Papst opened his bookstore in this space in 1881 and was in business here until 1891. Alex Cardno had his bakery in the south store until 1889. Cardno had a bakery in a frame building on part of this lot in the early 1870s.

In 1880, the Hoffman Bros. expanded their business into the north store. Cardno also maintained an office in this store. In the February 28, 1890 issue of the *Seaforth Sun*, he advertised "Ordered Clothing." J.S. Roberts moved his drug store into Store No. 1, or north store, in 1888 and was here until 1893. W.W. Hoffman was still in business in Store No. 2 until 1897 when Leonard Smith opened a boot and shoe store here.

The middle store, Store No. 3, was occupied by William Saddler from 1895-96. In 1897, William Pickard opened another branch of his clothing and dry goods business in this space. In 1892, Julius Duncan and J.H. Pyper had taken over C.W. Papst's bookstore, in Store No. 4, and had a dry goods business here. A.E. Pentecost succeeded them, and, from 1895 to 1899, William Pickard was the proprietor of this store and J.C. Abell was the



James C. Laidlaw was one of the first merchants to move shop from Harpurhey into Seaforth. His first store in town was in Samuel Dickson's block. Laidlaw, the centre man in the photo, partnered with John Fairley, the man to the left. They were in business in the Cardno Block store until 1886. Fairley moved back to the original store location and Laidlaw carried on here until 1894. The man on the right is Mr. Haxby. Ad: *The Huron Expositor*, September 21, 1877 and February 21, 1879.

**STOCK OF DRESS GOODS**  
NOW COMPLETE AT  
**HOFFMAN BROTHERS' CHEAP CASH STORE,**  
MAIN STREET, SEAFORTH,  
*In the Latest Fabrics and Leading Shades, also Buttons, Fringes, Braids,  
Silk Embroidered Galloons, Wool Daisy Galloons, &c., to match.*

---

**JUST OPENED, 25 DOZEN LADIES' 2-BUTTONED KID GLOVES,**  
IN SHADES TO MATCH THE ABOVE DRESS GOODS. ALSO EVENING  
SHADES. LADIES' JACKETS A SPECIALTY.

---

**GRAND OPENING OF THE MILLINERY SHOW ROOM**  
ON SATURDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER, 1877.  
**SEE PARTICULARS NEXT WEEK.**  
Four Doors South of } **HOFFMAN BROTHERS.**  
the Post Office.

manager. This store was the ladies' department of Pickard's business. His men's wear store was in Thomas Kidd Block across from the Town Hall. By 1900, Pickard had moved "The Ladies' Store" branch to the Kidd Block location. Abell joined with J.W. Ortwein who had a clothing and dress goods store in Store No. 3 once Pickard vacated. He was here until 1901.

There were a few short-lived businesses here in the middle store, in the 1900s, until 1907 when John Staples opened his barbershop. Staples served his customers here into the early 1910s. After Pentecost left the fourth store, Alex Cardno had his clothing store here. Cardno brothers grocery was also here, from 1902 into the early 1920s.

Store No. 5, which started out as Cardno's Bakery, became Isaac

V. Fear's Drug Store in 1894. Charles Aberhart worked with Fear from 1902-07. By 1914, W.H. Hayes ran the drug store here.

Sarah Dorrance had a business in Store No. 1 from 1896 to 1899. Mrs. Rudolph replaced her in 1900 and was here until 1902. J.F. Daly had his jewellery store here from 1904 to about 1910. There were a number of barbers in business here in the 1910s. H.R. Scott moved his store south from the Whitney Block location and into this space in

**FRESH ARRIVALS in Choice Valencia**  
Raisins, Cranberries, &c. at LAIDLAW & FAIR-  
LEY'S. 575  
**LAKE HURON Herrings, Trout, and**  
White Fish for Sale at the Central Grocery. LAID-  
LAW & FAIRLEY. 575



1920. J.L. Smith followed suit in 1923. By 1927, this store was a shoe store operated by Sproat & Willis which was changed the next year to Russell Sproat's shoe store. Sproat was here until 1934. The store sat vacant for a year then C.M. Smith opened a restaurant here in 1936 and it continued to be a restaurant into the early 1990s.

J.F. Daly had his jewellery store in Store No. 2 from 1901-03. Speare & Page, Merchant Tailors, were here in 1904, then the store appears to have been vacant for a couple of years before Goldoff & Isaacson opened shop in 1907. It was again vacant in 1909 and 1910. The Bell Telephone Company opened an office in this store some time in the early 1910s and was here for decades, into the early 1960s.

John Beattie opened his new 5¢-\$1 store in Store No. 3 in June of 1935. He had the space "specially rebuilt and refitted to receive him." At the time, Beattie could boast of having been in business in Seaforth for 45 years. He continued in business here for another 20 years. In 1944, Beattie's 5¢-\$1 store expanded into Store No. 4. Stedman Bros. bought the business in 1949 and was still in business as Stedman Bros. Variety Store in 2000.

Walter Robinson had a business in Store No. 5 in the early 1920s. By 1923, Fred Savage had a jewellery store here. This space has housed a jewellery store since then, becoming Ross Savage Jewellers in 1951, Seaforth Jewellers by 1970, operated first by K.A. Lingelbach and then, by 1990, by Ray Anstett.



When this picture was taken in 1900, J.W. Ortwein's Cash Store occupied the centre section, L. Smith's Boots & Shoes was next door to the north and Alex Cardno's Grocery next door to the south. I.V Fear's Drug store occupied the southernmost section. Sarah Dorrance is listed as tenant of the northernmost store.

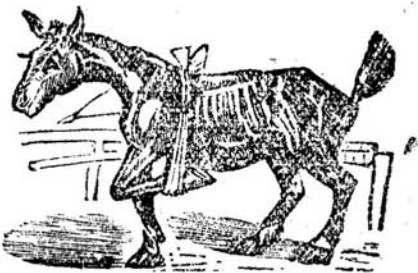
Introducing CARDNO'S New  
VITA - WHITE  
**BREAD**  
**7c Loaf**

**TRY OUR ENTIRELY NEW LOAF**  
Baked to a Satisfying Flavor and Freshness

|                                            |     |                                          |        |
|--------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------|--------|
| SUGAR CRISP CORN<br>FLAKES—3 Pkgs. ....    | 21c | LONDON HOUSE COFFEE<br>1-pound Tin ..... | 45c    |
| THREE STARS BREAD FLOUR<br>98 Pounds ..... |     |                                          | \$2.69 |

**Cardno's GROCERY & BAKERY**

Phone 82      SEAFORTH      Prompt Delivery



**BEFORE USING.**  
A teaspoonful of Fear's Condition Powder in his feed makes all this difference.



**AFTER USING.**  
No wonder that every farmer who uses it recommends it to his neighbor as the best and cheapest condition powder made. Three pounds for 50c at

**FEAR'S DRUG STORE  
SEAFORTH.**

The sign, far left, is one of a collection of store signs displayed in the Seaforth & Area Museum, housed in the Town Hall. The advertisement, centre left, is from *The Huron Expositor*, July 24, 1940 Carnival issue; above, April 4, 1899 *Huron Expositor*.

THE BEST  
**Blackberry Cordial**

For Diarrhoea, Summer Complaint, Cholera Infantum, Dysentery, and generally relaxed condition of the Bowels. It allays vomiting, acts as an astringent without producing costiveness and is so pleasant to the taste that children take it readily.

PRICE, . . . . 25 Cents.

PREPARED BY

**J. S. ROBERTS,**

**CARDNO'S BLOCK.**

Next Door to M. R. Counter's Jewelry or<sup>e</sup>

Roberts' Pleasant

**WORM SYRUP**

Is the most effectual Remedy on the Market for the expulsion of Worms of all kinds; and is so pleasant to take that Children ask for more.

Try a Bottle and be convinced.

PRICE . . . . 25 Cents.

PREPARED BY

**J. S. ROBERTS,**

**Chemist & Druggist,**

Seaforth



**THE NEW FEATURE**

Of our store is the Millinery and Mantle Department. The new Spring Millinery is to hand, and everything strictly new and fashionable is among the collection. This department is under the management of one of much experience and skilled in the millinery art, and who is now ready to greet the ladies of Seaforth and vicinity, and can supply any who may require a Hat or Bonnet previous to the formal opening.

**OUR PURCHASES**

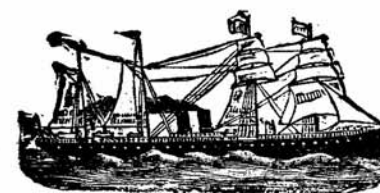
Of Ladies' Spring Mantles have also come to hand. They are from German manufacturers. Were imported directly according to our own special order. They are made of excellent material. They are perfect fitting: They are low in price.

**MEN'S HATS**

Are among the latest arrivals at our store. They are not only the latest arrivals, but positively the latest styles. A peep into our north store window will reveal the fact that we have in stock some nobby Hats.

**DUNCAN & DUNCAN,**

THE PUSHERS AND PROVIDERS,  
**CARDNO'S BLOCK,**  
**SEAFORTH.**



**PENTECOST'S**

Inaugurators  
of  
Low Prices.

The up - to - date  
DRY . . .  
GOODS  
. . HOUSE

Every Department is teeming with Bargains.

Everything must go in the next SIX WEEKS.

We need more room and know how to get it.

We sell first-class goods at such insignificant prices that you can hardly afford to do without them.

**A. E. PENTECOST,**  
SEAFORTH.

*Sign of Big Ship.*

Duncan's Old Stand.

Advertisements, from left: *Huron Expositor*, July 12, 1889; March 10, 1893; and, August 2, 1895.



Beautify Your Homes With

# ARTISTIC . . .

## -:- WALL PAPER.

I can do it with the Newest Goods and at Bottom Prices.

If you contemplate repairing you should see my selection and get my Prices.

**C. W. PAPST'S,**  
SEAFORTH.

## DON'T SUFFER

### With that Lame Back

You will feel fifteen years younger if you take Buchu-Juniper Kidney Pills—25c a box or 5 boxes for \$1. Try a box and if you don't feel fifty cents better, come back and got your money.

A few other items of interest :

Corn Cure—the kind that cures, 10 cents a box ; Blue Jay Plasters, 10 cents a package ; English Castile Soap, 2 pound bar for 25 cents ; Our Own Neuralgic Cure—never fails to cure, 25 cents a bottle ; Trusses to fit any rupture —prices right.

Give us a call.  
Our Stock is New and up-to-date.  
We want your trade.

**C. ABERHART,**  
DRUGGIST,  
CARDNO'S . . . . . BLOCK  
SEAFORTH

## Excellent White Skirts

Wide width, with deep embroidery frill, special 85c.  
A choice Skirt of fine cotton and deep frill at 95c.  
We have an excellent skirt insertion and embroidery, double frill, at \$1.50.

## Well-made Corset Covers

Commencing at 12½c each, and up to 75c—all nice new goods.

## Drawers

At all the prices from 20c up ; choice cotton, embroidery and insertion.  
Any lady can save a lot of trouble by looking into the white wear of this store. All your trouble of making is saved, and you get the goods for what the cotton and embroidery would cost you over the counter.

## In Black Dress Goods

We show some remarkable lines—choice figured mohair and lustre at 25c, 38c, 50 and 75c.  
Choice Black Cashmere at 50c, 60c, 75c and \$1.  
Black Bengalines Serges and Satin Cloths at 47c and 50c.  
Home spun skirt pieces in checks and plaids ; all the newest costume cloths in all the new shades, ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$5 for costume.  
Beautiful Roman Satin and Metallic Sateen, in all shades, for shirt waists, skirts, etc.  
Our hose at 25c per pair is astonishing all who have them.  
Our corsets at 50c and 70c have been sold at much higher prices.  
In Prints and Wash Goods, we are strictly in the race.  
Table Linens and Flannelettes are specials in our staple department.

Remember the place, under the Town Clock, Cardno's Block.

# ABELL & ORTWEIN,

## Seaforth's Only Cash Store.

We want all the fresh roll butter and fresh eggs you can bring us. Cash and one price to all, and your money back if wanted.  
Every Tuesday is Bargain Day with us.

**J. S. ROBERTS**



**Chemist & Druggist**

**CARDNO BLOCK.**

HEADQUARTERS FOR  
FINE IMPORTED CIGARS

Advertisements, clockwise from left: Queen's Hotel Register, 1890-92; *The Huron Expositor*, November 6, 1891; December 2, 1904; March 2, 1900.

# Alexander Cardno Store

49 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1874 or 1877

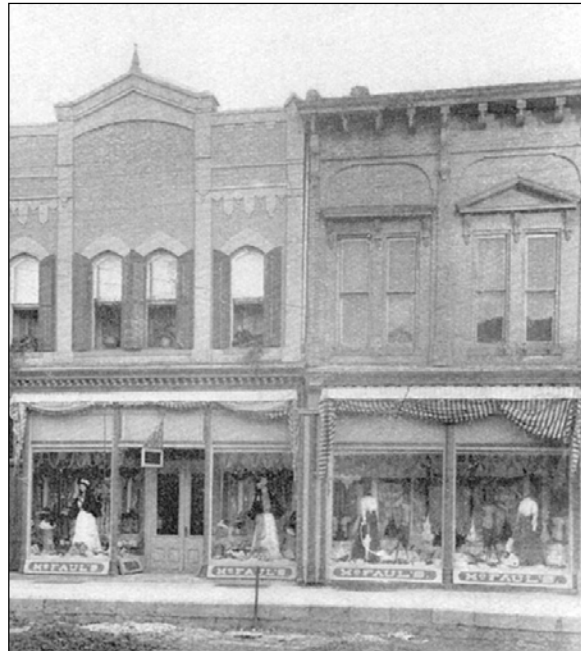
Alexander Cardno emigrated from Scotland in 1852, coming to Seaforth in 1862. His first place of business was here in 1863.

He was a provisions dealer, a pork packer, had a grocery, a clothing and tailoring business, and opened the first bakery in Seaforth. He became a leading businessman of the town, prosperous enough by 1877 to have the Cardno Block built.

This store mirrors, in brickwork and detailing, the store built to the north by M.R. Counter in 1874. Cardno may have had this store built at the same time. It is a 2½ storey yellow brick building. The upper storey is divided by four narrow pilasters with imitation braces to the entablature above. Inset between the pilasters are three sets of narrow rectangular windows. The windows originally had the flat, gauged labels still evident on the windows of the store to the north. The roof cornice has been removed, but the brackets are still intact. The main floor has been completely altered and a doorway added.

Alexander Cardno had a business here for many years. He had a bakery in this building from 1863 to 1881. In 1882, the bakery was moved into the adjacent store to the north. Cardno maintained an office in his original store and rented space to other businesses such as J.W. Millar, Merchant Tailor, in 1887 and 1888, James Jackson in 1892, and Albert Milburn and John Laird, general merchants, from 1893 to 1895. He again occupied the store as a general merchant from 1896 to 1899.

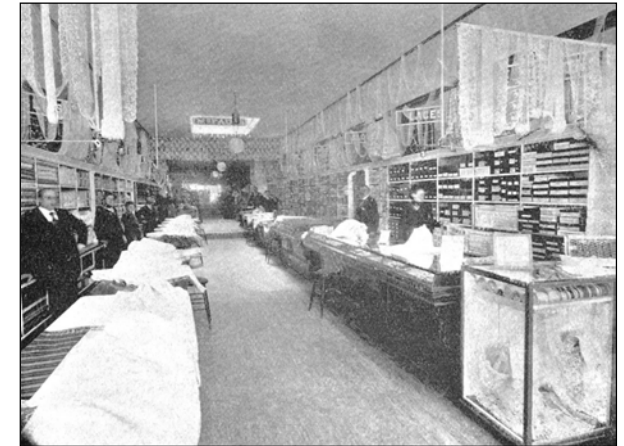
Edward McFaul had part of an extensive dry goods store at this location from 1900 to 1910. He



In this 1900 photograph Edward McFaul's Dry Goods Store occupies Cardno's store, as well as the C.H. Cull store to the south, where he started in business in 1882. The doorway to Cardno Music Hall is at right, out of the photo.

was followed by his nephew, John McTavish, who was in business until 1925 and again from 1930 to 1935. The Green Front store was here for 12 years, from 1936 to 1948 and had various managers over the years. In 1949, the Province of Ontario Bank occupied the space and has been here ever since (it has since become Desjardins Credit Union).

The second floor above the store housed law offices for many years: John H. Benson from 1869 to 1882, L.E. Dancey 1883 to 1889, R.S. Hayes 1890



The Dress Goods Department (above) and the Staple Goods Department (below) of McFaul's.



to 1896, and Alvin Sillery in the 1960s. Other tenants in the early years were Miss Erwin, a milliner, here in 1872; Miss Oldfield, a dressmaker here from 1879 to 1881; and, Hiram Derbyshire, a dentist, here from 1875-77. When Edward McFaul had his dry goods store below, the upper floor was also part of his store. The space may have been rented as an apartment for a few years in the 1920s, but, for the most part, it was an extension of the lower floor store until the 1950s. John E. Longstaff, Optometrist, had offices here in the 1950s.



# Right You Are, Eliza ; Right You Are.

Nature hath done her part, and done it well,  
In giving man a nobby head of hair !  
A nobby hat upon it makes the swell,  
All that you want to know is how to buy and  
where.

*The Latest Style in American and English*

Soft and Stiff Felt Hats

At the TEMPLE of FASHION.

Gentlemen, bear in mind that the newest designs in  
Spring Tweeds can be seen at the store of

**J. W. MILLAR, the Temple of Fashion,**

One door NORTH of E. McFaul's Dry Goods House, Main-st., Seaforth.

**Edward McFaul,**

THE CASH

*Dry Goods Store,*

MAIN STREET,

Seaforth, - Ontario.

New Dress  
New Hat  
New Stockings  
New Skirt  
New Middy

Whenever you want some-  
thing new to wear, come  
direct to our Store where  
you most likely will get  
what you desire. . . .

New Pullover  
New Hanky  
New Ribbons  
New Underwear

★ *Mac TAVISH'S* ★

Millar's store was in what became, in 1900, the north part of McFaul's store. The advertisement above left is from the March 18, 1887 *Huron Expositor*. Edward McFaul started out in the C.H. Cull store and expanded into the Alex Cardno Store in 1899. MacTavish's had replaced McFaul's by 1915. The above right advertisement is from the February 28, 1890 *Seaforth Sun*. The bottom ad is from the January 28, 1916 *Huron Expositor*.

# C. H. Cull Stores

51 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1872

The upper façade of this store is quite distinctive in its handsome and richly decorative design. White and red bricks were used to create patterned bands and segmental arches in the centre section and above the windows. Three sections or bays are marked off by pilasters with the centre section crowned by a decorative gable and topped by a finial. The arch of the gable is echoed in the segmentally headed windows. The storefront cornice with dentils and large end brackets is still intact.

As you can see in the photograph at right taken in 1900, the storefront has large plate glass windows either side of a double door. In 1881, A.G. McDougall & Co., the owners at the time, renovated the store and installed new windows. It was the first store in town to have this kind of window.

C.H. Cull owned the south part of this lot in 1863 and had a business there. He was a job printer and a telegraph agent. He published a newspaper in 1863, *The Seaforth Express*. But, as a former employee, G.H. Hale, recalled in a letter to the *Huron Expositor* in 1893: "Mr. Cull conducted the Express for one year, and then, failing to obtain what he regarded as sufficient guarantee of future support, he discontinued it. He continued to carry on a job printing business..." Hale remembered Mr. Cull as a "kind and indulgent employer." Cull kept a shop at the front of the Express office where he sold stationery and had the telegraph business. A corner near the window was sublet to Thomas P. Bull, a watchmaker.



Part of McFaul's Dry Goods store was in the C.H. Cull building from 1882 to 1910. His nephew, John McTavish, continued on in the business until 1935. The photograph was taken in 1900.



The gable and finial of the centre section is now missing, but the upper façade is still much as it once was.

Cull bought the north part of this lot in 1865, but did not build the brick store here until 1872. The white brick store on the south part of the lot was built in 1874 to match the Hickson Block to which it is joined.

Christopher Armitage had a book and stationery business here in the north store from 1872 to 1874. Strong & Fairley had a grocery store in part of the same building in 1873 and 1874. Then, William Allen ran a grocery here from 1875 to 1879. Rooms above were rented out in the late 1870s to Graham & Charters (later Curry & Graham), Grain Buyers, to a teacher, John W. Holland, and to Nathaniel Moore, a barber.

McFaul's Dry Goods Company occupied the store for decades, starting in 1882, and continued as McTavish's for many more years. Frank Kling, Electric Supplies & Plumbing, started business here in 1946 until 1990. Main Street Video had its home here for a few years until it was replaced by the present store, Pete's Paper Clip.





Above: The interior of J.S. Roberts drug store pictured in a *Souvenir of Seaforth*, 1900. Advertisements, clockwise from below: *The Huron Expositor*, February 9, 1877; November 5, 1886; March 23, 1906; and, a special advertising issue printed in 1936.

## CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

---

### WILLIAM ALLEN

HAS JUST OPENED OUT A VERY CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF

## Grockery, Glassware, Fruit Jars, &c.,

### NO OLD BANKRUPT STOCK,

But New Goods, New Patterns, Close Prices, to which he invites the attention of the public.

---

## GROCERIES.

|                                                          |                                                              |                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Teas,<br>Prunes,<br>Sauces,<br>Canned Goods,<br>Oatmeal, | Sugars,<br>Fruits,<br>Mustards,<br>Hams, Bacon,<br>Cornmeal, | Dried Apples,<br>Pickles,<br>Spices,<br>Flour,<br>Mill Feed, &c. |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|

**FREE DELIVERY.**

**WILLIAM ALLEN.**

## OUR LARGE

—AND—

## FRESHLY IMPORTED

—STOCK OF—

## COMBS and PIPES

Is rushing off at a great rate. If you would secure one, come and see our grand display.

Special attention given to

*Prescriptions, Recipes,*

—And the Fitting of—

**Lazarus' Perfect Spectacles**

—AT—

## FEAR'S Drug Store,

SEAFORTH, ONT.

This 2½-storey white brick store was a drug store for many years. Isaac V. Fear was the druggist here from 1886 to 1893. J.S. Roberts succeeded him in 1894 and was here until 1907.

John McTavish expanded part of his dry goods business into this store in 1915 and was here until some time in the late 1920s. By 1930, John Walker's Furniture store had moved in and remained for a decade. C.E. Smith had a business here for almost 20 years from 1940 to 1959. Smyth's Shoes moved in here in the 1960s and was followed by Eve-Mar, a ladies dress shop, in 1966. Bluewater Interiors is the most recent business to occupy this space.

**DRY GOODS CO.**  
**SEAFORTH, ONT.**

## WALKER'S FURNITURE BARGAINS

This Spring we are making a special effort to give every customer an honest, fair price on every article in this huge, up-to-date stock

*We Have Everything Carried in City Stores to Choose From.*

|                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chesterfield Suites</li> <li>• Dining Room Suites</li> <li>• Bedroom Suites</li> <li>• Novelties, Lamps</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kitchen Outfits</li> <li>• Floor Coverings</li> <li>• Studio Couches</li> <li>• Mirrors</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Odd Chairs, at every price</li> <li>• Cedar Chests</li> <li>• Odd Dressers</li> </ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Space will not permit us to list the hundreds of furniture bargains you will find in this Store.

This Store will remain open Wednesday afternoons during May.

## WALKER'S

Furniture and Gift Store

Seaforth : : Ontario




# John Hickson Block

55 & 57 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1869

*J*ohn Hickson & Co. built this two-store white brick block in 1869. Edward Hickson & Co. ran Hickson's Emporium, a drug and fancy goods business, until 1880. They were also a well-known dry goods and tailoring business. Hickson's Emporium occupied all three floors. The basement was used for storage, the main floor for dry goods and clothing, and the upper floor for the millinery and mantle salesroom. The business employed a number of tailors and milliners, and six salesmen.

In 1873, they sold the south store to their competition, Duncan & Duncan, Merchant Tailors. Julius and Cornelius Duncan were also in the dry goods business, at other locations in town, until moving next door. Both businesses remodelled their stores in 1874 and vied with each other in their advertisements in the local newspaper. Duncan & Duncan kept ahead of the game until they were taking out full-page ads in *The Huron Expositor*. By 1881, Duncan & Duncan occupied both stores and were advertising their Medical Hall, next door to Duncan & Duncan's Dry Goods Store, here in 1882.

The rivalry between the two businesses even extended to both publishing their own bulletins which were handed out to the public free of charge. In May of 1875, Duncan & Duncan published *The Seaforth Illustrated Bulletin* while Hickson & Co. put out *The Seaforth Gazette*.

In 1874, E. Hickson & Co. advertised their new jewelry establishment in their drug store. In June and September of 1877, they advertised a new practical watchmaker, Mr. F. Crake, who "having learned the

HICKSON'S EMPORIUM!  
NEW GOODS.  
FALL IMPORTATIONS.

OWING to the general advance in DRY GOODS, we have bought *early* and *very largely*, both in England and Montreal, and would invite an inspection of the stock, as it is altogether too extensive to advertise, but the goods will be marked at the old prices.

CALL EARLY.

**E. HICKSON & CO.,**  
MAIN STREET, SEAFORTH.

trade thoroughly in England, and for nearly six years past have worked in the establishment of A. Morphy, London, Ontario, is sufficient to recommend that full satisfaction can be given in any description of work."

Duncan & Duncan were in business here until 1892 when they moved to the Cardno Block. The Jackson Bros., and in 1893, Jackson & Greig, took over in the dry goods and tailoring business, occupying the north store. They were here until 1896, when John Grieg partnered with R.J. McDonald and moved down the street.

C.W. Papst had the south store in 1892 and expanded into the north store when Jackson &

The Two Monster Stores.

MONTREAL HOUSE,

Oak Hall Clothing and Gents' Furnishing  
Establishment.

Largest Stock in the County to choose  
from.

Messrs. Duncan & Duncan

Would call attention to their large stock of Dress Goods. We offer good Cloth Dress Goods at 10c per yard, worth 15c. Large quantities to select from at 12½c, 15c and 20c per yard. Silks and Satins—all the newest shades in brown, bronze, Navy and Black—full lines of Trimmings to match the very latest styles. Wedding orders a specialty. Our stock is large and complete, so that parties can depend on getting the very latest styles and lowest prices. Our Millinery department is fully stocked with the latest English, French and American fashions.

The Montreal House is the spot to get woollen goods, New Squares, Hoods, Tam O'Shanter, &c. Two hundred Ladies' Wool Shawls, new goods, from 90c to \$10. Mantle and Mantle Cloth—We make these our special lines, and can give our customers over 100 different pieces of cloth to select from, at from 50c to \$7 per yard. Customers buying cloth can have Mantles cut free of charge. Large stock of readymade Jackets and Mantles, Hosiery and Gloves. Five hundred pairs Ladies' and Misses' Hose at half-price, bought direct from manufacturer over three months ago before advance in prices.

OAK HALL

CLOTHING AND GENTS' FURNISHING HOUSE,

Look out for cold weather, and prepare for winter, by calling at the leading Clothing House in the county. Piles of Readymade Clothing. Big stock of Winter Overcoats to be sold cheap. Winter Underclothing in great variety, and at prices to suit the million. Hats, Caps, Shirts, Collars, Ties, Gloves, and every article required in a first-class Furnishing House, can had at Oak Hall. Our stock of imported Tweeds in Scotch, English and Irish, was never so large or so well selected. Pantings not to be excelled in the city. All-Wool (Canada tweed) Pants from \$2.50 up, worth \$3. Our Tailoring capacity is too well known to require further self-commendation. Perfect fit always guaranteed, and skilled mechanics only employed. Give us a call.

Duncan & Duncan, Oak Hall, Seaforth.

An advertisement placed in the November 5, 1886 issue of *The Huron Expositor*. The advertisement for Hickson's Emporium is from the September 15, 1871 newspaper.



Greig vacated. C.W. Papst had a book and fancy goods store and housed the Central Office of the Bell Telephone Company.

J.L. Smith, a dry goods merchant, took over the north store for two years, 1897-98. He was replaced by Alex Winter who had a book and stationery store here from 1899 to 1910. By 1915, Thompson's Book & Stationery Store was here and stayed until the late 1950s. Larone's expanded into this store at that time. J.M. Best had his Law Offices above these stores for many years, from 1886 to 1924.

I.V. Fear, Druggist, moved his business into the south store in 1903. He was here until 1908 when the store was taken over by W.J. Walker, who had a furniture store. John and Samuel Walker, Walker & Son, successfully operated Walker Furniture here many years, until 1940. Samuel Walker retained ownership of the building, but the store was then occupied by C.W. Ironside, from 1941 to 1948. In 1949, Elmer Larone opened Larone's, a well-known Main Street business for many years. Larone's was a newer version of the dry goods store, selling clothing, fabrics, paper goods, giftwares and magazines. Larone's occupied both stores after Thompson's Bookstore closed.



The interior of Alex Winter's Book & Stationery Store, above, and C.W. Papst's Jewellery Store, below, as pictured in *A Souvenir of Seaforth*, published in 1900. The advertisement at left is from *The Huron Expositor*, March 10, 1893.

## The Question of the Hour!

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### Where is Your Spring Clothing Coming From?

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If there ever was a time to buy nobby Clothing, that time is now. We have gathered together an endless variety of choice new weaves in Scotch and Canadian Tweeds, Serges, Worsteds, Overcoatings, Pantings, &c., not stopping till we had every detail fully represented. We have the best, the most artistic, the most fashionable lines of woollen goods ever displayed in Seaforth for many a day. Do you doubt that the best is the cheapest? See our goods and prices. Many are selecting their Suitings now. We hold them till wanted. When you've time come in and see our goods.

---

## JACKSON BROTHERS,

THE FAMOUS CLOTHING PEOPLE,

SEAFORTH — AND — CLINTON.



# SPRING WANTS!

## WALL PAPER

—New Designs

—New Prices

### OPAQUE

## WINDOW SHADES

Four inch Lace or Fringe, with Tasse mounted on Hartshorn Roller, 3x6 feet complete for 50c.

## CURTAIN POLES

Onyx, Brass, or Wood Trimmings.

## PICTURE FRAMES

Made to Order.

*Alex. Winter, Seaforth.*

MARRIAGE LICENSES ISSUED.

No Witnesses Required.

Advertisements, clockwise from above: *The Huron Expositor*, April 9, 1899; *The Huron Expositor*, December 2, 1904; *The Seaforth News*, January 15, 1962; and, *The Huron Expositor*, January 28, 1916.

## Thompson Book Store

Make Our Store Your Headquarters For School Supplies  
COLLEGIATE, PUBLIC and SEPARATE SCHOOLS

We have a Complete Stock of Fountain Pens, Pencils,  
School Bags, Text Books.

PHONE 181

SEAFORTH

## New and Beautiful Xmas Gifts at FEAR'S, Seaforth.



All the latest Books, Christmas Papers, Bibles, Prayer and Hymn Books, Gift Books and Xmas Cards. You can never please a lady better than by sending her a pretty piece of china. Our stock is complete, and will meet the most exacting task.

In Silver Novelties, Silver Spoons, Gold-lined Cake and Cold Meat Forks, Gold-lined Sugar and Cream Sets, Pickle Dishes, etc. We have a beautiful stock. With a \$3 purchase of anything in the store, we give you one of our beautiful Art Calendars. Begin now. Every purchase of 25 or over counts.

**FEAR'S DRUG STORE**

**DISCOUNT  
SALE**

Our January Special

**CLEARANCE**

From **10% to 20%** Discounts

**LARONE'S**

SEAFORTH 5c to \$1.00 STORE

STATIONERY -- GIFTS



# Ludwig Meyer Block

59-61 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1872

his very handsome 2-storey, white brick block was built in 1872 by Ludwig Meyer. Meyer was born in Rostock, Mecklenberg, Germany and came to Canada in 1833 with three brothers each of whom took up 100 acres in McKillop Township. Ludwig was appointed a Division Court Clerk in 1851. Another of the brothers was also a lawyer and they had an office on the upper floor of the Meyer Block from 1877 until Ludwig's death in 1886.

The first tenants to occupy the new stores were the Johnson brothers, Samuel and David, who ran Johnson Bros. Hardware for many years. The store was known by the Sign of the Golden Padlock. It occupied the basement, main floor and most of the upper floor. In 1875, the assessed value of the business was \$6,400. Samuel moved to Winnipeg in 1880, but he retained an interest in the business. David Johnson died in 1899. A notice in the July 3, 1896 edition of *The Huron Expositor* informed its readers: "Mr. Thomas Kehoe, who has been engaged in Johnston Bros. tinsmithing department in town for several years, has resigned his position to accept a more

lucrative one in Toledo, Ohio, and leaves for there on Tuesday next."

A succession of medical doctors had offices over the stores – Dr. King in 1874, Dr. McKenna in 1875, Dr. Phelan from 1876 to June 1877, and Dr. Hanover from late 1877 to 1879. Dr. Phelan had had a practice in Seaforth for many years when he moved to London. His successor, Dr. Hanover, was described as "a young gentleman ... who will, we are sure, well and worthily fill the position vacated by his predecessor."

Upper rooms were also occupied at this time by Miss McIntosh, a milliner, Miss Beam, a dressmaker, and Miss McDonald, a teacher.

In 1901, the two stores had separate tenants, the Harland Bros. in the north store and Grieg & McDonald Clothiers in the south store, both with workrooms above. In 1902, J.C. Grieg then partnered with Harry Stewart and they took over both stores. They also had the Dominion Express, the CPR telegraph and ticket agency, here.

In October 1905, Harry Stewart, and his brother, Charles Stewart entered a partnership, and thus started Stewart Bros., a business which would go on to become one of the longest-lived in Seaforth. Harry's son, David, carried on the business, still under the name of Stewart Bros., until 1997.

The north store is now occupied by Total Image II, a salon offering hair styling and aesthetic services, tanning beds and massage therapy. The south store is home to a consignment shop, Sally's Closet.



SIGN OF GOLDEN  
PADLOCK.

**JOHNSON BROS., HARDWARE MERCHANTS.**

Binder Twine and Woven Wire Fencing, Galvanized Steel Wire, Annealed Oil Wire, Cut Nails and all kinds of Builders' Hardware, Scythes, Snaths, Forks, Rakes, Hoes, Spades and Shovels, Peerless Machine Oil.

**JOHNSON BROS., MAIN STREET, SEAFORTH.**

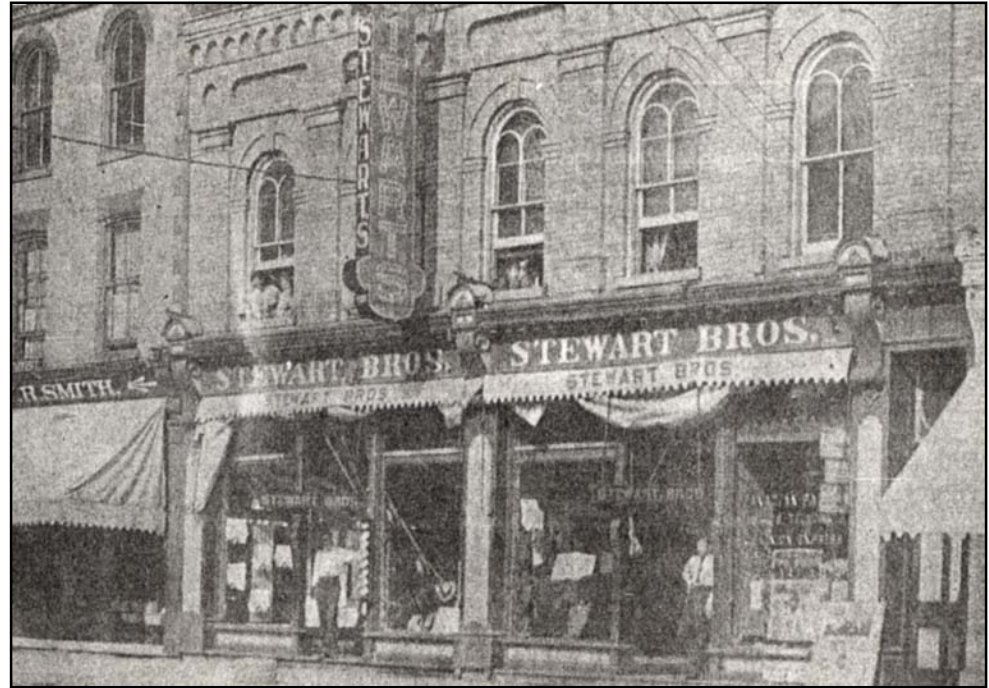
Above - An advertisement from the July 12, 1889 issue of *The Huron Expositor*.



A small catalogue distributed by Stewart Bros. in 1910.

The building has elaborate windows and arches in the Italianate style. The upper façade is in 5 window bays divided by projecting brick piers, or pilasters, and surmounted by an elaborate brickwork frieze. The windows are arched with projecting brick corbelling, stepped brickwork.

In 1960, the store underwent many alterations and the storefront has been completely remodelled in a modern style. Despite this, the building has changed little since it was built and over the years has had only four owners. Interior renovations were made to the north store to restore it to its 1940s appearance.





# Robert Scott Block

63 & 65 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1869

By comparison with other more elaborate buildings along the Main Street, this is now a modest, plain-faced structure. The upper façade is punctuated by five simply proportioned windows. As you can see in the photograph below dated 1900, the third floor once had arched windows. The upper façade was accented by decorative quoining in the brickwork at each end. After a fire in 1905, the windows in the third floor were bricked. The brickwork has been painted so that now the quoining is no longer visible. The store fronts have been remodelled in a contemporary manner.



The Hon. James Patton, one of the town founders, owned this lot until 1863. On it was a frame store in which, at the time, Thomas Currie was doing business as a general merchant. Robert Scott bought the property in 1869 and that year built this 3-storey brick block with two stores.

R.P. Rogers, who sold clothing and dress goods, occupied one store from 1869 to 1876. The other store was briefly occupied in 1868-9 by Archibald McDougall who sold dry goods and groceries from the Canada Warehouse, then by John Walsh, who sold groceries and liquor, from 1870 to 1872. *The Huron Expositor* was published on the third floor from 1869 to 1872. Other upper floor rooms were occupied for many years by a photographer's gallery, lawyer's and dentist's offices, and dress-maker's rooms. The Forester's Hall was also in upper-floor rooms from 1885 to 1899.

Both the north and south stores had long-term tenants. Wilson & Young's grocery was in the north store from 1873 to 1906. Charles Wilson and Andrew Young ran the store together until 1892 at which time Young continued on his own until his death in 1906. Lumsden & Wilson's Book & Drugs store was in the south space from 1881 to 1915. In 1884, Lumsden & Wilson renovated the store interior and installed a new plate glass front.



## Your's For . . Health

For the invalid, the  
convalescent or per-  
son of advanced years,  
no known tonic equals

## Wilson's Invalids' Port . .

A rare old port wine  
with Peruvian Bark in  
quantities prescribed by  
the English and French  
Pharmacopoeias.

'Tis a special brand for

For sale in Seaforth by

## LUMSDEN & WILSON.



**PENNYROYAL WAFERS** used monthly by  
over 10,000 ladies; are safe, pleasant,  
sure in effect; a lady's greatest friend  
at home or abroad; \$1 per box by mail  
or from druggist. Sealed particulars.  
2c stamp. Address  
**EUREKA CHEMICAL CO., DETROIT, MICH.**

Druggists, Seaforth, Ont.

**Sold by LUMSDEN & WILSON, Chemists and**

1121-52

**TRY WILSON & YOUNG's new 50 cent**  
Young Hyson and Japan Teas; they can't be  
beaten in town. 855  
**WE will take wool at the highest**  
market price in exchange for dry goods, at and  
below wholesale, at the Mammoth Bargain House.

Advertisements in *The Huron Expositor* March 2, 1900,  
July 12, 1889 and July 18, 1884.

Lawyers, S.G. McCaughey & Francis Holmsted, had offices on the second floor for 18 years, from 1870 to 1884. Holmsted continued on his own until 1924. In 1888, both Mr. McCaughey and his wife died. The obituary published in *The Huron Expositor* relates details of the “Melancholy Event”:

Husband and wife stricken down almost at the same time, lying helpless under the same roof and in adjoining rooms, each unconscious of the dangerous condition of the other and ultimately both falling under the cold hand of death within a few hours of each other.... Mr. and Mrs. S.G. McCaughey, of this town, the former of whom passed away at half past seven o'clock Monday evening and the latter about the same hour Tuesday evening.... Pneumonia was the disease with which both were afflicted.

Mr. McCaughey was born in 1830 in Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland and was educated at Royal Belfast College. He came to Canada in 1854 and to Seaforth in 1863. Soon after, he entered into a partnership with Mr. Holmsted, “and the firm having gained the most implicit confidence of the people, did a large and profitable business.” In 1886, McCaughey retired from the law and engaged in the private banking business with William Logan. He was described as “a remarkably successful business man ... and it might be said of him that everything he touched seemed to turn into money.... He was possessed of excellent literary tastes ... and was a warm friend of the Mechanics’ Institute.” McCaughey was also Reeve of Seaforth for many years and a member of the High School Board.

The north store was the location of William R. Smith’s grocery, here for many decades starting in 1905. It became W.R. Smith & Sons in 1935 and was still here in the late 1960s. Elton Umbach was a merchant in the south store from 1919 to 1923. In 1924, James Keating, Druggist, moved in. Keating’s

Pharmacy occupied this store until moving one door south in the 1970s.

A succession of photographer’s had galleries in rooms on the second floor of this block. Frank Paltridge was the first, from 1870 to 1872. Miss Leach had a “New & Complete Millinery, Mantle and Dressmaking Establishment” upstairs, next to Frank Paltridge’s Photograph Gallery in 1870. Charles Moore had his Sunbeam Art Gallery here from 1874 to 1879. He partnered with a Mr. Campbell and the business was known as Moore & Campbell in 1875. For almost a decade, Andrew Calder had an office over Wilson & Young’s store, from 1883 to 1892. Calder advertised as “The People’s Popular Photo Gallery.” W.D. Trott was next and he occupied this space from 1893 to 1899. Scott Bros. photographic gallery had rooms above the stores in 1900, and was replaced by J.P. Henderson in 1902. Henderson was the last photographer to have offices here.

F. Bechley, a dentist, had rooms above the stores from 1917 to 1944. Two osteopaths were tenants here, Dr. Heilman in 1920-21, and Dr. Haist in 1922-23. The College of Music had rooms above in 1933. McConnell & Hays, lawyers, kept offices here from 1938 until they moved in the 1940s.



At left, a family photograph taken by Charles Moore; at right, a photograph taken by Frank Paltridge. Below is J.P. Henderson’s photography studio, 1900.







## MOORE & CAMPBELL'S

IS THE PLACE.

### COME WITH A SMILING FACE.

WE are now occupying Frank Paltridge's Old Stand, which we have entirely renovated, and having procured new instruments, are prepared

*To Give Satisfaction to All.*

Thanking the public for their very liberal patronage in the past, we invite all to call and see our New Rooms, where we will always be found, and in good humor.

360

MOORE & CAMPBELL.

Photograph at far left: the interior of Keating's Pharmacy c. 1925. Advertisements, top left: *The Huron Expositor*, May 28, 1875; bottom, from left: *The Huron Expositor*, February 7, 1873; April 11, 1884; The and, February 5, 1869.

## FARMERS!

### 5,000 Farmers' Sons and Daughters Wanted

TO PURCHASE

WILSON & YOUNG'S CROCKERY.

JUST RECEIVED,

A LARGE CONSIGNMENT OF CROCKERY,

Consisting of Tea and Dinner Sets complete, Chamber Sets, in a great variety of patterns. Also, a very complete stock of

CHINA AND GLASSWARE.

All their Crockery is of the best. No second or third ware kept. This Crockery has been bought cheap and will be sold cheap.

## TEAS.

Just received, another consignment of that superior Tea, at from 40 cts. to \$1 per pound. All other kinds of Groceries as usual.

Remember WILSON & YOUNG'S is the place to get choice Liquors and Ales, and the only place where Carling's celebrated XXX Ale in quarter barrels for family use is kept.

WILSON & YOUNG,

Main-street, Seaforth.

### "WHAT MUST COME SHALL COME."

Notwithstanding the great difficulty in introducing a new remedy to the public, however superior, on account of the enormous amount of advertising resorted to by the wealthy proprietors of the many articles already in the market, yet we believe merit in the end must win, and, as already in these parts, so throughout the entire country.

### "GLYCERATED BALSAM OF FIR"

Will be recognized as the standard remedy of the age for COUGHS, COLDS and SORE THROATS. If any want further proof, let them try a bottle, or stand for one day in our store and listen to the voluntary testimony offered by grateful customers. Its healing and soothing properties are truly marvellous. Price, 50c per bottle, for sale by

W. M. Robinson, Worcester; Edward Snell, Jamestown; James Campbell, Walton; S. McKibbin, Leadbury; A. Govenlock, Winthrop; J. Kidd & Son, Dublin; William Drummond, Blyth; Wm. Scott, Brucefield; J. Bonthron & Son, Hensall; Wagner & Son, Zurich; L. Simon, Daskwood; M. Williams, Cromarty; J. Leslie, Blake; R. Gardner, Farquhar; J. Wright, Beechwood; D. Weismiller, Kippen; R. Drysdale, Drysdale; G. H. Hewson, Bayfield; Geo. Stewart & Co., Varna; R. E. Kinsman, Staffa.

WHOLESALE OR RETAIL BY  
LUMSDEN & WILSON,

MANUFACTURERS, SEAFORTH, ONT.

THE

## "Seaforth Expositor,"

AND HURON ADVERTISER,

ONE of the largest papers published in the County,

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED

EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

ROSS & LUXTON

EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

MAIN STREET, SEAFORTH.

TERMS.—\$1.50 per annum, in advance. If not so paid, \$2.00 will invariably be charged.

### RATES OF ADVERTISING.

For each line over ten, first insertion, 0 08

Each subsequent insertion, - - - 0 02

The number of lines to be reckoned by the space occupied, measured by a scale of solid Brevier.

Advertisements without specific directions will be published till forbid, and charged accordingly.

GEO. W. ROSS,  
Proprietor.

**A NEW AND  
COMPLETE MILLINERY, MANTLE,  
AND  
DRESSMAKING ESTABLISHMENT.**

**MISS LEACH**

**WOULD** beg to inform the ladies of Seaforth and the vicinity, that she has commenced business in the above line, in

**SCOTT'S BRICK BLOCK,  
UP ONE FLIGHT OF STAIRS,  
NEXT TO  
FRANK PALTRIDGE'S  
Photograph Gallery.**

Having bought entirely for cash she feels able to offer her

**COMPLETE & LARGESTOCK  
OF  
MILLINERY GOODS**

**AT VERY LOW PRICES  
HAIR, STRAW WORK, AND OSTRICH  
FEATHERS CLEANED.**

Having had extensive experience both in England and Canada, she feels confident of being able to give entire satisfaction to all who entrust her with their order.

**LADIES' DRESS CAPS, Etc.**

A prentice wanted.

Seaforth, Oct. 14, 1870. 149.

**BARGAINS, BARGAINS**

THIS WEEK.

BARGAINS in DRESS GOODS,

BARGAINS in BLACK SILKS,

BARGAINS in SHAWLS,

BARGAINS in FURS,

BARGAINS in CLOTHS,

BARGAINS in FELT SKIRTS,

BARGAINS in BLANKETS,

BARGAINS in COTTONS,

BARGAINS in CLOTHING,

BARGAINS in TWEEDS,

BARGAINS in HATS and CAPS,

AT

**R. P. ROGERS'.**

**S. G. McCAUGHEY,**

Solicitor, etc., Law Office—Scott's Block, Main Street, Seaforth.

**F. HOLMESTED,**

Barrister, etc., Law Office—Scott's Block, Main Street, Seaforth.

Advertisements, clockwise starting at left: *The Huron Expositor*, October 21, 1870; March 19, 1875; April 11, 1884; and, June 31, 1893; and *The Seaforth Sun*, June 8, 1883.

**P. P. P. P.**

**WHAT IS IT? WHY IT IS THE  
PEOPLE'S POPULAR  
PHOTOGRAPH PARLORS,**

With **ANDREW CALDER** at the helm, and now that the holiday season is fast approaching, and the good people of Huron and Perth will doubtless require something neat and artistic in the way of Portraits to send as holiday gifts to absent friends or relatives, and Mr. C. being fully alive to the importance of this fact, has made special extra arrangements for the accommodation of the holiday trade. **CALDER'S** for Christmas Pictures, **CALDER'S** for New Year's Pictures. For a Photo of tasty design, excellence of shade and finish, easy and graceful position, coupled with appropriate background and accessories, give the **P. P. P.** a trial, and then go away smiling with delight and a good picture.

**ANDREW CALDER,**

Scott's Block, Seaforth.

**Offer Extraordinary!**

For a limited time, I will give, **FREE OF CHARGE**, with every dozen of my **BEST FINISHED CABINETS**, a large

**PORTRAIT  
FINISHED IN CRAYON,**

The usual price of which is \$4.50. This is your great opportunity. Don't miss it.

A new stock of frames and framed Engravings just in, and will be sold much below the usual price.

**WM. D. TROTT,**  
PHOTOGRAPHER,  
SCOTT'S BLOCK, SEAFORTH.



# Thomas Kidd Block

67 & 69 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1869

The Thomas Kidd Block is distinguished by the arched second-storey windows with their decorative hoods made of moulded concrete. The semi-circular part of the windows were so placed to let light into the attic. The roof originally was slate. The south part of the storefront level remains largely unchanged. The storefront of the north part has been modernized.

Thomas Kidd had a frame store at the corner of Market and Main streets by 1865. He began building the large brick block in 1868, completing it in 1869. William Robertson & Co.'s "Sign of the Circular Saw" hardware store was in the north part until 1876. James McMulkin had a general store in the south part in 1869. Thomas Kidd joined with McMulkin and they operated as Kidd & McMulkin in 1870. By 1871, Thomas Kidd was in business on his own. In 1877, Kidd placed this advertisement in the *Huron Expositor*: "Boy Wanted – Wanted a strong, active intelligent boy, willing to make himself generally useful, and not afraid of work." When Robertson & Co. moved in 1876, Kidd's Emporium expanded into the north store. From 1885 to 1887, they had the south store only. Thomas Kidd was a food inspector and importer in the hall over the store from 1891 to 1902.

**FREE MARKETS, NO TOLLS.**

HURRAH FOR

**KIDD'S EMPORIUM.**

You will come to town without a crown,  
At T. Kidd's Emporium purchase free,  
Where the largest stock to be found  
Is kept by him for Seventy-three.

**Ladies' Silks and Poplins,**

**WEDDING DRESSES IN GREAT VARIETY,**

**GENTS' OVERCOATS AT COST,**

**FLOOR OIL CLOTHS CUT TO FIT ANY SIZE, 81 PER SQUARE YARD.**

**A LARGE STOCK OF CARPETS, ALL QUALITIES.**

Pay me all you owe before you go  
To other shops, to buy for cash,  
Then better friends we'll be, you know,  
For in my stock there is no trash.

**STRICTLY ONE PRICE.**

**THOMAS KIDD,**



William Pickard's store in 1900 – the Millinery department, the Gents' Furnishings department, and the Dress Goods department. Kidd's Emporium ad is from the January 24, 1873 issue of *The Huron Expositor*.



William Pickard's dry goods and clothing store occupied the entire store block in 1900. Earlier, in 1888, it was in the south part only. Pickard also had a ladies' clothing store in the Cardno Block until 1900 when he was able to take over both stores here. The ground floor was the retail space while the upper floor was the manufacturing area. As you can faintly see in the photograph on the previous page, the end room on the upper floor was occupied by James L. Killoran, Law Office, from 1900 to 1915.

Thomas Coventry, a shoemaker, had a shop in part of the north store from 1885 to 1893. James Scott, Music Dealer, occupied part of the north store in 1887 until 1889.

Upper rooms were taken by the Conservative Club, and by Cox & Co., Stock Brokers, in 1887. G.F. Belden, a dentist, had offices here in 1895-96. J.A. Munn, also a dentist, had an office here in 1925 to 1930. A *Huron Expositor* ad of March 25, 1925 reported: "Dr. J.A. Munn, who recently purchased the dental Practice of Dr. R.R. Ross, is having handsome new offices fitted up over G.A. Sills & Sons Hardware."

A small brick building behind Thomas Kidd's store was the location of O.C. Wilson's implement warehouse in 1871-72. Charles Stewart had a tailoring shop here in 1885-6 and Richard Deem, Tailor, in 1889 to 1896. F.G. Meyer, a butcher, was here in 1887. The Farmers' Banking House occupied part of the building in 1888 to 1890 before it moved across the street into the Commercial Hotel. J.P. Bell had a laundry here from 1880 to 1910.

This elevated section at the rear of the south store was lowered flush with the front floor and the same thing was done with the second floor. One oddity of the building is that it is a brick lower on one side than the other.

The south store has some special features. Over the plate glass windows is prism glass which catches the light, projecting it straight back parallel to the floor so that it strikes the back wall within inches of the ceiling. The interior rear wall of the store was erected in the 1930s. The ceiling is made of patterned tin squares. In the basement is a brick vault which at one time was used to store dynamite.

The telegraph company and the Bell Telephone Company had poles, wires & instruments between Lot 38 where the Robert Scott Block is located, and Lot 39. William Somerville was an operator/agent for the G.M.W. Telegraph Co. from 1890 to 1898.

Henry Edge, a local contractor and merchant, had the north store from 1916 to 1921. John C. Grieg had a clothing store in the south space after Pickard's closed and were here until 1921. George, Charles and Frank Sills owned the lot in 1921 and moved their hardware business into the south store in 1922. The north store was the first location of the Province of Ontario Bank from 1922 until 1949. Henderson Smith and Thomas McAdam were clerks in the bank in 1927.

There were two other tenants of the north store before Keatings Pharmacy moved here in 19???. One tenant was the Law Offices of McConnell & Hays, later McConnell & Stewart, in the 1950s. Reads Shoe Store was here in 1966.

The advertisement at top right is from the August 24, 1888 issue of *The Huron Expositor*. The advertisement below is from the September 15, 1871 issue.

**THE FARMERS'**  
**Banking House,**  
**SEAFORTH.**  
(In connection with the Bank of Montreal.)

---

**LOGAN & CO.,**  
BANKERS AND FINANCIAL AGENTS.

Now in their own premises on Market Street,  
Seaforth, opposite A. Strong's office.  
General Banking Business done, drafts issued  
and cashed. Interest allowed on deposits.

**MONEY TO LEND**  
On good notes or mortgages.

JOHN WEIR. WM. LOGAN.  
1058

**FIRST PRIZE**  
**GRAIN CRUSHERS**  
AND  
**STRAW CUTTERS.**

---

**O. C. WILSON**  
Sole agent for the County of Huron, for the firm  
of  
**MAXWELL & WHITLAW**  
of Paris, is now prepared to furnish farmers  
with their celebrated  
**Grain Crushers and Straw Cutters.**

---

These machines took the First Prize at the Provincial Trial for agricultural implements held in Paris in July last, and are without doubt the best manufactured in the Province. Machines kept constantly on hand, and can be seen by intending purchasers at any time, at the Market, Seaford.

---

Also a number of IRON PLOWS, of four different patterns, received direct from the  
**Celebrated Scottish Plow Manufactory**



# Cady Block - Red Star Garage

73 - 77 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1945

Peter and Bridget Markey owned this lot in 1864. That year they erected a large frame building. The north part of the building was the Dominion Hotel, run by Peter Markey. John Potts was the Innkeeper in 1868, Ross James in 1870-71 and M. Purcell in 1875-6. A notice in *The Huron Expositor* of Oct. 27, 1871 informed readers: "Mr. James Ross is about to remove his hotel and stage office to the building formerly occupied by M. Robertson, cabinetmaker, east Main St., near the station." A notice of Sept. 5, 1873 stated: "Mr. John Dunn of Brantford has leased from Mrs. P. Markey the Dominion Hotel in this village."

The south part of Markey's building housed William A. Shearson's flour and feed store until 1869 when he moved to another location on Main Street. The south store was a grocery in the 1870s. The Markeys ran it from 1870 to 1877. Mrs. P. Markey advertised "New and Cheap Goods - Main St. opposite Hay's Hotel" in September 1877. Albert Sparling was listed as a grocer here in 1877, Levi Mabee in 1878 and James Edwards in 1879. There also appear to have been other businesses here in the late 1870s. Allan Mitchell was a merchant here from 1877 to 1878 and George Dent also had a business here in 1877. James Jamieson had a shoe shop here in 1878. Andrew Halley & Co. had a business in the corner store in 1879.

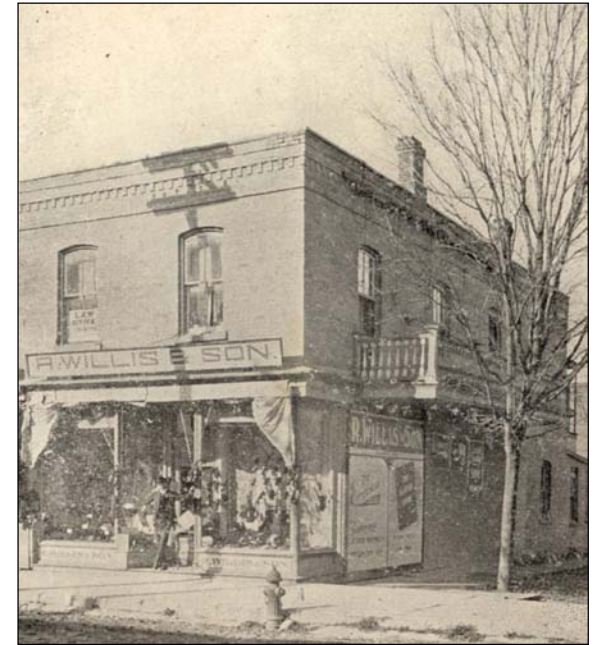
Peter Markey died in April of 1879. In 1880, the north part of the building was divided into two spaces. One was occupied by George Ewing's butcher shop and the other by Miss M. Rigg's restaurant. Mrs. Markey was, at this time, selling

groceries from the south part of the building. A fire that started in Rigg's restaurant destroyed the building on February 10, 1881.

Shortly after the fire Mrs. Markey was remarried, to Swan W. Cady. Cady had a second large frame building block erected on the lot during the summer of 1881. The first to occupy the new stores were Robert Willis' shoe store, John Ward's saddle and harness shop, C.H. Baker's jewelry store, and John G. Constable's barber shop and bowling alley.

Store #1 at the north corner was occupied by Robert Willis, Shoemaker, who was joined in 1899 by his son, Walter. The Willis shoe store was in business here until 1930 when the block was destroyed by fire. W.J. Northgraves, Jeweler, had the north part of the north half in 1887-88. Beam & Archibald, Butchers, had the south part. John Constable's barbershop was replaced by George B. Scott's barbershop in 1883. Scott was here until 1904. The north part of the south store was home to Purvis & Milks, Watchmakers, from 1884 to 1887. Next to occupy the store was A.D. Young, Jeweler, 1888-89. The south part was a bowling alley operated by Robert Andrews in 1886.

Photographer, Andrew Calder, had three rooms above from 1877 to 1881. After the fire, Calder moved his gallery to the new Scott



The north end of Cady's Block as pictured in the 1902 *Seaforth Biographical & Commercial* publication. Robert and Walter Willis' shoe store was here until November 1930 when the building burnt. Harry Beattie, Barrister, had the law offices above.



This photograph of Cady's Block at the corner of Main and Market Streets appeared in *Souvenir of Seaforth* published in 1900. The south stores were occupied by McNaughton & Dennison Furnishers, M. Broadrick, Saddler, and G.B. Scott, Barber.

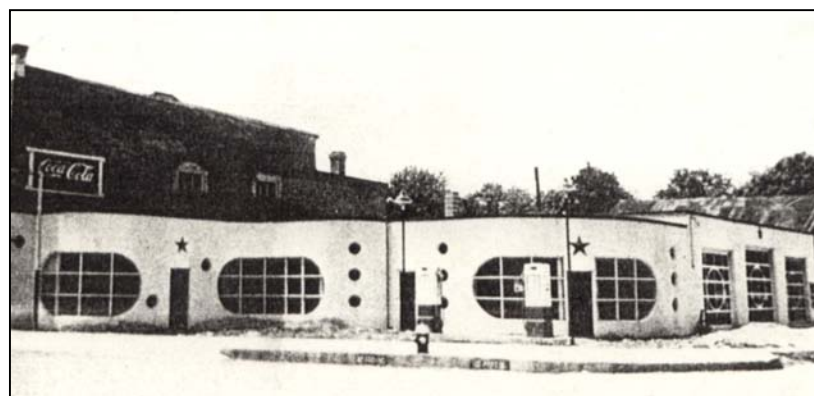
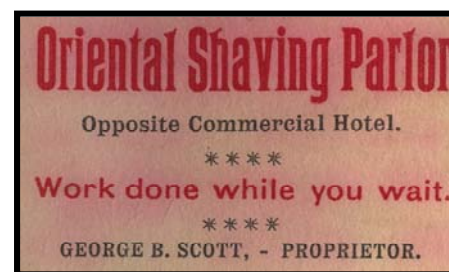
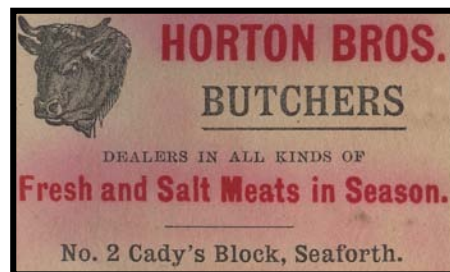
Block to the north. Also in “rooms above” in 1877 were Miss Leach and Miss Quinlan, both milliners, and Miss Beam, a dressmaker. Miss Oldfield, a milliner, was here in 1878. Dental offices were occupied by C. Cartwright, 1882-84, and W.J. Fear, 1885-88. Law offices were taken by J.M. Best in 1885, W.H. Hastings from 1887-88, and Harry Beattie, 1900-02. Dr. McKidd, MD, was here in 1885 and Dr. Martin O’Connell from 1905-09.

Cady Block had four stores in the 1890s. Store No. 1 was the Willis shoe store. Store No. 2 was occupied by Horton Bros. Butchers from 1890 to 1898. Store No. 3 was M. Broadrick’s Harness Shop from 1897 to 1926. Swift Canadian Produce was the occupant at the time of the fire in 1930. After Scott, the barbershop in Store No. 4 was run by P. Mulcahy in 1905, John Weber from 1906-07, James Pender from 1908-10, and Allan Close in 1915. Elgin H. Close had the barbershop from 1918 to 1926. By this time, there were three stores again. Shoemakers Russel Sproat and James Willis were here from 1927-28. Then, George Israel and George Charters had a dry-cleaning and tailoring business here. It was in the drycleaning plant that the fire which destroyed Cady’s Block started in November of 1930.

West of his business block Peter Markey had a livery stable in the late 1860s. Later, Joseph Abell and William Carnochan operated the livery here in late 1877-78, and William McNaughton in 1879. George Whiteley and Joseph Able ran the livery from 1885 to 1889. Whiteley carried on until 1892 when Hargan and Dorrance bought the business. Hargan & Dorrance were here until 1895. Adam Hays ran the livery stables, and had an office in a small brick building



Hays Livery on Market Street, behind Cady’s Block, 1902. Below, advertisements from the Queen’s Hotel register of 1890-92.



The Red Star Garage in the 1960s. The garage construction is typical of the 1940s. It is cement block with a stucco covering.

next door, until 1929.

*The Huron Expositor* of October 18, 1895 published an item about the death of Mrs. Cady: “Mrs. Cady was about as usual on Saturday, and even as late as ten o’clock Saturday evening she visited Horton’s butcher shop.... She was then, apparently, in the best of health and spirits and talked and joked with those whom she met as was her wont...” Early Sunday morning she suffered an attack of apoplexy and died that night. “She was one of the early residents of the town, and came here from Paris over a quarter of a century ago. Her first husband, Mr. Peter Markey, was for many years proprietor of one of the best known and most popular hotels [in Paris, Ontario]. They were engaged in the hotel business for some time after coming here, but owing to failing sight and growing infirmities, Mr. Markey was forced to retire from business. He died several years ago, and subsequently his widow, the deceased, married Mr. S.W. Cady.... Mrs. Cady was a shrewd business woman, but possessed a kind heart and a generous, genial disposition.”

Lot 39, where Cady’s Block and Livery stood for so many years, remained vacant for many years after the fire. In 1943-44, a British American gas station and garage was built. The Red Star Garage was managed by Mel Clark into the 1960s. The garage was empty for a few years before Ross Motors started business here in June of 1965.

In 1976, the garage was converted into a real estate office. The exterior of the building was clad with a brick veneer and a wide metal cornice was added.

Current occupants of the building are Tom Devereaux’s Chiropractic Clinic and McConnell, Stewart & Devereaux law offices.



# William Hill Block

79 & 81 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1869

Thomas Bowerman owned this lot in 1863, but it was William Hill who started business here in 1865. In 1869, Hill built a brick block containing two stores. In his Britannia House, Hill sold groceries in one store and dry goods in the other, until 1881 when he declared insolvency and the business and building were sold to John McDonald of Toronto.

The stores remained empty until 1883 when Scott Bros. opened the Seaforth Musical Instrument Emporium. In 1886, Scott Bros. moved to the other side of Main Street. M.A Charlesworth and Joseph Brownell, who had formed a partnership in 1885, moved their growing wholesale and retail grocery business into the Hill Block stores from one of Samuel Dickson's stores to the south. In a Nov. 5, 1886 ad in *The Huron Expositor* they stated: "Owing to our large and increasing trade, we found our late premises far too small, and were compelled through the pressure of business to move to a much larger store." They offered "teas jobbed by the caddie and half chest, at wholesale prices" and assured farmers they could get "job teas and general groceries at wholesale prices in quantities." Charlesworth & Brownell were in business here until 1895.

William Casey & Co., Merchants, were the next tenants from 1896 to 1898. They billed themselves as "the leading tea house in town" selling all grades of tea as well as groceries and crockery.

The stores had separate tenants for most years after 1899. Miss Carrie Kinsey, a milliner, moved from the Kidd Block into the north store in 1900. A Mrs. Hillner occupied this store from 1901 to 1904,

**STAPLES BROS.**  
**BARBERS and**  
**TOBACCONISTS**  
— We carry a Choice Line of —  
**CIGARS - TOBACCOS**  
— **PIPES** —  
Try us for an **EASY SHAVE** and  
**NIFTY HAIR CUT.**  
**Opposite the Commercial Hotel**

but the business she was in is not known. James Dunn was the merchant here in 1905. In 1906, J.T. Staples, a barber, opened a barbershop where he also sold tobacco and smoking equipment. Loftus Stark had a business in the south store in 1900, but he was here just one year. James Gillespie, who bought the property in 1890, started a harness shop here. Gillespie, along with his son, William, was in business for 30 years.

By 1915, the north store was a laundry operated by Hop Sing. W. Lee took over the laundry business in 1923. Rose Shinan opened a clothing store here in 1925 and was in business until 1928. Both stores appear to have been vacant for a while in 1931-33. Violet Gillespie started a dry-cleaning business in 1932 in the south store. Fred Johnson joined the business in 1940 and John Flannery took over in 1957.

The north store became a restaurant in 1934, run by Thomas Chong. The Star Café was here into the 1950s.



William Hill's Britannia House between Peter Markey's frame store to the north and Samuel Dickson's brick block to the south. The photograph was taken some time before 1881 when Hill went out of business and the Markey's frame store burnt. The advertisement at left is from the March 23, 1906 *Huron Expositor*. Below, the photograph was taken in 1938.



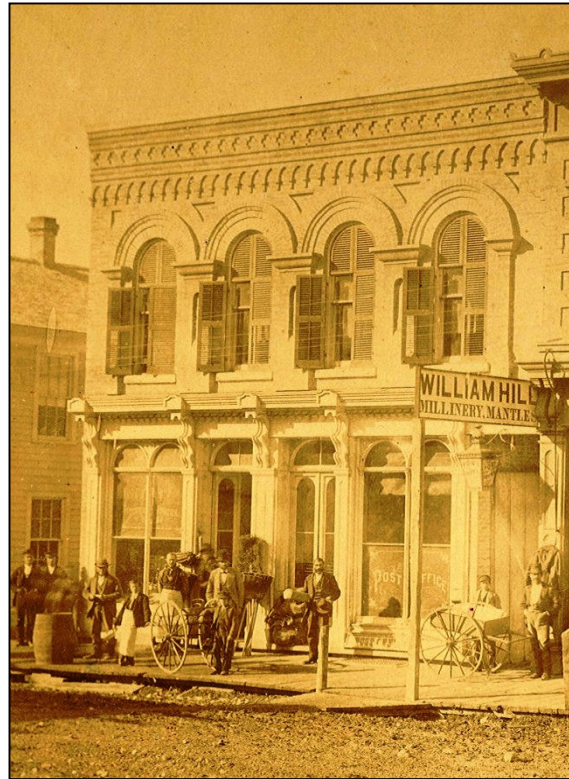
# Samuel Dickson Block

87 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1869

*S*amuel Dickson bought part of Lot 40 from William Hill in 1868. The Dec. 17, 1869 issue of *The Huron Expositor* reported: "On Monday the Seaforth post office will be removed to the new and commodious building erected for the purpose, by our enterprising postmaster, Mr. Samuel Dickson." The post office was at this location until the red brick post office was built in 1913.

The building is a superb example of an original store with a handsome and richly modulated brick upper façade. It is solid white brick with Italianate details, for example, the row of round-headed arcaded windows outlined by pediments and window labels in brick. In later years, the brickwork was emphasized by paint as seen in the photograph taken in 1900 and, less so, in the building as it is today. The flat roofline is accented by the beautiful brickwork frieze, across the upper façade. The building received a new storefront façade in 1978. The storefront cornice with sections marked by box brackets and the end pilasters with large brackets are still relatively intact original features.

James C. Laidlaw of the Canton T. Warehouse was the first tenant in the south store, from October 1869 to 1876. An advertisement in the Oct. 15, 1869 *Huron Expositor* notes: "Mr. James Laidlaw has opened that neat new store in the new post office block as a grocery." Other grocers followed: John Fairley in 1877, Duncan D. Rose, 1878-82, John Fairley again from 1889-92, Adam and James Crozier had The Post Office grocery from 1893-97, and Charles S. Andrews' grocery was here from 1900 to 1915.



The sign for the Post Office is visible in the lower section of the north window. The south store in this photograph is likely Duncan D. Rose's grocery, in business 1878-82.

Miss Ferguson, a dressmaker, is listed as having "rooms at 40" from 1881-82. Agnes Dickson, also a dressmaker, had rooms here from 1883-85.

In 1916, Thomas Phillips moved with his family to Seaforth and he opened Phillips Fruit Store in the south store and his family continued in business here into the 1960s.

## THE CANTON T. T. T. T. T. T. WAREHOUSE

IN THE  
**NEW POST OFFICE BLOCK,**

IS THE PLACE FOR

### **CHOICE TEAS.**

The fact that the subscriber makes this article a speciality, should lead all intending purchasers who like the best market affords, to, at least try his stock.

### **The Finest Liquors !**

And a select stock of Staple and Fancy  
Groceries, always on hand.

**JAMES C. LAIDLAW.**

Seaforth, Jan'y. 21st, 1870.

99-tf.

When the new post office building was built in 1913, the north store was occupied by a car showroom for a while. In 1923, William E. Kerslake opened a flour and feed store here and Kerslake's continued in business until 1961.

John Hamilton owned the next lot in 1863. Paul & Hamilton, Fruit Dealers, did business here for a time, in the frame building to the south. The May 24, 1872 issue of *The Huron Expositor* reported: "Thomas Foster has commenced the work of excavating for the foundation of his new brick hotel, adjoining the post office block." However, Isabelle Campbell writes in *The Story of Seaforth* that Foster added to the existing frame building in 1873 and used it as a hotel. Richard & T.W. Dennie took over



management of the Royal Hotel in 1883, William Simpson in 1885, and William Pinkney in 1890 to 1893. He was the last to do business in the hotel. The building was divided into two separate spaces in 1894. Robert Haxby had a restaurant in one part and James Constable had a barbershop in the other.



The Duncan D. Rose grocery store c. 1880. Advertisements: *The Huron Expositor*, March 10, 1893; July 4, 1893; *Seaforth Sun*, June 8, 1883.

Francis Fishleigh opened his Seaforth House, a hotel in a frame building the south part of this lot, in 1863. Thomas Foster had his Royal Hotel here first before moving to the next building to the north. The old hotel was converted into a store and James Wright sold groceries from here in 1873-74. Thomas Kidd ran a liquor store here in 1876-77. Then, the store was vacant until the Beam brothers opened a

butcher shop in 1884. They were soon replaced in 1885 by George Pierson who was a baker. Pierson in turn was replaced in 1886 by Thomas McBride, also a baker. The store again fell vacant until James Gillespie started a saddle and harnessmaking shop here in 1889. Gillespie was in business here until

## READ THIS!

### JOHN FAIRLEY

POST OFFICE STORE,  
SEAFORTH.

Having decided to give up business in Seaforth, is now selling the whole of his splendid stock of Groceries at prices that should clear them out in short order.

Remember, I mean business as I am going to Manitoba and must clear out the whole stock in short order. Customers get goods almost at their own prices and the stock is being reduced rapidly, but there is plenty left yet. First come, best served.

Remember the Post Office Grocery, Main Street, Seaforth.

JOHN FAIRLEY.

1898. The store and hotel buildings were destroyed by fire in about 1900 and Samuel Dickson bought the lot in 1902. Nothing was built on the lot until many years later when Phillips added a storeroom.

## GROCERIES.

If you want a good article in  
Groceries,

Canned Goods  
or Fruits

You can be supplied at the

POST OFFICE  
STORE.

Choice Hams,  
Shoulders,  
Breakfast Bacon  
and Spiced Roll

Kept constantly on hand. Tele-  
phone connection.

A call solicited.

A. CROZIER & CO.,

SUCCESSORS TO J. FAIRLEY.

SEAFORTH, ONT.

1327

## DENNIE'S HOTEL.

[Late Foster's Hotel.]

Main Street, - - - Seaforth.

R. & T. DENNIE, Proprietors.

Since assuming the management of this house we have completely renovated and refurnished it throughout with new furniture, thereby enabling us to give first class accommodations to the travelling public. The best brands of Liquors and Cigars always kept at the Bar. An attentive hostler always in attendance at the stables.

Particular attention given to the farming community.



Thomas Phillips operated a large retail and wholesale fruit business in the south store of Dickson's Block. In this late 1920s photograph are Thomas Phillips, the man standing in the doorway wearing a suit, his wife, Mary, beside him, sons Frank, at right, and Angelo, leaning on the delivery truck. McKillop Mutual Insurance office is now where the storeroom for Phillips Fruits is in this picture. Advertisements, below: July 24, 1940 Carnival issue of *The Huron Expositor*; left: 1936 store promotions paper.



We pride ourselves on the Freshness and Variety of our Fruits and Vegetables. And, best of all, everything is so reasonably priced.

**-- PHILLIPS' FRUITS --**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

Phone 63      WE DELIVER      Seaforth

**Golden Loaf**  
— and —  
**Prairie Rose**  
**Flour**

Per Cwt.  
**\$2.50**

- FLOUR
- FEED
- and
- SEEDS

**W. E. Kerslake**  
PHONE 6



# Foundry & Machine Shop

97 – 105 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: Machine Shop c. 1870

As early as 1863, Robert Watson and Peter Brohak-awan started a foundry on this Main Street lot, Lot 42. By 1866, August Zapfe and John McCallum were making agricultural implements here in addition to the ordinary work of the foundry. Zapfe & Carter were in business from 1870-71. Zapfe, with his partners, owned the property and foundry which was a large 2-storey brick building. A 15-horsepower engine was used to propel the machinery and 10 men were employed. On May 13, 1870 *The Huron Expositor* reported: "Mr. Thomas Dickson, working in Zapfe & Carter's Foundry, came near having his head blown off last week, by the explosion of molten metal, while being poured into a damp mould. He was injured about the face, one eye, particularly being seriously burned."

The foundry was sold to Thomas Foster in 1873. Kerr & Worth ran the foundry in 1873, but were soon replaced by John Nopper who worked here into 1882. Thomas Foster & Son also managed the foundry as did T.T. Coleman and his sons in the late 1880s and the 1890s. The front part of the property was used, from 1898 on, as a creamery operated by J.W. Creadey until 1900.

Coleman sold the property in 1902 to Thomas D. Levy. Levy had a livery stable here which he ran until 1904 when Stephen Lamb took over. Thomas Simpson replaced Lamb in 1905, Timothy Corbet had it the next year, and then George Turnbull and Robert McIntosh were in the livery business here until 1918.

Turnbull and McIntosh, realizing that the livery business would soon give way to the motor car, sold to Fred Mitchell who opened a garage. John and Charles Broughton took over the business in 1920

## THOS. FOSTER & SONS, Seaforth Foundry.

The success which has attended our efforts in the production of our goods has gained us a reputation, which is valuable to us, and our endeavors shall be in all work entrusted to us, to maintain and increase our hold upon the public favor.

We would call attention to our stock of

*Gang Plows, Land Rollers, Scufflers,  
Cutting Boxes, &c.,*

for early spring trade.

We are in a position to make all necessary repairs to all kinds of

**Reapers, Mowers,  
Agricultural Implements,  
Threshing Machines, &c.**

SPECIAL ATTENTION TO ENGINE AND MILL WORK AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

We manufacture all kinds of

**CHURCH, SCHOOL, GARDEN & LAWN SEATS,  
COLUMNS, CRESTINGS & IRON WORK,**

done on short notice. Moderate Prices. Give us a call.

**THOS. FOSTER & SONS.**

D. J. FOSTER, Manager.

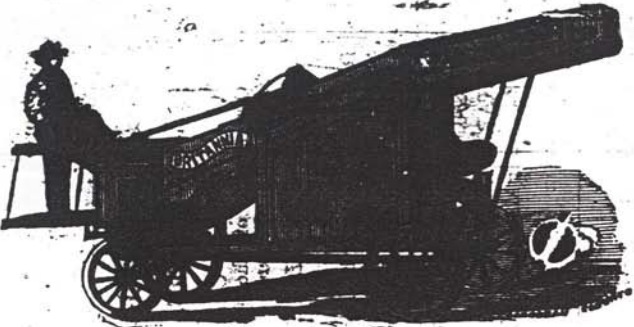
and were here until 1921. John Regier purchased the business in 1923. He went into the transport or cartage business in 1934 and carried on a successful business into the late 1960s.

By 1979, the old foundry building was gone. This lot and the three lots to the south, were sold and a large, modern grocery store was built.

South of the foundry, in 1869, Alex J. McIntosh and Matthew C. Morrison made carriages and

**Seaforth Foundry**  
**ZAPFE & CARTER**  
DESIRE TO CALL THE ATTENTION OF  
THE PUBLIC TO THEIR

### Improved Threshing Machines,



**The Best at Present in Use.**

These machines possess many improvements on any heretofore made. They are manufactured in Machines of TWO SIZES, one especially constructed for travelling; the other a smaller size, calculated more especially for HOME USE. So far as their large machine has been introduced, it has given the VERY BEST SATISFACTION.

**They manufacture the Pitts' Improved Horse Power.**

In addition to the above, the subscribers manufacture almost every article in their line, such as **SAWING MACHINES,**

Capable of sawing from 50 to 60 cords of wood per day.

**STRAW CUTTERS,**  
of a Superior kind.

**GANG PLOWS,**  
The Latest Improved.

**CULTIVATORS AND PLOWS**  
Which cannot be surpassed.

**EVERY DESCRIPTION OF CASTINGS**

other vehicles in their Huron Carriage Factory. On May 20, 1870 *The Huron Expositor* reported: "McIntosh & Morrison's Carriage shop had a narrow escape from destruction by fire Tuesday night. Some passersby noticed a fire under the blacksmithing part, which was extinguished before any damage was done."

Oliver C. Wilson bought the property in 1874 and moved his business here. He dealt in agricultural implements, sewing machines, and musical instruments. In a store next door, Alex Campbell also sold implements in 1867. Five years later, Huron Carriage Works took it over and, in 1874, Wilson owned it.

The store on the south part of the lot was occupied by Scott Bros., Music Dealers, from 1878 to 1881. Scott & Crich, Seedsman, had the north store from 1888 to 1896. O.C. and Andrew Wilson had the south and middle of the three stores throughout the 1890s and early 1900s. E.J. Hamilton and William Kerslake took over the Scott & Crich seed business in 1897. Kerslake owned the property by 1905 and was still in business here in 1922 when all three stores were destroyed by fire.

The land was vacant until Kerslake sold the north part to John Regier in 1925. Regier built a garage and gas station here. Milton Hoff ran the station throughout most of the 1930s to 1950s. By 1960, John Bach owned the garage and used it for his farm machinery sales business.

Alex Campbell sold the vacant part of his Lot 44 in July 1874 to Dr. James B. Smith of London. Smith had plans to build a large confectionery store and bakery, but his plans never reached fruition. In 1904, the land was sold to James Dick. For a time, Dick had a small ice house on the property. Earlier, Walter W. Andrew had a shooting gallery here, and when circuses came to town the merry-go-round was set up here.

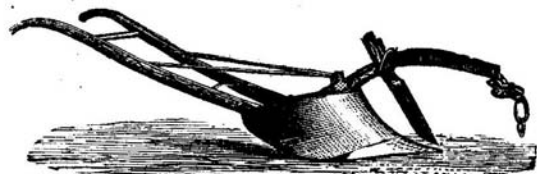
On the next lot, in 1871, Alexander Stewart built a brick blacksmith and wagon shop. In



This building housed McIntosh & Morrison's Carriage Shop in the 1870s and then O.C. Wilson's agricultural implements business. Advertisement below, *The Huron Expositor*, February 20, 1891; at bottom left, April 11, 1884.

**PLOWS!**

**PLOWS!**



**A Car Load of Genuine South Bend**

**CHILLED PLOWS & SULKY PLOWS,**

—JUST RECEIVED AT—

**O. C. WILLSON'S**

**Agricultural Implement Wareroom, Seaforth,**

Which will be sold at old prices, notwithstanding the increase of 10 per cent. import duties, the subscriber being determined to keep those valuable Plows in stock, imported One Hundred and Fifty of them a few days before the rise in the tariff; consequently, he is enabled to sell them at former prices until the present stock is exhausted. Call and see those Plows before buying a common or inferior article. Every Plow guaranteed to give satisfaction or no sale.

A full stock of Massey Reapers and Massey Mowers, Toronto Reapers and Toronto Mowers, Toronto Cord Binders and Massey's Low Down Binder, and Sharp's Rakes, all of which will be sold cheap and on reasonable terms. Repairs of all kinds always on hand for the above machines. Don't fail to see my stock before buying a machine.

**O. C. WILLSON, Main Street, Seaforth.**

## CHANGE OF BUSINESS.

The undersigned desires to inform his old customers and the public that he has disposed of the Blacksmithing business, which he has carried on in Seaforth for over 25 years, to his son,

**J. A. STEWART,**

Who will hereafter carry on the same in all its branches, and he hopes that the same liberal patronage so long extended to him will be continued to his son and successor.

**ALEXANDER STEWART.**

In connection with the above, I beg to say that I will carry on the general blacksmithing business in all its branches in the old stand, and by close attention to the wants of customers, I hope to receive a continuance of the liberal patronage so long extended to my predecessor. Horseshoeing and general jobbing a specialty. All work guaranteed to give satisfaction, and charges reasonable as usual.

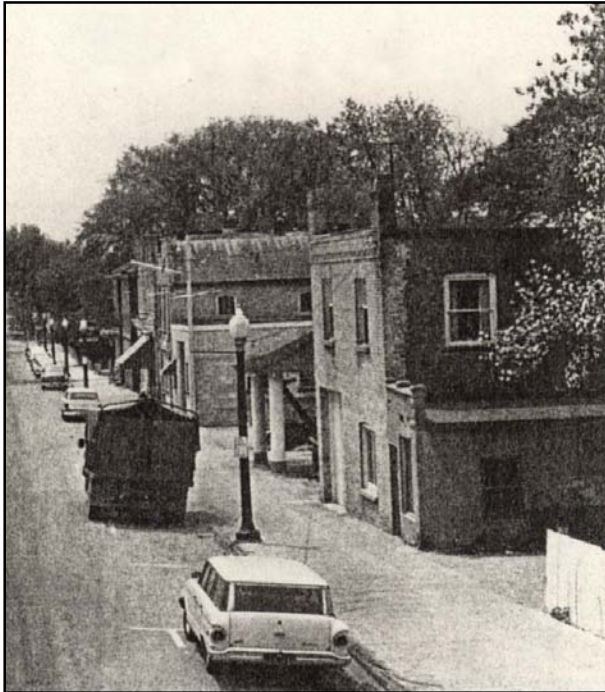
**J. A. STEWART,**

**Main Street, Seaforth.**

1205



1891, his son, John A. Stewart, took over the business and was here until 1944. By 1949, Emerson Durst owned the property. He operated the Seaforth Machine and Electric Welding Shop, or Durst's Machine Shop, into the late 1970s.



Durst's Machine Shop is the building in the right foreground. The advertisement at right is from *The Huron Expositor*, January 10, 1930.

*Introducing the*  
**DYNAMIC NEW**  
**ERSKINE**

FOUR DOOR SEDAN  
**\$1245**  
FOR WALKERVILLE

*Dynamic New Erskine Regal Sedan, for five—wood wheels and trunk rack standard equipment—\$1335 at the factory. Wire wheels and government taxes extra.*  
**114-INCH WHEELBASE**

**More power per pound  
than any other car under \$1300**

**IT'S a big car—full 114-inch wheelbase. It's a powerful car—its 70 horsepower delivers more power per pound of weight than any other car under \$1300. It's a fast car—your daring dictates the speed you travel. It's a comfortable car—with hydraulic shock absorbers, long springs, deep cushions and generous head and leg room. It's a safe car—with never-failing four-wheel brakes, rugged double-drop frame, cam and lever steering and a steering wheel with an unbreakable steel core.**

**A significant car, first of its type and price—built by Studebaker to its 78-year standards of quality. Those who can command the best will drive no smarter-looking cars than this. Its design is as modern as the dynamic new skyscraper architecture of the day. Only by actually seeing and driving the new Erskine can you know how impressively it interprets the spirit of these tremendous times.**

**70-Horsepower, Studebaker-Built Motor—114-Inch Wheelbase—Motor Cushioned in Live Rubber—New Burgess Acoustic Muffler—Lanchester Vibration Dampers—Double Drop Frame—New Type Radiator—Bendix Duo-Servo Four-Wheel Brakes—Timken Tapered Roller Bearings—Adjustable Front Seat and Steering Column—Chromium Plating—40 Miles Per Hour Even When NEW.**

**ERSKINE MODELS AND PRICES**

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Landau, for Five      | \$1410 |
| Sedan, for Five       | 1245   |
| Regal Sedan, for Five | 1235   |
| Tourer, for Five      | 1245   |
| Coupe, for Two        | 1155   |
| Coupe, for Four       | 1230   |
| Club Sedan, for Five  | 1155   |

*All Prices f.o.b. Walkerville.  
Government taxes extra.*

**REGIER'S GARAGE, Seaforth**

**BUILT BY STUDEBAKER — BUILDER OF CHAMPIONS**



# William Hawkshaw Block

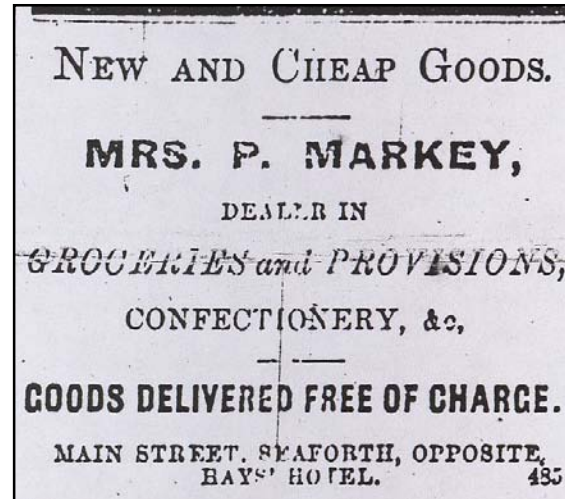
109 – 111 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1888-89

William Hawkshaw bought this lot in September of 1888. John Crawford and Rebecca Gamble were the original owners in 1865. Crawford owned the north part and Gamble the south part. There were two frame buildings on the property at the time. Crawford's building was used as a store and the other frame building was a dwelling. Crawford, a cattle drover, appears to have had a business in the store in the early 1870s and throughout the 1880s. Mrs. P. Markey had a grocery here in 1876-77. Both buildings were burned in February of 1879.

William Hawkshaw, a hotelkeeper, had a brick block erected on the property in 1888. It was a 2-storey building with a particularly attractive upper façade consisting of five window bays separated by projecting brick piers and surmounted by a projecting wood cornice with brackets. The lower store fronts had a wooden cornice with brackets.

The first tenants to occupy the building were the Beattie brothers, Robert and John, who opened a grocery in the south store in 1891. John Beattie continued on in business under the name Beattie Bros. until 1907 at which time he moved to new premises across the street. Nobel Cluff's South End Clothing Emporium occupied the north store from 1893 to 1894.



## SOUTH END CLOTHING EMPORIUM

It is wonderful what a business is being done in both.

**ORDERED AND  
READYMADE  
CLOTHING**

At the South End Clothing Emporium. The reason is that we keep the best, sell the cheapest and fit perfectly.

I am receiving weekly arrivals of Boys', Youths' and Children's Clothing. Just call and be convinced that you have found the right place to buy

*Gents' Furnishings*

Of all kinds. I keep an assortment of everything generally found in a first class Clothing House. Everything is warranted first class quality and prices reasonable.

Remember the South End Clothing Emporium in Beattie Bros.' Block, near the Station, Seaforth.

**NOBLE T. CLUFF.**

The photograph at left shows the Beattie Bros. store and the Kennedy Bros. Palace Meat Market in about 1899. The photograph appears in *Souvenir of Seaforth* published in 1900 by Grip. The advertisements above are from *The Huron Expositor*, September 14, 1877; and, July 4, 1893.



The north store was vacant for a while then was let to Simon Shelley, a butcher, in 1895. He was replaced the next year by another butcher, J.M. Common. The store was again vacant for a few years until Colin Kennedy, a butcher, moved in in 1898. The Kennedy brothers, Colin and Angus, had a butcher shop in the north store until 1904. Some time in 1904 Colin Kennedy moved his shop into the south store and John Beattie, along with William Sclater, moved into the north store. They both continued in business until 1907.

By 1908, Thomas S. Blues had a grocery where Beattie Bros. had been. H.W. Colquhoun was the butcher at work in the other store. In September of 1913, W.J. Finnigan and R.H. Sproat purchased The 'Hub' grocery, then owned by W.W. Reid. James Martin, a sales agent, occupied the south store at this time. By 1914, James Dick was the property owner.

Russell Sproat joined with Ross Sproat in the grocery business in the 1920s. The south store appears to have been vacant for some years before a Mr. Johnson opened a decorating store in 1924. By 1926, the south store was a bakery run by Roy Pinkney. By 1930, T.R. Anderson was running the bakery. The MacDonald brothers, James and Frank, took over from him in 1934.

By 1940, Gordon Dick had replaced Sproat as the grocer in the north store. J.A. MacDonald was still baking in the south store until 1946 when Hugh Thompson moved his shoe repair business here. They both continued in business here into the early 1960s.

Brian Flannigan had a hair salon in the north store by 1975 and was in business here over 10 years. The building was demolished in 1987 to make way for a parking lot.

## Friends, Romans, Countrymen, Stop and Examine those Gro- ceries of **BEATTIE BROTHERS.**

Never were we in such shape as we now are to satisfy everybody. We lead in **TEAS.** Also in **MEATS**, a large stock carefully cured by that veteran, Dorrance, which has no equal in Canada.

Give us a call. We can positively convince you that we are here solely **IN YOUR INTERESTS.**

 **A STORE AND ROOMS TO RENT ADJOINING.**

## **BEATTIE BROS., SEAFORTH.**



The advertisements above are from *The Huron Expositor*, March 10, 1893 and September 26, 1913. The photo-graph shows the interior of Thomas Blues' grocery store. He was in business in the north store from 1908 to 1913 when Sproat and Finnigan took over.

## The **'Hub' Grocery** SEAFORTH

Having purchased the grocery business from Mr. W. W. Reid, we solicit the patronage of all old and new customers.

We will appreciate your trade and will give you good value, handling only choice groceries at lowest possible prices.

## **R. H. Sproat** **W. J. Finnigan**

# Hawkshaw House

117 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1874

The brick hotel, now familiarly known as The Dick House, was built in 1874 by John Bowden. William Bowden was the property owner at the time. Bowden purchased the lot from Thomas Govenlock. Govenlock had a lumber yard here in 1866. He had purchased the lot from its first owner, Sam Hannah, who bought the property in 1863 and made pumps here for a few years before moving to Pennsylvania.

When Govenlock owned the property there was a frame hotel here. It appears in a stereograph taken from the railway tracks looking north (see the story about Houghton's Hotel). John Crites was the first Inn Keeper listed in 1870. From 1871-73, John H. McCallum was the inn keeper of McCallum's Hotel.

James Weir was the first hotel keeper in the new brick hotel from 1876 to 1879. David Ritchie is listed as hotel keeper for 1880 and John Bowden of Egmondville is listed as owner of the property. William Hawkshaw was the owner and hotel keeper of Hawkshaw House by 1883.

In 1890, Frederick Frey, age 40, was the hotelkeeper and William Hawkins was the bartender at Hawkshaw's hotel. The next year, Levi Walper was hotel keeper while Albert Webster was the hostler tending the stables. Walper worked here until 1894. He was replaced by J.H. McClinchey who acted as hotelkeeper for two years. Hawkshaw again took over management of the hotel until 1899 when Jacob Kling was hired. The hotel was sold in 1900 to James Dick, who kept the name Hawkshaw House, and managed it himself throughout the 1900s.

In his younger days, in the 1880s, James Dick

sought adventure in the southwest territories of what today is known as Arizona and New Mexico. In later years he would reminisce about driving loads of supplies into the well-known Territorial Prison at Yuma (Arizona).

In 1909, Dick hired Frank Kling and "Kling's Hotel" was added to the name. Frank Kling died in 1913 of typhoid. His death was blamed on contaminated water from a well next door.

James Dick and his son, Arthur, were the last to do business here as a hotel. By 1918, Arthur was managing the hotel and did so throughout the 1920s, to the early 1950s.

James was among the many residents of Seaforth who financially backed construction of the Palace ice rink. He and his family had a long-standing interest in sports. James was an enthusiastic curler. His sons and grandsons were avid hockey and baseball players.

In 1954, Lenna Dick, Arthur's wife, began using the Dick House as a boarding house. In 1986, the old hotel was renovated into apartments.

It is a handsome two-storey brick structure with a hipped roof. Originally white brick, it appears to have been painted red when it became The Dick House. Slightly arched labels above the doors and windows are accented in white. The six-bay building had three entrances, dividing it into two halves.



Above, Hawkshaw's hotel as pictured in *Souvenir of Seaforth*, 1900. Below, the white brick of Hawkshaw House is, in this c. 1915 photograph, painted red. Striped awnings dress up the second-storey windows and balcony. The original 6-over-6 sash windows have been replaced by newer windows.



# Royal Canadian Legion

123 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario  
Year built: 1959

Long before Royal Canadian Legion Branch 156 built here, the McGinnis brothers, James and Isaac, bought the lot. In its December 1, 1871 issue, *The Huron Expositor* reported: "Mr. Reynolds has sold his block of buildings near the station to James McGinnis, one of his tenants, for the sum of \$1,800." Isabelle Campbell states in *Story of Seaforth* that the McGinnis brothers replaced the existing buildings with one large building containing four stores, ready for occupancy early in 1872.

McGinnis used the two north stores for their pork packing plant and a grocery. After James McGinnis died in 1906, his sister, Margaret, had a candy shop in the first store until 1909.

James Gillespie, a saddler, had a shop in one of the middle stores starting in 1876. Gillespie was in business here until 1890. James Jamieson and Richard Smith, both shoemakers, had a store next door, Jamieson in 1876 and Smith from 1877-78.

In the third store Mrs. Annie Erwin did business for a short time for the Toronto Millinery Co. starting in September of 1870 to 1871. Miss Leech moved her millinery shop here for a couple years, from 1872-73. James Wright, a grocer, was the next tenant here in 1876.

Mrs. Charles M. Dunlop opened the Victoria Hall in the

fourth store in May of 1872. It was advertised as a hotel, eating house and ice cream parlor. Victoria Hall lasted only one year as a hotel.

Hiram Deagon had his oysters and confectionery shop in one of the south stores in 1880. The next year he moved to the other side of the street between Robertson's Hardware and Murphy's grocery store.

Robert and John Beattie, at the time aged 25 and 23 respectively, were listed as grocers in two of the stores in 1890. They soon moved a little ways north to a store in William Hawkshaw's Block. J.W. Snell, a dyer, occupied one of the middle stores in 1891. In 1892, Ralph Elliott opened a butcher shop in one of the stores and was in business until 1898. Gilbert Elliott is listed as the tenant of the shop in 1893-94.



**TORONTO MILLINERY.**  
**MISS ERWIN,**  
DESIRES to respectfully inform the ladies of Seaforth and vicinity, that she has removed her Millinery Establishment to  
**REYNOLD'S BLOCK !**  
NEAR THE RAILWAY STATION.

Miss Erwin would also take this opportunity of saying that she has very considerably increased her stock which consists of  
**MANTLES,**  
**HATS**  
**AND BONNETS,**  
Ready trimmed.  
**DRESS CAPS,**  
&c., &c.  
Orders for all kind of work, such as  
**MANTLE**  
**AND DRESS-MAKING,**  
**TRIMMING,**  
**BRAIDING, ETC.**  
**PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.**  
A stock of piece Satins of all shades on hand.  
Seaforth, Sept. 21st, 1870. I46-tf

John Donaldson had a saddlery in one of the stores in 1895. The last tenant here was Alfred Hill, a shoemaker, who was still doing business after 1909.

The building was vacant for several years after Hill left and was wrecked in the early 1920s. Malcolm McKellar purchased the lot in 1921. A stable provided shelter for McKellar's horse, Dobbin, used to pull the express delivery wagon.

The lot was sold to the Legion in 1945, but it was not until 1959 that the Legion hall was built. In the 1930s, Legion members met in rooms at the Post Office. Later, as WWII veterans began returning,

This is half of a stereograph taken in the early 1880s. The large building at foreground right, with "Hotel" painted on it, is possibly the McGinnis store block. However, no hotelkeeper is listed in the tax assessment records for this lot at the time. The advertisement above is from *The Huron Expositor*, October 21, 1870.

larger quarters were needed, and for several years the Branch made use of rooms in Cardno Hall. In 1948 an agreement was entered into with the Town of Seaforth to use facilities in the new Memorial Arena and Community Centre, and this served the Branch for the next 12 years.

Many among the members looked to the day when Branch 156 could occupy its own building. Discussions to this end, extending over several years, were translated into action in 1959 when construction began on the Legion Memorial Hall. The building was occupied by early 1960 and the formal opening was held on June 2, 1961.

Seaforth Branch 156 of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League was organized at a meeting held in the G.W.V.A. Hall on October 15, 1929. A charter was issued to the Branch on October 25 of that same year.

From its inception the Branch assumed responsibility for all matters to do with veterans' welfare and with perpetuating the memory of those veterans who made the supreme sacrifice. One of the first activities of the Branch was to organize a church parade and Armistice Day program, held a few weeks after the Branch was established.

Throughout the 1930s the activities of the Branch were directed to assisting those who found themselves in need. With the outbreak of WWII in 1939, members spared no effort to provide full

support on the home front. Branch 156 participated throughout the war in a series of events, alone and with other organizations, which produced thousands of dollars in aid.

In WWI 142 Seaforth men and women enlisted and 36 were killed. In WWII there were 350 enlistments, of which 20 died in service. A dozen Seaforth men took part in the Korean War.

Since its opening the new Legion Hall has become the centre for much social activity in the community. Not only has the Branch provided modern facilities for the people of the community, it has continued to accept responsibility for and co-operate with programs which have meant much to the Seaforth district. For many years Branch 156 has sponsored Saturday morning hockey and hundreds of area children have taken their fledgling steps as hockey players while participating in the Legion-sponsored program. Similarly, in public speaking, the Legion has provided encouragement to area school children. Branch 156, by its gift to a 1970 fund-raising campaign, made possible a room in Seaforth Community Hospital.

A Women's Auxiliary was formed on April 14, 1951. Financing of the building and later improvements to it were made possible in the main by the dedicated efforts of Branch members as well as by the Women's Auxiliary.



# Lawn Bowling Club & Greens

127 Main Street South, Seaforth, Ontario

Year built: 1929

Lawn bowling club has been alive in Seaforth since the late 1890s. The founder and first president of the club was James McMichael. In April 1904, he paid \$300 for property on Victoria Street and donated it to the club. This site was the lawn bowling green until the club moved to its present location on Main Street in 1928.

The land here was, for many years, virgin forest listed as "Beaver Meadow." Only one small building was there on the southeast corner, built by the Board of Trade. Any grain or produce dealer was allowed to use it. When farmers arrived with their wagons and sleighs well laden with farm products, these buyers stepped out to vie with one another in purchasing these commodities.

The majestic elm tree near the clubhouse was saved from the axe when John Beattie cleared land in 1890, and it survived a lightning strike in May 1930. The land was landscaped first. Then, the clubhouse was built in 1929. It is a single-storey frame structure with a high cottage-style roof and large front windows.

On August 14, 1929 the opening tournament of the new greens was reported to be the largest and most successful ever held in Western Ontario. Since the clubhouse was not yet finished, the ladies served dinner and supper in the skating rink nearby.

The first Ladies' Lawn Bowling Club was organized May 7, 1907 with 30 members paying a \$2 fee and for some unexplained reason another five paid just \$1. By 1910 they were down to 20 paid members and so the group disbanded in 1912.



The Lawn Bowling Club had a green on Victoria Street, now a parking lot behind Bethel Bible Church. The photograph above looks northeast toward Victoria Street. The photograph at left looks toward Crombie Street and the mill. James McMichael is the white-haired man, fourth from the right in this photograph. Below, the Ladies' Lawn Bowling Club in 1907. Front row from left: Fergus Campbell, Lois Johnson, Mrs. Coulson, Mrs. M.Y. McLean, Marie Kidd and Mrs. J.C. Greig. Middle row from left: Mrs. B.B. Gunn, Jessie McIntyre, Francis Gray, Gretta Watson, Gertie Laidlaw, Gladys Henderson, Edith Davidson, Edna Henderson, Mrs. G.E. Parkes and Mrs. Frank Burrows. Back row from left: Jessie Bethune, Marion Watson, Sarabel McLean, Bessie Young, Katie Killoran, Rita Young, Florence Johnson and Min MacKay.

Interest was revived along with plans for new greens and 35 members formed a club again in 1929. They are still active today.

Mrs. R.J. Sproat and her husband, Ross, were the first team captains in 1929. Seaforth Club bowlers have distinguished themselves through the years in all the sport's competitive categories. The District Four doubles championship was won in 1934. The clubhouse walls are lined with titles and trophies.

