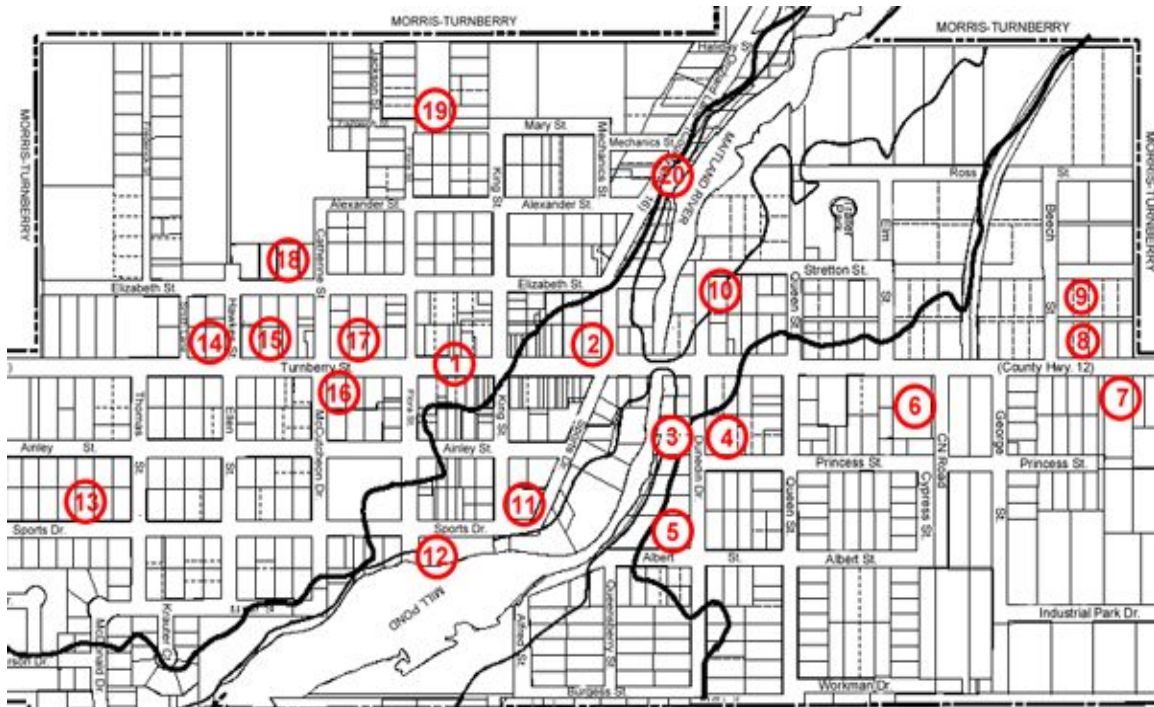


Village of Brussels Historical Tour Map



- 1 - Core Commercial Area
- 2 - Library
- 3 - Dunedin Manor
- 4 - Presbyterian Church
- 5 - John A. Leckie House
- 6 - Mennonite Church
- 7 - Philip Ament House
- 8 - CN Railway Station
- 9 - Crystal Palace
- 10 - Presbyterian Manse
- 11 - United Church
- 12 - Logan's Mill
- 13 - Wm. Vanstone House
- 14 - D. C. Ross House
- 15 - Peter Thompson House
- 16 - Anglican Church
- 17 - Alfred Baeker House
- 18 - Duncan McIntosh House
- 19 - St. Ambrose Church
- 20 - Masonic Chapel

Information, sketches and photos for this walk were obtained from the Brussels Homecoming '97 Historical Tour, 1879 Belden Atlas, the book Our Story and the Huron County Records Office.

Be sure to visit us on the web:
<http://www.villageofbrussels.ca/> &
<http://www.huroneast.com/>

Dunedin Manor



1 – Core Commercial Area



Fire caused much destruction to the early development, however after each fire, larger and more prestigious buildings were constructed and this is particularly evident in the business section today. It comprises some fine brick commercial blocks of uniform architectural style and height.

In many other aspects Brussels flourished with the building of churches, a school and a town hall. Development peaked at the turn of the century and thereafter gradually declined. Early photographs reveal that Turnberry Street was once a handsome street that had remarkable architectural grandeur and consistency for such a small settlement. The late nineteenth century was a period of prosperity and importance and little was spared by the merchants to exhibit this through their richly embellished new commercial blocks.

2- Brussels Library – 402 Turnberry Street

Andrew Carnegie provided a grant of \$6,500.00 to help build the Brussels Library in 1910. Today the Library and its meeting rooms still play an active part in the community.



3- Dunedin Manor – 54 Dunedin Dr.



One of the most beautiful homes in Brussels, was built in 1887. Dr. W.J. R. Holmes purchased two lots from James Evans and built a large house as a replica grand home in Scotland. The house remained part of the medical history of Brussels for years. Dr. Holmes sold it to Dr. Tom McCrae, who in turn sold it to Dr. Meyers.

Dr. Charles Meyers ran a maternity boarding house from 1946 – 1956. The first baby born in the hospital was

Marlene (Smith) Yuill (now deceased).

4 - Melville Presbyterian Church – 55 Dunedin Dr.

Built in 1914 and now celebrating 150 years in the community. The architect was Mr. Russel of Stratford and was built at a cost of \$25,700.00. The church has a seating capacity of 650.



5 – John A. Leckie House – 62 Dunedin Dr.



John A. Leckie was the first Reeve of Brussels and a Warden of Huron County in 1876 and was a grain dealer. Later occupied by the Ben Walker Family (once an undertaker and part owner of Walker and Malcolm Black Funeral Home on Turnberry Street) and William King Sr. & family.

6 – Brussels Mennonite Fellowship

Located on the corner of Turnberry Street, across from the new Fire Hall. It is believed it was also once a planing mill, lumber yard and the residence of James Bennett. It was also once the home of Clarke Matheson and is one of the historic homes in Brussels. The official opening of the Fellowship Hall took place on March 7, 1992.



7 – Philip Ament House – 201 Turnberry Street

For many years Philip Ament, owner of a planing mill and sawmill on the 25 acres that surrounded the family home, provided much of the employment in the village. The home was used as a showroom for their designs in fancy trim and each room was trimmed differently.

8 - CN Railway Station – Turnberry Street

By November 1970, passenger service had ceased in Brussels. In April 1975, members of the Brussels Lawn Bowling Club began the work of dismantling the old station and moving it to its present location. Part of the station now serves as their clubhouse.



9 – Crystal Palace – Located at the North end of the village

The first “Palace” was erected for the 1875 fair. In glory days the Crystal Palace was the most imposing building on any fairgrounds in Huron County. The new building cost \$3,145 and was built in 1906 and was used up until 1984 when the fair was moved to the BM&G Community Centre.

10 – First Presbyterian Manse – 41 Dunedin Dr.

Was built in 1869 from stone quarried from the river bed. It was the home of Presbyterian Ministers until a new manse was built in 1958.



11 – Brussels United Church – 61 King Street

Was built in 1877 at a cost of \$11,000. Its exterior has remained unscathed throughout the years. Although extensive renovations were necessary after a fire in 1924 seriously damaged the interior. Before church union in 1925, the church was known as the Methodist Church.

12 – Logan’s Mill – Sports Dr.

William and James Vanstone of Egmondville built the first structure in 1859. It was a three-storey structure flour and grist mill. The mill was powered by water as it flowed by the wooden dam. Steam was used as the backup source. It was destroyed by fire in October 1871, was reconstructed and once again destroyed by fire. John Logan built the present structure in 1914 – 1915.



13 – William Vanstone House – 764 James Street



This is one of the oldest homes in the village, built by premier industrialist William Vanstone. It sat beside Logan's Mill where the modern home overlooks the river. It was moved from this location to where it presently sits by Cecil Machan in 1973. Another prominent resident, William Kerr, publisher of the Brussels Post, also owned it.

14 – D. C. Ross House – 700 Turnberry Street

The brick part of this building was the home of David and Maria Ross from 1892 – 1956 and was one of the most beautiful landmarks in Brussels. The exact date this house was built is unknown; it has been traced back to 1861. The home later served as a Nursing home for a number of years and is now currently apartments.



15 – Peter Thompson House – 670 Turnberry Street

This home is featured in the Belden Atlas, 1879 and is one of the oldest homes in Brussels.

16 – Anglican Church – Corner of Turnberry and McCutcheon Dr.

The church was originally built in 1875. Tragedy struck in 1947 when fire destroyed everything but the bell tower, but a faithful congregation set about rebuilding the present structure, which was re-dedicated in July 1949.





17 – Alfred C. Baeker House – 640 Turnberry Street

Alfred C. Baeker was a former Reeve from 1922 – 1931 and Warden of Huron County in 1903. He was also a grain merchant.

18 – Duncan McIntosh House – 660 Elizabeth Street

This was the location of the Brussels Woolen Mill, which was first owned by Duncan McIntosh.



19 – St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church

The first church was built on this location in 1876 and was replaced in 1993 by the current building. The first child baptized in the old church was James Ryan of Walton.



20 – Mason Lodge Chapel – Orchard Lane

This chapel was constructed in 1991 by the Masonic Lodge and although it is not historical, it is definitely worth a visit to this quaint roadside chapel.

