

1904 - 1913

"A glorious prospect and brilliant future"

The City of Niagara Falls was born in 1904, following the amalgamation of the town of Niagara Falls and the adjacent village of Niagara Falls. The new city's population was just slightly more than 7,000, with the Grand Trunk (now Canadian National) and Michigan Central Railways the two principal employers. Niagara Falls was a railroad town, a major divisional point, in fact, on the Grand Trunk.

Tourism was also an important and growing factor in the city's economy. This industry was directly tied to the railways, since most of our visitors arrived by train. To conveniently serve these people, the majority of hotels were located on lower Bridge Street. This location made them easily accessible to both the Grand Trunk (now the VIA) station and the Michigan Central depot, which was on the southeast corner of Queen Street and Erie Avenue.

There were only two manufacturing plants here in 1904. They were the Dominion Suspender Company and the Niagara Neckwear Company, both of which were owned by brothers Charles and William Doran and housed in a small complex of buildings on Zimmerman Avenue.

The city's main post office was on the northeast corner of Park and Zimmerman (the building is still there), while the library was on the upper floor of the Bampfield Block, which later became part of Rosbergs Department Store on the northeast corner of Queen and Erie. There was a daily newspaper known as *The Record* as well as two weeklies – *The Review* and *The Citizen*. There was no hospital.

City hall was on the southwest corner of Queen and Erie. This building, greatly altered from its 1904 appearance, still stands in front of our

present city hall. You could do your banking either at the Bank of Hamilton, directly across from city hall, or at the Imperial Bank of Canada, which was in the Savoy Hotel on the southwest corner of Bridge and Zimmerman.

Most residents used actual horse power for getting around the community, so carriage makers, livery stables, and blacksmiths were common businesses. This also meant that horse dung was a common sight all over the city. The streets were dirt except for portions of Bridge, Erie, Park, and Queen, which had brick surfacing.

The new city had excellent fire protection for the time, with six volunteer fire brigades that used such names as the Alert Hook and Ladder Company and the Rescue Hose Company. The city's first fire chief was Jake Hillesheim, whose office was at the central fire station next to city hall. Chief John Kimmins and his four-man force provided police service.

School children here 100 years ago attended Simcoe Street School (already 47 years old at the time), Barker Street School (now the site of Battlefield School), or a small schoolhouse on Robinson Street. Separate school students attended St. Patrick's or, for girls, Loretto Academy. For education beyond the elementary level, students went to either Niagara Falls Collegiate or Stamford Collegiate.

The shopping district in the north end of the city was centred on Erie Avenue, with additional businesses on Park, Bridge, Zimmerman, and lower Queen Street. Main Street had most of the stores in the south end. Almost all of the businesses were locally owned and operated.

Continued on page 21

1904

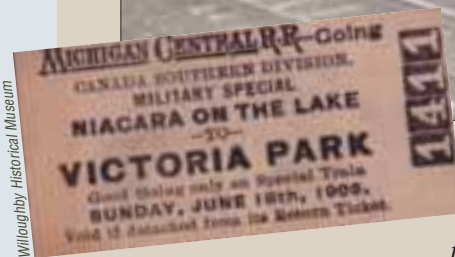
- the population of the newly amalgamated City of Niagara Falls was 7,062
- the Niagara Falls market charged:
 - 20¢/lb for butter in winter; 12.5-18¢/lb in summer
 - 10-12.5¢/lb for chicken in winter; 12.5-15¢/lb in summer
 - 60-65¢/bushel for potatoes in winter; 70-90¢/bushel in summer
 - 25-30¢/dozen for eggs in winter; 14-18¢/dozen in summer
- there were only 553 passenger automobiles registered in all of Ontario

1909

- pies were 10¢ each at Gay Brothers Bakery while Bradley and Son grocers sold Sunlight Soap for 25¢/six bars and sugar for 50¢/10 lbs

1910

- shoes for the entire family cost, on sale, 79¢ to \$5.48 at the Glasgow Shoe Parlors on Queen Street
- bed mattresses could be had at the Niagara Falls Furnishing Company for \$2.75 in 1910; carpets went for \$12.00 and gas ranges for \$17.50
- tickets to Barnum and Bailey's famous circus were 50¢
- a round trip ticket on the Grand Trunk Railway to Chicago was \$15.75 and only \$2.00 to Guelph
- Robert Chisolm, jeweller and optician, sold automobile and threshing goggles for 10¢ each



Willoughby Historical Museum

Francois J. Peattie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

A MICHIGAN CENTRAL TRAIN passes through the Fallsview area in 1904. Table Rock House (the building with the cupola) may be seen as well as the Niagara Falls waterworks plant. All the construction taking place between the train and the buildings was related to the hydroelectric generating stations then being developed around the falls. Also shown, a 1905 Michigan Central Railway ticket. The Victoria Park Station was at the top of Clifton Hill.

Continued from page 19

AN INAUGURAL YEAR WITH PROMISE

It was 11 a.m. on January 11, 1904. The first council meeting for the new City of Niagara Falls had just been called to order at city hall. The meeting began with a swearing in ceremony for the 10 aldermen (two from each of the five wards) and the city's first mayor, George Hanan. Everyone then sat down to hear the mayor's inaugural address. Hanan left no doubt that he was "proud and thankful" for the honour of being the city's first chief magistrate. He was also brimming over with optimism about Ontario's newest city, noting that he felt it had "a glorious prospect and brilliant future," which would bring both prosperity and growth. He elaborated: "Surely times are propitious and I feel that the council of this new city will seize the current and carry it on to be the largest, most populous and prosperous manufacturing city in this fair Dominion of ours."

The mayor's speech was followed by some routine business. Appointments were made to various boards and salaries for municipal officials were set. Mayor Hanan's remuneration was to be \$300 for the year. The meeting then adjourned. Much of the mayor's favourable

outlook for the city was due to the fact that three large hydroelectric generating stations were then under construction in the area around the Horseshoe Falls. The Canadian Niagara plant, the Ontario Power plant, and the Toronto Powerhouse (as it is now known) were all in operation by 1906.

At that time, electrical rates were cheaper the closer you were to the source. This advantage, along with excellent railway service and the city's proximity to the large American market, placed Niagara Falls in an excellent position to attract manufacturing industries. And in fact, many companies did come, some of which are pictured in this chapter.

So, while we were not destined to become the "most populous and prosperous manufacturing city" in Canada, still, by the end of the city's first decade it could boast of having a good-sized industrial base. In addition, there were many other signs of progress. By 1913 the city had a hospital, a nurses' residence, an armoury, several movie theatres, and a library building. A number of civic improvements, such as a new waterworks system, had also been undertaken. Along with the numerous factories that had been constructed, a commercial and residential building boom had taken place. A clear sign of growth was the city's population, which had jumped around 70% to almost 12,000. Therefore, to a large degree, George Hanan's other prediction that Niagara Falls had a "glorious prospect and brilliant future" did come true.



Niagara Falls Heritage Foundation Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THIS 1905 two cylinder Ford was the first car to cross the Upper Steel Arch Bridge in July 1905. It was owned by C.R. Banks of Niagara Falls.

1911

- Thorburn's Drug Stores sold Brownie cameras for \$1.00 to \$4.00, and Victrola record players for \$20.00 to upwards of \$250.00

1910-12

- a small loaf of Gordon's Baking Company bread cost 3¢ at many leading grocers and 10¢ would procure a "double size loaf" of Holsum Bread, baked and distributed by Gay Brothers bakery

SOURCES:

Historical Statistics of Canada. 2nd Ed.

Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

People's Press, (Welland, Ontario),
January 12, 1904; June 4, 1904;
June 7, 1904.

The Record (Niagara Falls, Ontario),
January 21, 1909; January 29, 1909;
August 6, 1909; June 11, 1910;
July 26, 1910; September 16, 1910;
November 22, 1910; December 2, 1910;
November 1, 1911; December 2, 1911;
May 25, 1912.

Welland Tribune,
June 10, 1904.



Ontario Hydro Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

TAKEN ON AUGUST 8, 1904, this photo shows construction underway for the Ontario Power Company's giant plant at the edge of the Niagara River, near the base of the Horseshoe Falls.



Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THE SCENE IS BUSY as a conduit is assembled for the Ontario Power Company's plant in 1904. The building in the background is the old Table Rock House.



The Record (Niagara Falls, Ontario), 1909

COLE'S JEWELLERS, one of Niagara Falls' oldest businesses, opened in 1890 on Erie Avenue. The firm later relocated to Queen Street and is now on Portage Road.

Don't Throw Your Money Away.

Our Emulsion of Norwegian Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda
 is as good as any made, and at half the price usually charged.

Regular 50c size for - - 25 cents.
 Regular \$1.00 size for - - 50 cents.

Greatest medicine for building up the system against Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis and Consumption. Very palatable. Children like it. Money back if it does not do you good.

We also sell the Pure Norwegian Cod Liver Oil at 40c a pint.

Telephone 21
A.C. THORBURN
 Chemist and Druggist
 Corner Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls South.

Peoples Press (Welland, Ontario), March 5, 1907



Lundy's Lane Historical Museum

THE FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF the City of Niagara Falls in 1904. Front row, left to right: William H. Campbell, Abel Land, Joseph A. Cadham, W.J. Hamilton, George Mortimer (secretary treasurer). Back row: George Shrimpton, Dr. George J. Musgrove, Dr. E.T. Kellan (chairman), George B. Phemister, F.F. Wood, Charles Patten.



Lincoln and Welland Regiment Museum

THE SNOW IS PILED HIGH around the Ellis Street Drill Hall around 1905. In 1911 this building was replaced by the Armoury on Victoria Avenue.



OLIVER PERNELL was an escaped slave who reached Niagara Falls via the Underground Railroad in the mid-1850s. In the years that followed he became a highly respected, much beloved citizen here. In this 1904 picture he poses with three year-old Margaret Cadham in John England's Main Street photography studio. In 1890, when the British Methodist Episcopal Church wished to relocate from Fallsview, Pernell donated property on Peer Street for its new home.



MORTON MAJOR BUCKLEY was one of the most prominent business and civic leaders in Niagara Falls from 1867 until his death in 1907. He is seen here with his wife, Elizabeth, on their 53rd wedding anniversary, January 18, 1905.



Waite's Directory of the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario, for 1904-5

Last Friday evening the Epworth League of Lundy's Lane Methodist church entertained a large crowd at a fruit festival. The affair was a great success. The decorations, program and amusements were all in keeping with the nature of the entertainment and several features were entirely new and unique.

Miss Louise Biggar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Biggar of Barker street, died in St. Catharines hospital on Tuesday at noon after a long illness of typhoid fever. Miss Biggar was a very popular young lady in the circles in which she moved and all who knew her sincerely mourn her early demise.

Mrs. McGarry was driving on Ellen avenue the other evening when the horse stepped into a hole and was injured. Mrs. McGarry may sue the city for damages.

Mrs. Mulholland is visiting in Toronto.

Miss Abraham has returned from Toronto.

George C. Biggar of Lundy's Lane has been quite ill for a week past.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Reid of Buffalo were guests of Capt. and Mrs. Ross on Sunday.

Mrs. McDougall, Spring street, will spend the winter with her son John in Port Arthur.

Mr. and Mrs. Drake, son and daughter of Buffalo spent Monday and Tuesday with friends in the city.

A number of the officers of the Epworth League of the Lundy's Lane Methodist church having resigned, an election to fill the vacancies will be held tonight.

The arrangement between the city and the Ontario Power Co. for the improvement of Murray and Buchanan streets is being carried out. Permanent sidewalks are being built and the streets will be graded, partly at the cost of the company.

A man lost an article the other day. He told everybody he knew of his loss and advertised in several papers but the article was not returned. Then he tried a Tribune ad. and it came back in two days. Moral — Do the right thing first,—that is, advertise in the Tribune.

Welland Tribune, (Welland, Ontario, Niagara Falls News Section), October 20, 1905



Lundy's Lane Historical Museum



Francis J. Peine Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THIS CLASSROOM PHOTO from about 1905 is believed to have been taken at Barker Street School, now the site of Battlefield School.

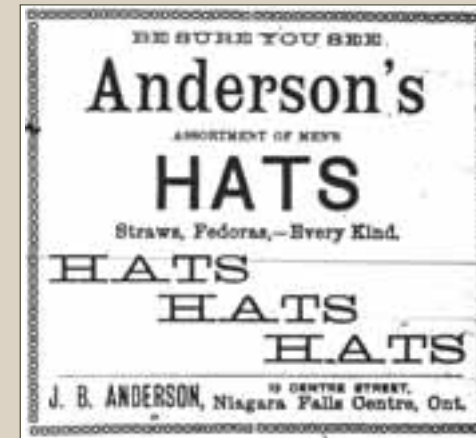
GLENVIEW SCHOOL overlooked Terrace Avenue. Here we see the institution not long after it opened in 1909.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

NIAGARA FALLS' 1903-05 HOCKEY TEAM.

Niagara District Hockey Association champions from 1903 to 1905. Front row, left to right: J. Forrester, H. Williams, H. Munford (captain). Second row: J. Bernier, William Fraser (manager), B.Y. Williamson. Back row: G.T. Shackel (secretary), R. Turp, G. Petrie, F. Logan, H.P. Hanan (treasurer).



Welland Tribune (Welland, Ontario), June 3, 1904



Photo by A.M. Buckley Studios, Lundy's Lane Historical Museum

THE NIAGARA FALLS ATHLETIC CLUB BASKETBALL TEAM, 1904-05



Photo by John Bratley, Lundy's Lane Historical Museum

THIS 1905 PACKARD was one of the first automobiles in Niagara Falls. It was owned by E.G. Acheson, a prominent industrialist whose large home stood on Lundy's Lane. At the wheel is Acheson's driver, George Powell, and his daughter Mary. Acheson also owned a 1903 Packard touring car (12 horse power, one cylinder) which Powell drove to Kittanning, Pennsylvania 966 kilometres (600 miles) with Mr. and Mrs. Acheson and their two sons during the summer of 1903.

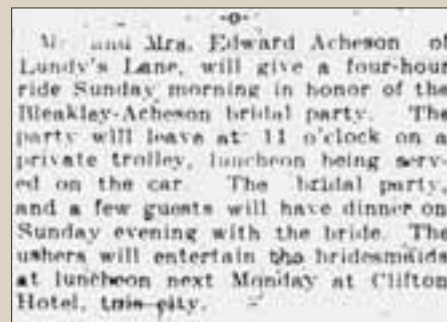


Lundy's Lane Historical Museum

EDWARD GOODRICH ACHESON founded the Carborundum Company which had plants both here and in Niagara Falls, New York. He also owned Acheson Graphite on Buttrey Street. The Acheson family lived in a large red-brick home on Lundy's Lane, close to where the Beer Store currently stands. This portrait of the inventor dates to about 1905.



Welland Tribune (Welland, Ontario), December 1, 1905



The Record (Niagara Falls, Ontario), 1909

THE FIRST DECADE OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY saw three major hydroelectric generating stations constructed on the Canadian side of the Niagara River in the area around the Horseshoe Falls. Two of the private companies involved were American while the third, known as the Electrical Development Company, was owned by three prominent Toronto businessmen. It was this company that built what came to be called the Toronto Powerhouse. This photo shows the plant around 1907, not long after the completion of the first phase of its construction. The City of Toronto received its first hydroelectricity from this plant on November 21, 1906. A south wing was added to the building between 1911 and 1913. This power station was purchased by what is now Ontario Power Generation in 1922 and was closed in 1974. Constructed of Indiana limestone in the Italian Renaissance style, this stunning structure receives millions of admiring glances every year from both Niagara's visitors and residents.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)



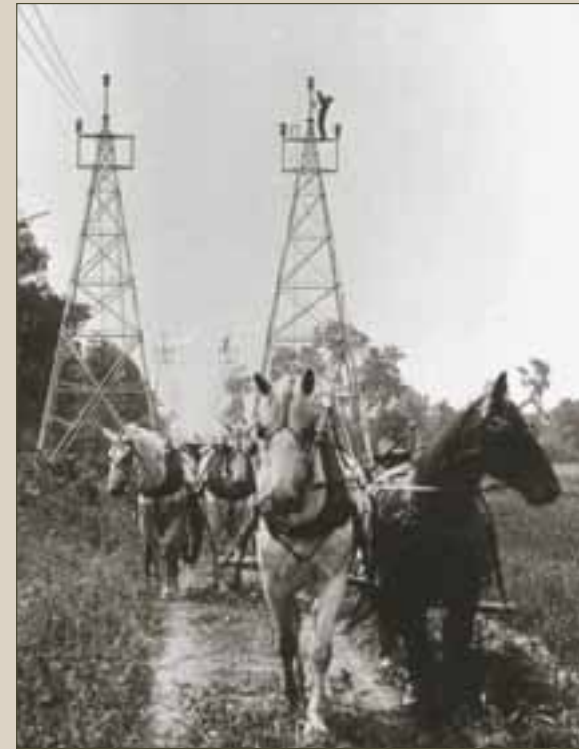
Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THE CANADIAN NIAGARA POWER PLANT.
This interior view was taken in 1905, the plant's inaugural year.



Ontario Hydro Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

ON MAY 8, 1906, the two corner stones of the Toronto Power Company were laid. In this picture Frederic Nicholls (at centre), the vice president and managing director of the Electrical Development Company of Ontario Limited., is surrounded by colleagues and dignitaries during the day's proceedings. Nicholls, William Mortimer Clark, then Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and Sir Henry M. Pellat, president of the Electrical Development Company, had the honour of guiding the stones to their proper positions. The Electrical Development Company was established in 1902 and began providing the City of Toronto with hydroelectric power in 1906. Its name was changed in 1922 when purchased by the Hydro Electric Power Commission.



Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

WHEN POWER COMPANIES were building plants and erecting lines in the Niagara area during the early years of the twentieth century, a lot of four-legged horsepower was used. For example, these "cuddies" were pulling line cables when this picture was taken in 1906.



Lundy's Lane Historical Museum

RIGG BROTHERS, now Rigg Mooney Monuments, founded in 1897, is one of Niagara Falls' oldest businesses. This circa 1908 photo shows the employees standing in front of the firm's office building and yard, which was then on Huron Street. The Rigg brothers are at either end of the group.



Lundy's Lane Historical Museum

SWAYZE BROS. JEWELLERS AND OPTICIANS, an interior view, about 1905. The store was on lower Queen Street. Note the pair of rocking chairs at the rear.



The Review (Niagara Falls, Ontario)

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY was opened in 1883. Here we see the original entrance at the head of Bridge Street around 1908.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THE SANITARY CAN COMPANY opened its plant on Lewis Avenue in 1907 – the same year this picture was taken. Purchased by the American Can Company in 1915, tin cans continued to be made here until 1930. The building was then used as a machine shop. It was later owned by the Onex Company and has since been demolished.



Kiwanis Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

GOODWIN AND ROSS' store on Main Street around 1907.



Kiwanis Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

PEW'S Queen Street meat market around 1907.

GOODWIN & ROSS. WE COLLECT CLOTHING FOR THE WELL-WEARING PEOPLE. GOODWIN & ROSS.

Our Overcoats are Best BECAUSE

They are better made by good tailors of strong, durable materials that do not fade, the linings are the best, the canvas, hair cloth and padding are properly worked in, so that our coats retain their shape until worn out, (that alone doubles the life of any coat) add to that the stylish cut and our reasonable prices and you have the best overcoat proposition in the world.

Short Top Coats, suitable for now	\$10, \$12 and \$14
Raincoats	\$7.50, \$10, \$12, \$15 and \$16
Mackintoshes	\$2.50, \$3.50, \$5 and \$12

SHIRTS and UNDERWEAR. Come and See Our Stock.

2 - STORES - 2

GOODWIN & ROSS, Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

WELLAND AND NIAGARA FALLS SOUTH.

People's Press (Welland, Ontario), October 3, 1905



Kiwanis Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

SHREDDED WHEAT has been made in Niagara Falls since 1904, the same year the city was born. This circa 1905 view shows the original appearance of the Lewis Avenue operation. All Shredded Wheat plants were purchased by Nabisco in 1928. Another change of ownership for the local plant came in 1993 when it was sold to Kraft Canada. For many years the Shredded Wheat box featured a painting of both the Niagara Falls factory and the falls along with the words "The Original Niagara Falls Product."



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

ESTABLISHED HERE IN 1907 because of the availability of inexpensive electricity, Cyanamid grew into Niagara Falls' largest manufacturing plant, eventually employing well over 1,000 people. This photo of the Fourth Avenue operation was taken in 1909, the year the company began producing calcium cyanamide, its new fertilizer.

The Niagara Falls
GROCERY COMPANY
LIMITED

NEW CASH SYSTEM
AND
NEW PRICE LIST

Kodpath's Granulated Sugar..... 5 lbs. for \$1.00	
Richard's Pure Soap, regular 25 bars for	.25
Surprise Soap, regular 25 bars for	.25
Comedian Soap, regular 25 bars for	.25
Town Talk Soap, regular 25 bars for	.25
Milk's Vine, regular 100	.20
Shredded Wheat, regular 1 lb.	.17
Porco, regular 1 lb.	.18
Orange Mince, regular 1 lb.	.19
Choice Dates, lb.	.08
Taproot.....	.05
Clothes Pin..... 1 dozen	.21
Brooms, regular 250.....	.24
Brooms, regular 500.....	.25
All Extracts, regular 100.....	.25
Best Family Flour, per sack.....	.52

Cash Paid for Butter and Eggs

WE SELL FOR CASH ONLY

OUR GROCERIES ARE THE BEST.
Satisfaction given or money returned.

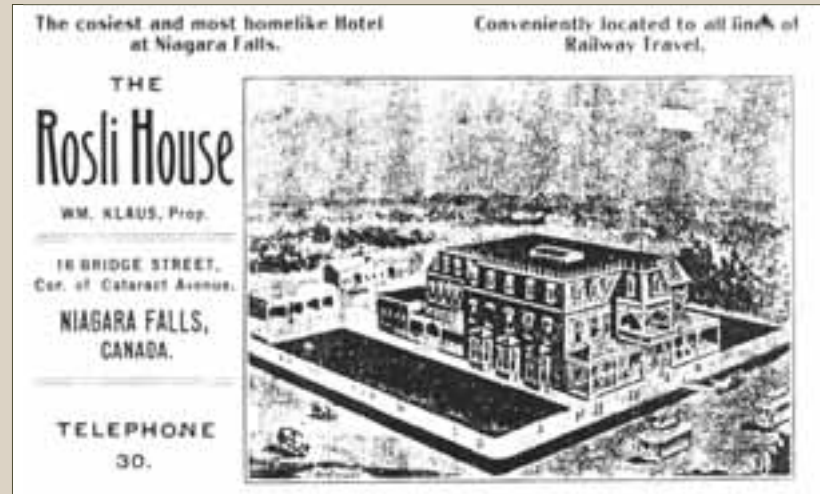
THE
Niagara Falls Grocery
Company, Limited
NIAGARA FALLS SOUTH
F. C. Dalton's Old Stand

People's Press (Welland, Ontario), October 3, 1905



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THE ROSLI HOTEL as it appeared in 1907.



Waite's Directory of the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario, for 1904-05

THE ROSLI was one of Niagara Falls' earliest and best known hotels.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

TAKEN FROM THE TOP OF Clifton Hill around 1907, this picture by Eddie Hodge looks across Victoria Avenue and up Centre Street. The three-storey brick building on the corner was the Niagara House Hotel for many years. It still stands. Railway tracks crossed the top of Clifton Hill from 1854 to 2001.



Morgan Funeral Homes

AN EARLY and heavy fall of snow blanketed Niagara Falls on October 10, 1906. This picture is looking north from the Main, Ferry, Lundy's Lane intersection.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

DRUMMOND HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was opened in 1887, replacing an earlier Presbyterian Meeting House on the same site that dated to 1837. This photo from about 1907 also shows part of the adjacent Drummond Hill Cemetery, focal point of the bloody Battle of Lundy's Lane, July 25, 1814. The battlefield monument, constructed by the federal government in 1895 to honour those who fought and died in the conflict, is at left in the picture.



Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

WILLIAM DALTON was the grave digger at Drummond Hill Cemetery from 1876 to 1916. Working at this historic site where the Battle of Lundy's Lane took place often yielded artifacts from the conflict such as pieces of uniforms, buttons, musket balls, and even skulls. Here Dalton poses on the steps of the battlefield monument with some of his collection.

THE FIRST BOY SCOUT TROOP in Niagara Falls was organized in 1910 by D.A.R. Cameron. The troop was sponsored by Drummond Hill Presbyterian Church. This picture was taken during the troop's founding year at the rear of the property on the northwest corner of Main and Lundy's Lane.



Niagara Scouting Museum



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THE VICTORIA AVENUE of the early 1900s looked nothing like it does today. At that time it was relatively narrow and unsurfaced, with streetcar tracks and a number of grand homes.



F.H. Leslie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

See this List

June Records
A Five Shillings Worth The New List

Out To Day
12 Inch Records Worth \$1.00 for the Ten Shillings

12 Inch Records worth 50 cents for the Ten Shillings

17110 Victrola We Back to the Garden of Love - Van Street Oh, My, Dream Man, Please Let Me Dream Sweet Dreams - 25c Jones My Soul of the Victor Maurice Blackburn 17114 Lord Be it that Beautiful Said - 25c Warner I would like to try it	17112 Don't Leave Me Now Collins and Barton	17113 Patsy's Tired Patsy's Mood A New English Ballad for McConna Like Snow Alone McDonald Spies The 18th Century Song for Felix Sander, Viduan	17115 Adele's Promise Compte 17116 Allegretto - 25c
---	---	--	---

Over 1000 Records
to Choose from
New complete Catalogue
at your Dealers or
free by Mail.

Victrolas
\$1.00 to \$10.00
sold on Easy
Payments as low
as
\$1.00 per week.

Berliner Gramophone Co. Limited
MONTREAL

Thorburn's Three Drug Stores, Special Agents

The Record (Niagara Falls, Ontario), May 28, 1912

THORBURN'S DRUG STORE was a landmark business at the corner of Lundy's Lane and Main Street from 1900 to 1991. At the time this picture was taken in 1910, the police force had an office in the rear of the building. Although changed somewhat in appearance, this nineteenth century commercial block still stands.



Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

OPENED IN 1907, Niagara Falls' first hospital was on Jepson Street where the Eventide Home is now located. This view is from around 1909.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THE FIRST NURSES' RESIDENCE in Niagara Falls was built in 1912. The building was on the west side of Third Avenue, between Jepson and McRae. This location made it convenient to the hospital which was right around the corner on Jepson. This facility was used until the new hospital and nurses' residence on Portage Road opened in 1958.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THE RAILWAY YMCA, seen here about 1909, was on River Road, just north of the Whirlpool Rapids Bridge. It had been built in 1898 as a joint effort of the Grand Trunk Railway and the Town (as it was then) of Niagara Falls. This type of facility was located in a number of communities across Canada that, like Niagara Falls, were divisional points on the major railways. Train crews could spend their layover periods here. This local Y not only offered sleeping accommodation, but showers, recreational facilities, a library, and a restaurant. For a small fee any man in Niagara Falls could also join. The Railway YMCA was demolished in 1936.



F.H. Leslie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

FALLS VIEW SCHOOL on Dunn Street as it looked in the fall of 1910 when the institution opened.



The Niagara Parks Commission

THE VICTORIA PARK RESTAURANT

(originally called the Refectory) is as old as the city, having opened in 1904. This circa 1910 view not only shows most of the modified Swiss chalet-style building, but the beautiful landscaping as well. The structure was built of boulder stone obtained from the bed of the Niagara River during construction of the wing dam for the Electrical Development Company's powerhouse. The lower level of the restaurant was open and used as a shelter for picnicking parties.



Sherman Zavitz



Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

A GAME OF TENNIS in Queen Victoria Park around 1910.

A NIAGARA FALLS LANDMARK since 1879, this 1906 photo shows the Grand Trunk Railway Station on lower Bridge Street. Millions of people, from royalty to ordinary folk, have started their Niagara Falls experience from this station's platform. The building, minus a portion of the east wing, still stands and is now owned by VIA Rail Canada Inc.



Francis J. Petrie Collection,
Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

DOBBIE'S FLORISTS is among Niagara Falls' oldest businesses. Founded in 1888 by John Dobbie, a former school teacher, this shows some of the firm's greenhouses on the west side of Victoria Avenue about 1909. The Hy&Zel's plaza now occupies this site. Dobbie's is presently located on the east side of Victoria Avenue.



Sherman Zavitz

MAIN STREET AROUND 1910, looking north towards the Main, Ferry, Lundy's Lane intersection. The building with the canopy at the extreme left is the Morse & Son Chapel, in business on this same site since 1826.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS MUDDY RUN was a placid stream that meandered through the north end of the city and then spilled over the edge of the gorge into the Niagara River. However, for a while each spring it became a rushing torrent that frequently overflowed its banks in certain areas, such as at the Valley Way, Victoria Avenue intersection, seen here about 1910. St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church and a streetcar are visible in the background. Muddy Run, a portion of which followed the line of present-day Valley Way, was confined to a trunk sewer in 1925.

TAKEN ABOUT 1912, this view of lower Queen Street is looking east toward the Niagara River. Various forms of transportation are in evidence: an automobile and a bicycle are parked along the curb at the left in the photo, while at the right there is a horse and buggy. In the distance, a Michigan Central Railway steam engine is about to cross the street. Finally, the tracks down the middle of the thoroughfare serve as a reminder of the streetcar service the city had at the time.



Sherman Zavitz



The Review (Niagara Falls, Ontario)

THIS CIRCA 1912 PICTURE shows what had been the Town of Niagara Falls' first two manufacturing industries. Known as the Dominion Suspender Company and the Niagara Neckwear Company, both were owned by brothers Charles and William Doran. They were housed in this small complex of buildings on the east side of Zimmerman Avenue, near Queen. Dominion Suspender, which had been founded in 1882, was the first Niagara Falls business to have both electricity and a telephone. In fact, for many years the company's telephone number was 1. Dominion Suspender and Niagara Neckwear ended operations in the mid-1920s.

550 Degrees!

THIS is the temperature that bursts in your face every time you stoop to see if your bread is done!

Bending over the oven spoils your complexion, your health and temper.

Buy HOLSUM Bread

and keep away from those stifling loaves which greet you often during the hour that your bread is in the oven.

HOLSUM bread not only saves this wear and tear, but it gives the family another, pure, delicious bread as clean as if fairy-made — no human hands touch it. Accept no substitute. A large loaf for 10c.

Gay, Bros. Baking Co

The Record (Niagara Falls, Ontario), November 1, 1911



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER IN THE NIAGARA FALLS CITY HALL IN 1910. Mayor O.E. Does is seated in the ornate chair while members of council are in the foreground. Front row, left to right: William Cole, W.S. Homan, Arthur Spencer, James Hearn, Harry W. Pew. Second row: J. Carl Gardner (city engineer), F.C. McBurney (city solicitor), Charles Anderson (alderman). Back row: Jack Kimmins (police chief), W.J. Seymour (city clerk), Mayor O.E. Does.

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS TAXES, 1910
 Based on Assessment made in 1909
 Payable at Royal Bank, County Bank of Hamilton, Niagara Falls South
 and Royal Bank, Bridge Street

Roll No. 2794 / Assessed July 2, 1910
 My No. 1176 / Owner
 No. / Occupant
 Lot No. 46 / Sub

First Installment
 Payable on or before July 21st '10
 General Taxes
 Local Improvement Rate

Back Taxes	
Assessment 1910	
Real Property - 46 0	
Business	
Income	
Total	

we want Gen. Rate 19.3 with 10.8
 10.8 with 10.8
 Total General Rate 22.1

Second Installment
 Payable on or before November 21st '10
 General Tax

we want Gen. Rate 19.3 with 10.8	10.8
10.8 with 10.8	10.8
Total General Rate	22.1

School Rates
 Payable on or before November 21st '10
 Public School 7 with
 College 3 with
 Normal 3 with

we want Gen. Rate 19.3 with 10.8	10.8
10.8 with 10.8	10.8
Total General Rate	22.1

Amount Percentage Total
 12.1 54.75 22.1

Remained Payable
 For information regarding amount see other roll

Pat and Rosa Simon



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

RESEMBLING A MEDIEVAL CASTLE, the Niagara Falls Armoury on Victoria Avenue is seen here shortly after its completion in 1911.

Public Health Notice.
Collection of Garbage.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Niagara Falls Garbage Company will commence the collection and disposal of garbage on or about June 1st, 1910, under contract with the City Council.

All householders are required to place their garbage in a properly covered receptacle as required by law and not the same in a convenient place for the collection. Only such persons as comply strictly with these regulations will have the benefit of the collection.

The Board of Health recommends an iron garbage receptacle with cover and handles.

By order of the Board of Health,
H. WEINER,
 Health Inspector.

Niagara Falls, Ont., May 26th, 1910.

Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)



Sherman Zavitz

A MOTHER AND HER DAUGHTERS are crossing the Bridge Street, Clifton (now Zimmerman) Avenue intersection in this circa 1910 scene, which is looking east along lower Bridge. The handsome stone building on the corner housed the Imperial Bank of Canada, which opened in 1906. This building is still with us and now houses the Ryall, Walker law offices.



Lundy's Lane Historical Museum

THE NIAGARA FALLS TOWN HALL on the southwest corner of Queen and Erie was constructed in 1866. In 1904, it automatically became the city hall. This building underwent a major transformation in 1954 when brick was added to the outer walls. It was also given a flat roof and a small addition was built at the front. After the new city hall opened in 1970, this older building became a courthouse. It is now used for storage. Taken around 1910, this photo also shows part of the Queen Street Fire Hall. Erected in 1884, this building was taken down in 1966 after 82 years of service to the citizens of Niagara Falls. Centennial Square now occupies this site.



Francis J. Petrie Collection, Niagara Falls Public Library (Ontario)

IT IS A QUIET DAY ON ERIE AVENUE in this circa 1910 photo, by Eddie Hodge, looking north from the Queen and Erie intersection. Notice that both streets are surfaced with brick. Known over the years as the Lundy and then the Bampfield Block, the large three-storey building on the right later became part of Rosbergs department store.