

Legendary Locals of Pelham: Max Whittle, the Man Who Built Pelham



Outerfount's Tavern in Pelham's History

When the War of 1812 was over, and the rest of Napoleon had taken place in 1815, people left the British Isles in great numbers to make money for themselves in Upper and Lower Canada. By 1822 there were 200,000 in the latter, in Upper Canada. Political friction developed between those whose views differed, and William Lyon Mackenzie, a radical, looked on the horizon. The rebellion of 1837-38 was, therefore, the anti-Conservative view of Mackenzie was ultimately justified, chiefly due to the influence of such men as Robert Baldwin, a British supporter of the British form of government. He claimed that "in governing about the world, the aid of advisers who had the experience of the people in Upper Canada as in England."

The rebellion of 1837-38 was very close to Pelham. Samuel Chandler of the rebels gathered together a band of Mackenzie's followers. About 150 in number, and set up camp in the Scott Hills. They had their camp of only 4000 words surrounding the camp. According to the rebels' story, "They were in a commanding position on the woods of the farm of Aaron Whitehead, about three miles west of St. John's. Here, they had a wide view of the country and were protected by a labyrinth of rivers and meadows."

Messengers, following a report in the Ghent Mills, reached their destination who was there in possession with a small troop of Queen's Lancers patrolling the Niagara River. He sent a message with twelve men to the camp to St. John's to discover what the rebels were. Armed with swords and pistols, they forced themselves in Outerfount's Tavern. The rebels decided to attack their house, which was two miles south of St. John's. They

PHOTO BY CHANDLER'S SON IN POSSESSION OF PELHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PHOTO BY H. H. HALL.

forced Mr. Chandler of the Thromans' officers, and the son of three hundred, which cost him five or a severe loss of that time.

The rebels contemplated their procedure outside the schoolhouse, but the sleeping [and] three, waiting about, etc. When the rebels, tired of the army, they missed, but the shot proved to awaken the Lancers, who immediately began firing from the outside windows. They got into a strong position, but when the rebels began dragging barrels of stone into the house with the purpose of setting fire to it, they surrendered. They were dispersed into the forest but were left unharmed. Chandler, James Morrison, and others, and the other leaders. Although Chandler was considered to be hanged, Lord Durham admitted the rebels to be in Van. Chandler's first statement, years later, he escaped to London, Britain and from all accounts, he was a regular man, a regular man. Only one rebel was hanged, James Morrison.

A few weeks later, William Lyon Mackenzie, he was happily sent to the United States, where he established a temporary government on Navy Island in the Niagara River. After only a month, the United States took action for breaking the neutrality laws. In 1849, he returned to Canada and re-visited the political scene.

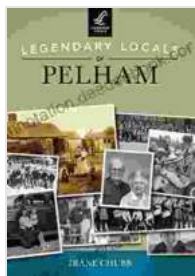
Along the line of the railway, Outerfount's Tavern was taken to British to become a T. Riley's General Store, then Dale and Barton's and later, Gaiting's Furniture, a business young to such an exciting adventure. It is now a dining room called "22's."

Catherine A. Rice

SOURCE: "Samuel Chandler, of St. John's," by Cassius M. Hall, "History of Pelham County," published by the Pelham Historical Society, Pelham, N.C., 1911.

Pelham, Ontario, is a thriving town with a rich history dating back to the early 1800s. One of the most influential figures in Pelham's history is Max

Whittle, the town's founder. Whittle was a visionary leader who played a pivotal role in shaping Pelham into the community it is today.



Legendary Locals of Pelham by Max Whittle

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

- Language : English
- File size : 17150 KB
- Text-to-Speech : Enabled
- Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
- Word Wise : Enabled
- Screen Reader : Supported
- Print length : 131 pages



Early Life and Career

Max Whittle was born in England in 1813. He immigrated to Canada in 1832 and settled in the Niagara region. Whittle quickly became involved in the local community, serving as a justice of the peace and a member of the local council.

In 1854, Whittle purchased a large tract of land in the area that would become Pelham. He envisioned a new town that would be a center of commerce and industry. Whittle named the town after his hometown in England.

Founding Pelham

Whittle's vision for Pelham quickly became a reality. He donated land for a school, a church, and a town hall. He also attracted new businesses to the area, including a flour mill, a tannery, and a foundry.

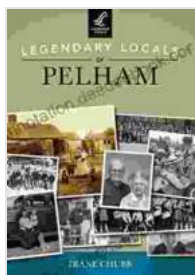
Pelham grew rapidly under Whittle's leadership. In 1864, it was incorporated as a village. By 1874, it had become a town. Whittle served as Pelham's first mayor and held the position for many years.

Legacy

Max Whittle died in 1891. He left behind a legacy of leadership and community service that continues to inspire Pelham residents today. Whittle's vision for Pelham has been realized, and the town has become a thriving community with a strong sense of history and pride.

In recognition of his contributions to Pelham, Whittle has been honored in many ways. A street in Pelham is named after him, and a park has been dedicated in his memory. The Max Whittle Community Centre is a popular gathering place for residents of all ages.

Max Whittle was a visionary leader who played a pivotal role in the founding and development of Pelham, Ontario. His legacy of leadership and community service continues to inspire Pelham residents today. Whittle's vision for Pelham has been realized, and the town has become a thriving community with a strong sense of history and pride.



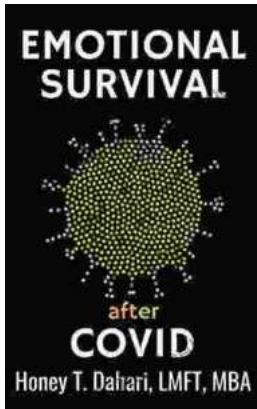
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