

‘THE HUT’ – VILLAGE’S OLDEST HOME

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History 1876-1985

The Hut is situated on Bayfield Terrace on Lots 12 and 13. The villagers built a school there in 1836. This building was of cedar logs 20 ft. by 30 ft. Poles were used as rafters in the construction of the cottage roof on which there were wood shingles.

It was the first school in all Stanley Township and Edward Templeton whose father was an early settler on the Huron Road was the first teacher in 1836.

In 1872, after a new school was built, it was sold to Charles J. Wilson by the school trustees of section eight. Other owners were: Wm. Henry McCann, hotelkeeper; Charles Stalker, hotelkeeper; Jane McCann (wife of Henry McCann; Thomas Twentyman (bricklayer); John Kirkpatrick; and Dr. N.W. Woods. His daughter Lucy Diehl also lived there.

While a school, it was used for public meetings and church services and early burials were made around it. When Trinity Church was built, members were buried in the church yard and the remains of loved ones were moved from the school grounds and re-interred in the church yard.

After Bayfield Cemetery Co. was formed in 1861 and plots laid out all those buried around the school and Trinity Church were moved to the cemetery.

This home has been made into one of the more attractive in Bayfield and has a plaque on it denoting its historical importance.

After the death of Mrs. Lucy Woods Diehl in May 1979, ‘The Hut’ became the property of Robert Middleton. Mr. Middleton then sold to Robert Cluff of Bayfield in 1980. This property consisted of three lots, Mr. Cluff retained two lots for himself, selling the one on which ‘The Hut’ is situated to Dr. Robin Waite of Stratford in 1980.

