

2 Hatt Street est. 1804 Richard Hatt



Canadian Military History, Bruce Forsyth, January 2021

The historic building was originally as a storage and office building next to his business, Dundas Mills.

During the War of 1812, it served as a temporary barracks for some 7,000 British soldiers and their native warrior allies who descended upon the town in the fall of 1813.

Hatt had previously hosted Major-General Isaac Brock, commander of British Forces in Upper Canada, who stayed in the building on 9 August 1812, while en route to the Battle of Queenston Heights.



Parks Canada's 2019 Whole City Approach & "Framework for History and Commemoration: National Historic Sites System Plan" outlines ten key practices for engaging and connecting with audiences, capturing their imaginations and sparking their curiosity:

- 1. Craft big stories.
- 2. Address conflict and controversy.
- 3. Seek opportunities for Indigenous peoples to share and communicate their history, on their own terms.
- 4. Realize that history is written from a worldview.
- 5. Share authority.
- 6. Emphasize a full range of voices, perspectives and experiences.
- 7. Acknowledge that humans have touched all heritage places, including parks and natural areas.
- 8. Recognize that power dynamics affect understandings of heritage places.
- 9. Explore the spectrum of powerful memories and meanings attached to heritage places.
- 10. Appreciate that interpretations of the past are constantly evolving.

https://hamiltoncivicmuseums.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Hamilton-Civic-Museum-Strategy.pdf



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MacNab's Kitchen

In the 19th century servants were employed in large homes like Dundurn to do a variety of tasks such as cleaning, polishing and cooking. Assisted by Dundurn's Cook Demonstrators, guests will work together to make a traditional recipe in our historic kitchen.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to explore with costumed staff over 40 rooms and discover the history of the MacNab family and the servants who lived and worked below stairs.

https://hamiltoncivicmuseums.ca/learning/

Black Presence in Hamilton-Dundas

- Black people have been in Hamilton-Dundas since the 1700s
 https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/black-history-1.4543788
- Coloured Corps in War of 1812 numbered about 40 Black men who trained at Fort George, Niagara on the Lake, and fought at Queenston Heights. Alongside the 41st foot regiment, they "fired a single volley with considerable execution, and then charged with a tremendous tumult," bringing about the Americans' surrender
- approximately 120 Black soldiers, of the Coloured Corps, fought alongside the government forces to suppress the 1837-8 Upper Canada rebellion. Sir Allan MacNab, a prominent figure in the loyalist movement, commanded the government volunteers that included these Black soldiers.
- The Canadian Encyclopedia

Beasley Family Builders Of Fine Homes In Hamilton One Fine Example Stands In Constant Use Today

Lived First On Dundurn Castle Site Devoted Slave Settled In Cottage

By Mabel Burkholder

ilton that could be called architec- in trade with the Indians. ture. An old newspaper report Richard Beasley was also an agwhich lies before me says that there riculturist of no mean ability, for in were five brick houses in Hamilton almost a magical way, as it would month, are working for the Ford

Looking at the subject of dom-grounds of Dundurn, a large white estic and industrial building in Ham- frame house on King Street East, ilton from the point of time, it might ily homestead. There are reports to be well to start in the 1820's, al- the effect that Richard Beasley also though at that time there were few had a store on King Street East, not houses other than the log structures far from Ferguson Avenue. Miss of the first settlers. Wood was abun- Margaret Beasley, who gave me much dant, cheap and of excellent qual- of the material for this article, does ity, and gradually it became easier not feel very clear about her greatto get the boards sawn and planed. grandfather's venture in store keep-Also some people learned to make ing. She doesn't feel sure that he bricks from the clay of their own even ran a store, although she knows farms. Gradually the settlers wished there are reports to that effect and to register their growing prosperity has seen newspaper clippings on the It sounds like heavy paper being David lived until his death in 1849. by building better dwellings than subject in the public library. She their parents had been forced to put thinks the place might have been up with. A few noteworthy homes rather a depot for the receiving struggled into existence, though there and selling of furs, for Richard Beaswas nothing in the 1820's in Ham-ley for a long time was interested

sixth mayor of the city.

Mary Sarah married Patrick Ham-

It is interesting to know of a slave. named Wilson, owned by Henry Beasley, who when slavery was abolished would not leave his master. Thomas Beasley, son of Henry (who for many years was city clerk), gave Wilson a cottage at the Delta. Here, after his working days were over.

Silk Worms Make Sufficient Thread For Few Hose

Dearborn, Mich., Sept. 13, (UP)crinkled as the thousands of silk His wife (Eliza Ryckman) died in worms eat their weight in mulberry 1845 aged 25 years. David and his

The scene is not Japan, however. Church Cathedral. The 84,000 white worms, which devour two tons of mulberry leaves a the state of the James were Motor Commons at famed Com

Keziah married Nehemiah Ford, the devoted servitor lived until his death in 1874.

The Fountain

But for our purpose in studying the buildings erected by the Beasley family in early days, we are glad to note that one fine example is still standing and in constant use. According to Colonel Richard Beasley's plan to provide each of his sons with a home, he caused to be erected for his second son, David Clement, a fine residence on King Street west, south side, at Margaret Street, and opposite the present Victoria Park. It has been known in modern times as the Fountain, because of the little statuette on the lawn, representing two children holding an umbrella over which the water of the fountain drips, Here wife were buried beneath tombs in the graveyard in the rear of Christ's

This fine old house is in colonial style, comprising a second storey development of the cupola, a New England feature called a 'monitor' To the Colored Inhabitants of Hamilton and its vicinity:

I receive, my friends, with feelings of greatest pleasure the address you were so good as to present to me on the occasion of my return to my family and friends, and I beg you will allow me to assure you of the high sense I entertain of the honor you have done me in the sentiments expressed therein, respecting my public service in this colony generally, and also towards yourselves in particular, in haring your address, in conjunction with your zealous, sincere, and excellent friend, Dr. Rolph, to the foot of the throne of our beloved sovereign.

It affords me great satisfaction to state to you, that Her Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince Albert, were pleased to receive your address most graciously: and I have it in command from His Royal Highness to assure you, that Her Majesty will ever bear in mind the just claims you possess on her gracious protection and care. both as respects your well tried lovalty and devotion to her person and sovernment, in a season of great peril and difficulty, and as freemen seeking the enjoyment of that liberty, which can only exist in a country with a constitutional like our own, which not only proclaims in theory that all men are free and equal under the law, but actually strikes the chain and the fetter from the limbs of the slave, and makes him "free indeed."

The kind and hospitable reception I have med with from all ranks and conditions of men, in the land of my fathers, has made a deep and lasting impression on my heart; and as you rejoice with me in this, I am proud to acknowledge, that to your faithful adherence to me, at the period of our civil troubles and public invasions from a neighboring States, I am in some respects indebted for that regard with which I have been personally honored, during my absence from this country.

The case of Nelson Hacket, to which you allude, has already been known to me, and I am happy to say, has been brought under the notice of her Majesty's government and the Imperial Parliament, where I am sure it will receive all of the attention its great importance demands. I shall, however, be most happy to peruse the papers you have prepared on the subject, and you may rely on my using every exertion in my power to procure a full measure of justice for the injured parties.

For the expression of your good wishes for the welfare of myself and family, as well as for the tender of your support and confidence, I beg you will accept my warmest thanks. I hope I may ever continue to deserve these marks of your regard and esteem, and you may rest assured that you will at all times find me ready to advocate for your cause, and maintain your rights and liberties against "the injustices of slave claimers," and any who may seek to oppress you. In the meantime, wishing you all every happiness you can desire.

I am, your faithful friend,

And obedient servant,

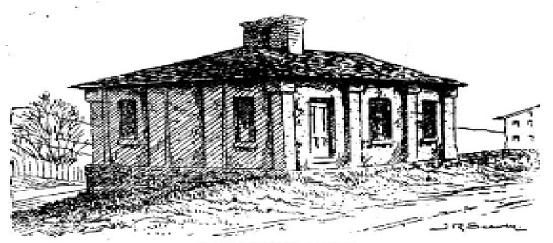
MACNAB 1841-2

richer in wealth of climbing branching, flowering things, a medity and a network of trailing vines and blossoming shrubs through which the sun peeped taughing.

There were lilacs, lilacs, sweeter sweetest, many tinted, everywhere, and the bonnie hawthornes rested their trays of snow on the tottering fence's old grey heads, while the plentiful sprinkling of grave, stately forest frees whispered softly in the rising wind to each other of what different times they could recall if they wished

old gentleman showed excellent taste in his selection of a building site on which to place his, then, handsome house. A more charming spot of the kind could hardly be imagined, cheerful to a degree, and possessing many beautiful peops away to blue distance above Dundas, or Flamboro, with prettiest imaginable foreground of home scenery.

A house set on a hill and surrounded with fine old trees has still infilnite capabilities even when neglect and ago have started in to do their worst.



THE OLD TOLL HOUSE

of what was, before change and death and mutability wrought havos with , the old house on the hill,

Early in the thirties an English gentleman of the name of Symonds. who, had made a considerable fortune in the West Indies, happened strangely enough, to settle for a time at Ancaster, where he became the possessor of a very beautiful estate, about 500 acres in all, extending north to the brow of the mountain, including the land on and around the present lime kilns, and the farms of Dougherty and MacNiven abutting on the Lovers' Lane. Abundantly watered, richly wooded, close to the haunts of man, and yet practically miles away, it must have been a goodly heritage. The

Though empty now, not swept nor garnished, still a riance at the elient rooms with their high ceilings, goodly proportions and well-bixed windows reveals underlably the fact that the old place was designed and built by a gentleman, for gentlefolk to live inand here, sui juris, the West Indian gentleman and his wife and sons, and his friend Dr. Roigh, who had a house close by, spent several years in lavish style, with all that heart could desire, including blood horses in the stable. and a black Pompey in the house, brought from the West Indian home. until the time came that their act on the Ancastrian stage being finished, they passed into the wings, and the house changed hards, although its decadence did not begin for many years after. The largest room, which runs

Blacks in Ancaster in 1830s: Pen and Pencil Sketches of Wentworth Landmarks, Alma Dick Lauder, 1897

5.1.2 Historical/Associative Value of 2 Hatt Street

The New Dundas Mills (so named for its proximity to Dundas Street) was a mill complex which first began as a sawmill in 1799 and was expanded upon in 1800, before being purchased by Samuel Hatt (1776-1842), Richard Hatt (1769-1819), and Manuel Overfield (1773-1839) in 1804. Together, these three men, likely using the labour of indentured servants and enslaved persons, had the mill complex further expanded, constructing additional buildings including 2 Hatt Street, which served as a store. A NORTH-SIDE VIEW OF SLAVERY

THE REFUGEE:

OR THE

NARRATIVES OF FUGITIVE SLAVES IN CANADA.

RELATED BY THEMSELVES,

ALL WILL

AN ACCOUNT OF THE HISTORY AND CONDITION OF THE COLORED POPULATION OF UPPER CANADA.

BY

BENJAMIN DREW.

BOSTON:

PUBLISHED BY JOHN P. JEWETT AND COMPANY.

CLEVELAND, OHIO:

JEWETT, PROCTOR AND WORTHINGTON.

NEW YORK: SHELDON, LAMPORT AND BLAKEMAN.

LONDON: TRÜBNER AND CO.

1856.

I am now more than ninety years old. . . At twelve years old [1807] I was sold by [Chief Joseph] Brant to an Englishman in Ancaster, for 100 dollars—his name was Samuel Hatt, and I lived with him seven years: then the white people said I was free, and put me up to running away. He did not stop me — he said he could not take the law into his own hands.

Drew, Benjamin. *The Refugee: Narratives of Fugitive Slaves in Canada* (Voyageur Classics Book 11) (p. 186). Dundurn. Kindle Edition.

Seaces, of the township yetheas ton afores aid, Gentleman of the other parts - withefilth that the said Town warding, by and with the consent land Approbation of Samuel Matty Liquin sno Henry Hagle, lequiso, Two of His majerty's Justice Sunshing of whoester Mane, according to an every of the Legestaturo of sais province, passed in the thirty runte Tean of His present Majesty's reign, but places and bound and by these presents Do but, place and bino lle Brackens is go, an orphan sugro child of the Ago of Sive Heart to be an exp prentice with him the said Elijah deacord to develo from the Date of theso presents until the sais Eli Brachenrity shall come to the edge of Twenty one Teast, according to the