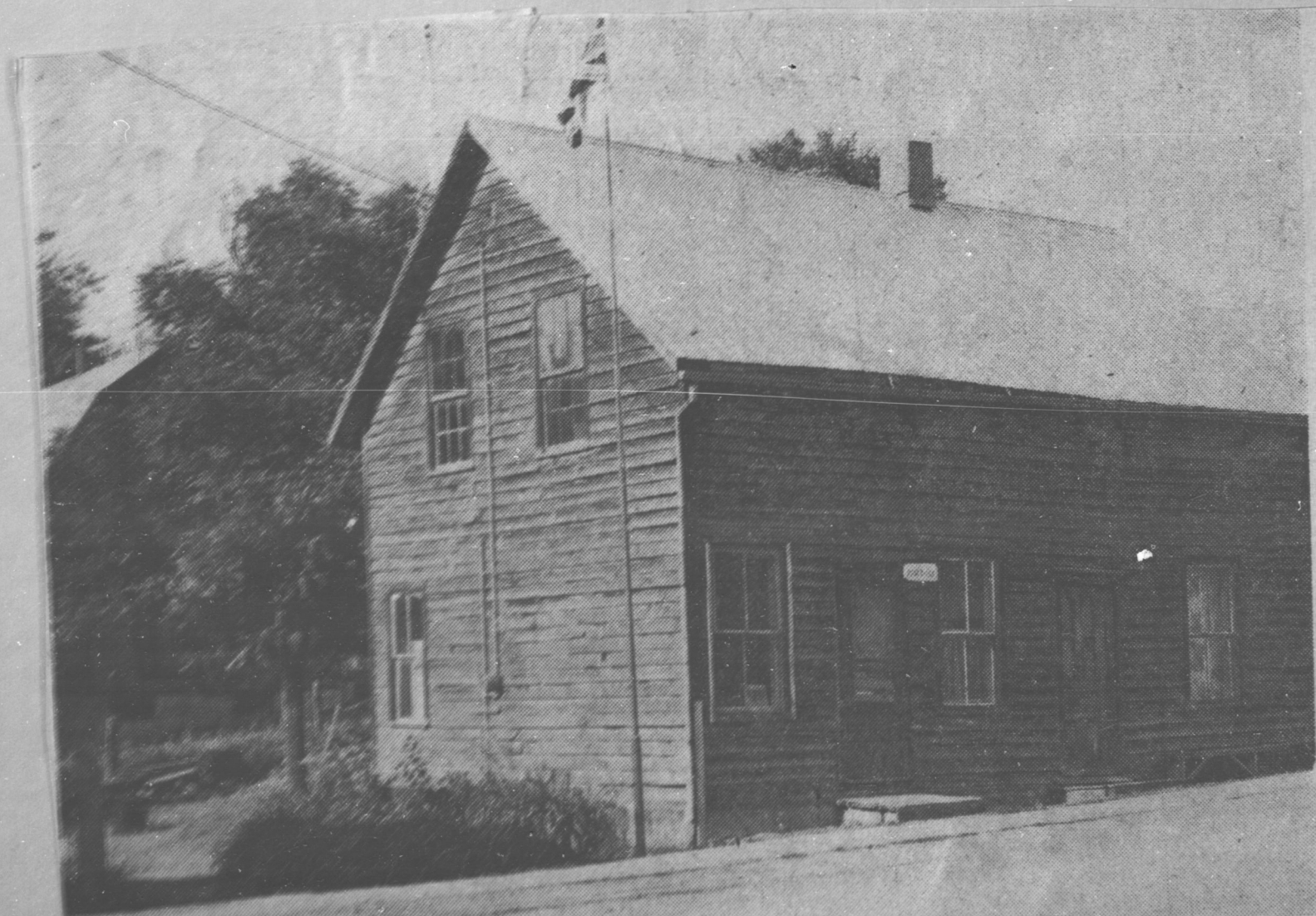


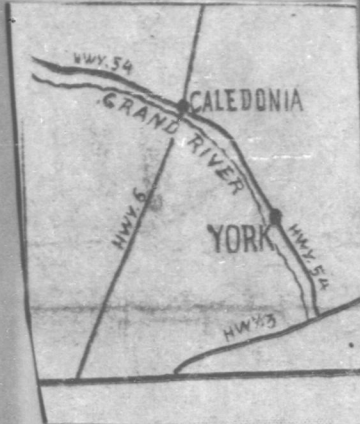
Once bustling river village



York's main street, part of Highway 54, with the Masonic Hall at the left. Store beyond it is now

closed. Enniskillen Lodge has been meeting in the hall for almost a century.

The old village school is also a thing of the past. Pupils from the York area now attend a Seneca Township school some four miles distant, to which they are transported by school bus. Several new homes have been built in the York area.



A glimpse into the history of York a century ago is interesting. Records of 1850-51 tell of the "village" having at that time two sawmills, several hotels, general stores, post office, four shoemakers, two tailors, three blacksmiths, two wheelwrights, a baker, a physician and surgeon. At one time, it apparently had two grist mills, a gypsum or plaster mill, and also a drug store. The village population, at its highest figure, reached about 450.

The Canada Directory printed in 1851 gave the population of York at that time as being about 250. "It is distant from Hamilton 19 miles," it said. "Usual steamboat fare to Buffalo, 7s 6d., and to Brantford, 5s."

The York Post Office last year moved into the building next door after the general store closed.

575 Vessels

"Five hundred and seventy-five vessels, including scows, cleared from Dunnville during the year 1850, with a tonnage of 42,957 tons."

"The lumber trade provided

most of the cargoes and included to British and foreign ports 16,360,000 feet of pine lumber, 557,000 cubic feet of square timber in rafts, and 8,000 cubic feet in vessels; 33,000 feet of flatted and round timber, in addition to quantities of pipe staves, barrel staves, shingles, sawlogs, lath, hoop and fence pickets, cordwood and empty flour barrels."



Horse and buggy riders make the trip from York to Cayuga.

Pilgrimage follows path of first rider

YORK — About 300 Anglicans took to the road yesterday morning to follow part of the route of Haldimand's permanent circuit rider.

Almost 140 years after Rev. Bold Cudmore Hill served his church in the area, a pilgrimage retraced his path from York to Cayuga.

The pilgrimage was led by a crucifer on horseback and followed by the Diocesan bishop on horseback. The bishop represented Mr. Hill.

Vintage automobiles, horse drawn carriages and a choir on a hay wagon joined

the many walkers on the 4½-mile trek.

Most pilgrims made the distance in less than two hours and then attended the church service that followed.

The day's events celebrated the centennial of the Haldimand deanery, which was established a few years after Mr. Hill's death.

Seven canoes made the trip down the Grand River from York to Cayuga.

Prior to the establishment of the Haldimand-Niagara diocese and the Haldimand deanery, Mr. Hill served a large area on horseback.

As the first permanent minister in the area he was based in York, which was a thriving town during the middle of the 19th century.

Mr. Hill often rode for more than 200 miles in two weeks offering spiritual guidance to people of many faiths in Swamp Road, Indiana, and MacKenzie Mills as well as Dunnville, Caledonia and Cayuga.



Archdeacon Kent Clarke and Mark Snowden lead the pilgrimage

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