A
Walking Tour
of
Old Kars

Victory parade from Osgoode to North Gower,

Nov. 11, 1918

"Celebrating Our Village Heritage"

Presented by Kars R.A and

Rideau Township Historical Society

July 2022

Sources:

- Kars Tweedsmuir Histories, held at the City of Ottawa Archives, Rideau Branch, in North Gower
- Kars on the Rideau, by Coral Lindsay
- Buildings of Old Rideau Township: A Driving Tour, by Betty Bartlett

Walking Tour Stops

1. 6733 Rideau Valley Drive
2. 1586 Old Wellington St.
3. 6738 Lord Nelson St.
4. 1580 Old Wellington St.
5. 6732 Waterloo St. ✻
6. 1581 Old Wellington St.
7. 1585 Old Wellington St.
8. 6726 Lord Nelson St.
9. 6727 Lord Nelson St. ✻
10. 6723 Lord Nelson St.
11. 6722 Lord Nelson St. ✻
12. 1579 Washington St. ✻
13. 1571 Washington St.
14. 1569 Kars Rectory St.
15. 6711 Lord Nelson St.
16. 6716 Lord Nelson St.
17. 6700 Rideau Valley Drive ✻
18. 6699 Rideau Valley Drive
19. 6705 Rideau Valley Drive
20. 6716 Rideau Valley Drive
21. 6718 Rideau Valley Drive
22. 6722 Rideau Valley Drive ✻
23. 1597 Old Wellington St

✻ Indicates properties designated as historically significant by Rideau Township and the City of Ottawa

1. 6733 Rideau Valley Dr.
Wellington Hotel/Holmes House/Adams Office

This was built as a hotel in the early 1860s; at one time it had a woodshed, horse stable and carriage shed behind the building like many houses. By 1882 it became a store, with the first Kars library in a corner of the store. Later a tinsmith lived and worked here, then Dr. Ruby did the same. It was a private residence for several years and now houses an accounting firm.

2. 1586 Old Wellington St.
Eastman/Wallace/Adams house

This log house was covered with wood siding for many years. Then the present owners uncovered the beautiful logs several decades ago. It was built before 1861, but the exact date is not known. Over the years it has housed a shoemaker shop, a saddler shop, and a post office.

3. 6738 Lord Nelson St.
Fennell/Milner-Hale house

This lot changed hands several times, but the house was built in 1904 by R. R. Fennell, and it stayed in Fennell hands until the present owners purchased it in the 1980s. It is in an Italianate/Tuscan style, with a hipped roof, round hooded dormer windows, bracketing under the eaves, a large verandah and thick turned posts.

4. 1580 Old Wellington St.
Martin/Graham/Daley house

This house was built in the 1870s, either by Stephen Martin or by one of his sons. The rear section was another house that was moved there. Note the attractive handcrafted decorative gable trim ("gingerbread").

5. 6732 Waterloo St. (designated)
Martin/Monkman/Minor house

The east part of this building was built first by Adam J. Eastman in the 1850s, and probably used as a warehouse and office at first, for the mill across the street. After Stephen Martin purchased it in 1858, he added the west part which housed a carpenter shop. The current owners, the Minors, have made subsequent changes to it.

6. 1581 Old Wellington St.
Martin/Clarke/Fortier house

Joseph Martin built the house in 1904. At one time it held a millinery shop. It is in a Tuscan style, with a very low gable roof; the foundation is field stone and mortar. The house also held Continuation school classes until the new school was built in 1910.

7. 1585 Old Wellington St.
Butler/Wright house

This house was built by Truelove Butler, a good stone mason, about 1865. Butler was one of the pioneers of Osgoode Township, who married Margaret Drew, a schoolteacher in Kars.

8. 6726 Lord Nelson St.
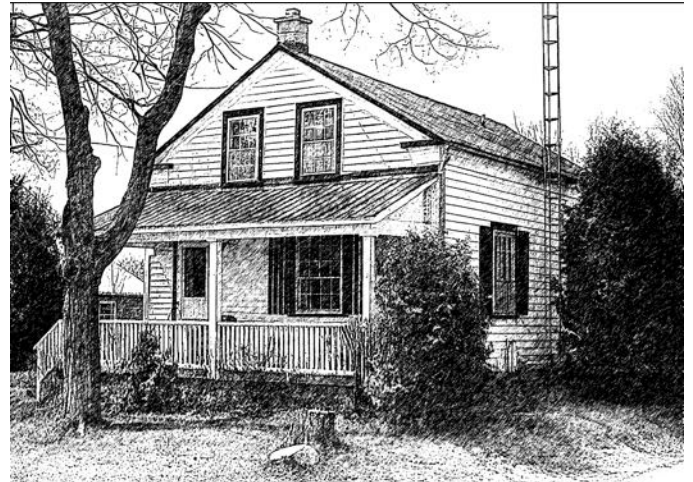**Callender/Kyd/Quecke house**

This lot, like most of the village, was first owned by A. J. Eastman. The house was probably built by a later owner, A. Callendar, in 1873. It had several owners until the Kyd family settled in – they lived here for several decades.

9. 6727 Lord Nelson St. (designated)
Eastman/Miller/Bishop house

This house was built by Adam Johnston Eastman, owner of the steam-powered sawmill on Stevens Creek, in the 1860s. It is a derivation of the Neo-classical style, with an L-shaped plan. Later owners built an addition to it, in keeping with the original style.

10. 6723 Lord Nelson St.
Richardson/Kirkpatrick/Egan house

William Richardson, local ferryman, built this house about 1876, with the help of his neighbours. After the Lorne Bridge opened, he became a shoemaker. The Kirkpatrick family live here for several decades in the mid-1900s.

11. 6722 Lord Nelson St. (designated)
Kerr/Macmorine/Perry-McDonald house

This "vernacular" house (unsophisticated, simple, functional) was built about 1860 by William Kerr, local tanner. He and his wife raised nine children in this small house. Note the Classical Revival features – returned eaves, simple trim under the roof line, the overall symmetrical appearance.

12. 1579 Washington St., (designated)
Eastman/Lindsay/Hearn house

Built before 1859 by A. J. Eastman. Note the end-gable design, with off-centre door, flanked by 12-pane windows, located on the long side. A modern addition has been added. The barn is still standing; it served as a carriage house, horse stable and hen house.

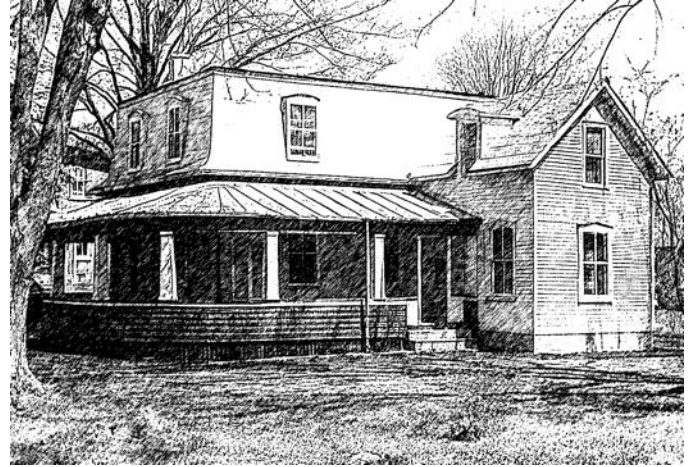## 13. 1571 Washington St.
Payne/Smith/Colton house

This large Queen Anne style house was probably built in 1918, although there were several owners of the property before this. The pillared verandah and the pair of round-head windows in the gable are features of note. The barn, used for horses and chickens, is still in good condition.

14. 1569 Kars Rectory St.
Rectory/Noble/Lefebvre-Taylor house

The former Anglican rectory was built in1895-97. The house has been in private ownership since the 1980s, and has been well-maintained. Note the brackets under the eaves, indications of a Tuscan style. There was a large veranda at one time, no longer present. The garage was added later.

15. 6711 Lord Nelson St.
Ruby/Wallace/Kennedy house

This lovely house was built by John G. Jamieson about 1885. Note the mansard roof and dormered windows. A later resident, Dr. Ruby, added the gable wing in 1916 and had his doctor's office there. Two generations of the Wallace family lived there from 1920 till 1986.

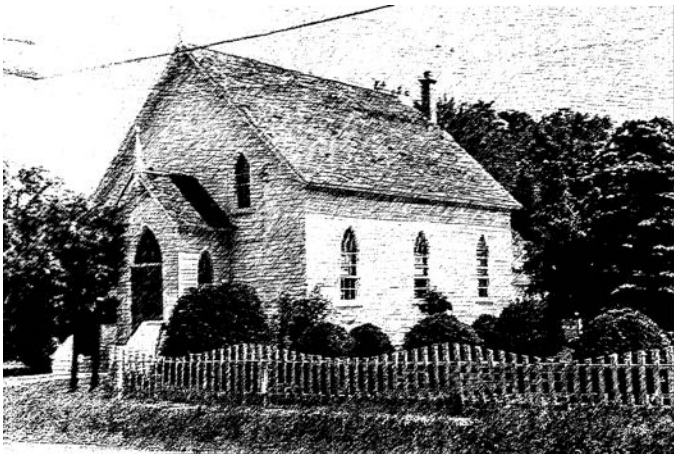## 16. 6716 Lord Nelson St.
Lindsay/Gagnon/Hess house

This house was once one of the largest frame houses in the village. It was built in 1905 by Winkworth Lindsay, a local carpenter.

17. 6700 Rideau Valley Dr., designated
Eastman/Bryan/Graham house

This was built in the 1870s by A. J. Eastman. It is a good example of the style of the period, with its suggestion of Gothic Revival detailing. The most interesting decorative feature is the brickwork in contrasting buff-coloured bricks.

18. 6699 Rideau Valley Dr.
St. John the Baptist Anglican Church

The church was built in 1850 in the Elmview Cemetery south of the village. In 1905 it was moved to its present location and new sheds were built. It was renovated in 1925 for its 75th anniversary. In 1960 it was insulated and the interior renovated; the windows were replaced by new memorial stained glass windows. The Parish Hall was added in 1985.

19. 6705 Rideau Valley Dr.
Veitch/Boyd/Egner house

This brick house was built around 1880 for Mrs. Eliza Kelley. Albert Veitch owned it around 1900, and built a furniture store and funeral home next door (later moved). David Boyd and his wife renovated the house, and lived here from 1938 to 1961.

20. 6716 Rideau Valley Dr.
Montgomery/Levere/Pearl house

The original small house was probably built about 1860, and at one time there was a blacksmith shop behind it. Various additions have been made over the years.

21. 6718 Rideau Valley Dr.
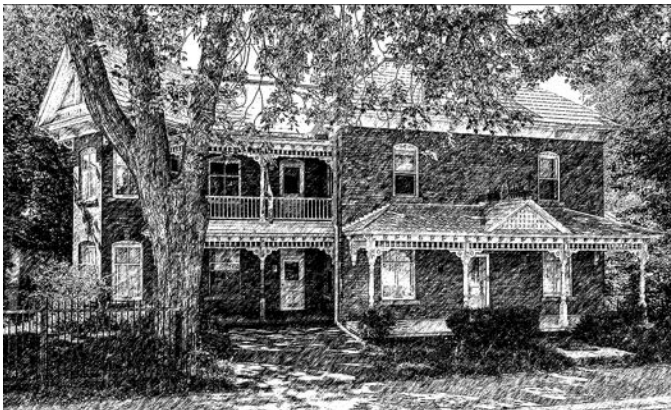*Lindsay/Crawford/DeSousa house*

The present cement block house was build by William Boyd of Osgoode in the early 20th century to replace the earlier brick one that burned down. It held a grocery store and telegraph office prior to 1900.

22. 6722 Rideau Valley Dr. (designated)
Lindsay/Davy/Pflaum house

This house was built in 1905 for Charles Gavin Lindsay, postmaster, and held the post office for many years. It is the largest example of Queen Anne architecture in the former Rideau Township. In 1946-48 it also contained a general store.

23. 1597 Old Wellington St.
E.P. Hunt Store/McCleery/Mayor House

The present building was moved there in 1938 from the lot next to the Anglican Church after fire levelled the entire business block, including the store.