

35th Anniversary
Township of Bruce Historical Society
Since 1983

Founding Directors –

Eva McTeer	Nelson Howe
Stuart Leggett	Anne Judd*
Myrtle Sieffert	John H. MacKenzie
John Nelson	Margaret MacKenzie
Howard Collins	Louis Turnbull
Earl Dahmer	Shirley Woodason

*continuing director

Aim –

To preserve for our own and future generations the colourful and sometimes difficult way of life, from Bruce Township beginnings to the present day.

Publications Available –

Bruce Township Laneways and Landmarks 2008
Bruce Township More Families and Farms 1999
Bruce Township Tales and Trails with supplement 1999

Contact Herb Henkenhaf 519-368-7458

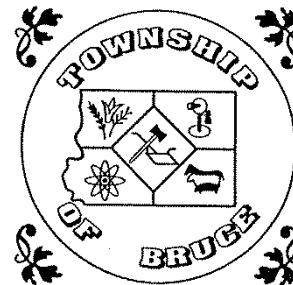
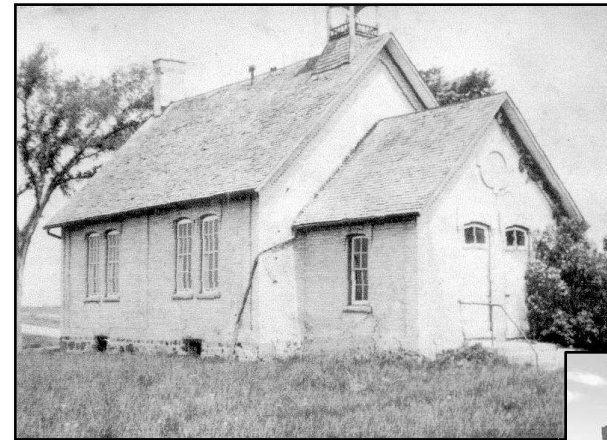
Memberships –

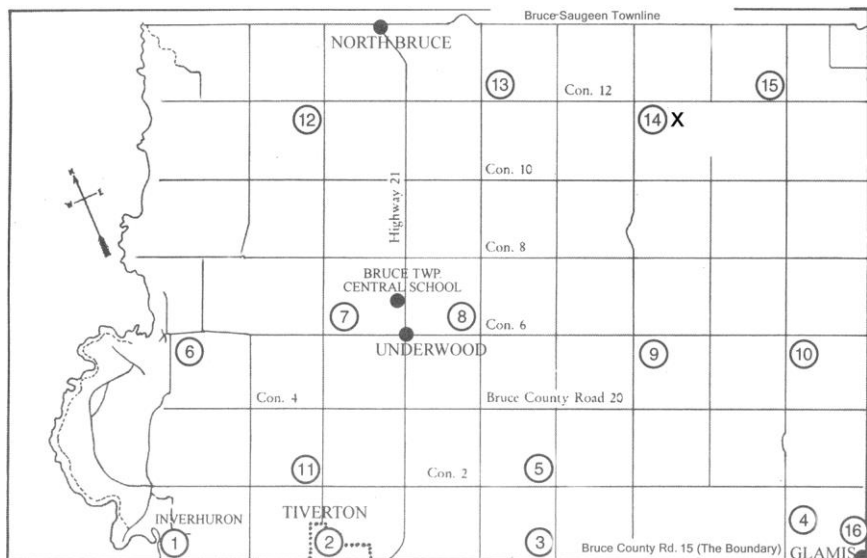
Anyone with an interest in the heritage of the Township of Bruce is welcome as a member. Life membership \$20.00, annual membership \$2.00 each household.

Please contact Jean Schwandt 519-396-7735 or Helen Burnside 519-396-7135.

Township of Bruce Historical Society
35th Annual Meeting
June 1, 2018

DEDICATION OF CAIRN and PLAQUE
S.S. #14
BRUCE TOWNSHIP





Bruce Township Map

Circled Numbers Indicate School Locations

School sections for the Township were laid out in 1856, with some amendments as time passed. Each section had trustees to manage its affairs, including hiring teachers and caretakers, and obtaining funding from the Township council.

For more information on all schools within Bruce Township, lists of teachers and photographs of school groups, see *Bruce Township Tales and Trails*. More photos and information are available at www.bruce-township.ca.

Courtesies

Cairn – Murray McCarrel

Excavation and Footings – Mark Porter

Preservation of Datestone and Bricks – Barry & Dianne Ribey family

School Picture – Bill and Marjorie Tennyson

Cairn Picture – Lois Bradley

Interviews – Gwen Howe Wilson

Helen Smith McKenzie

Jack Ribey

Gwen White Turner

Videographer – Tom Church

Landmarks Committee TBHS – Herbert Henkenhaf

Norman Dobson

John Dahmer

Dedication – Rev. David Chang

S.S. #14 History

The first written records of this school begin January 7, 1873, when the trustees were Neil Cameron, Lachlan McPhail, and Murdock McRae. At that time, Mr. McRae owned the farm on which the schoolhouse stood, Lot 21, Concession 12. John R. MacDonald of Kincardine was teacher.

The trustees purchased 15 cords of hardwood at 80 cents a cord. In 1874, a porch was built across the front of the school, and the next year a board fence around the schoolyard. Mr. Thomas Rankin, teacher in 1876, received \$370 per year, on condition he spend \$5.00 on books as prizes for pupils and do the caretaking.

In 1899, a new, brick schoolhouse was built, using plans by S.G. Kinsey, architect, of Port Elgin, who received a fee of \$15.00. While it was under construction, classes carried on in a nearby vacant house owned by Mr. McRae and rented to the trustees for \$5.00. The contractors were Menzies and McKinnon, with A. Brunton of the townline doing the brickwork. Total cost of \$1725 was covered by debentures.

Some improvements over the years: a well drilled by Herman Boettger in 1909; a furnace installed by Archibald Sinclair in 1913, new cement steps and platform built by John H. McGillivray in 1917. In 1941, families held a bee to draw soil, level the grounds, and erect a flagpole. The school was wired for electricity in 1944, and an oil-fired furnace installed in 1949.

With attendance declining steadily, in 1955 the Township School Area Board decided to close this school and transport the pupils to S.S. #15. In 1965, Alan Ribey purchased this property. The land remains in Ribey family ownership. When the building was demolished in 2015, they preserved the date stone, which is a feature of the cairn erected in 2017 by the Township of Bruce Historical Society.

Teachers at S. S. #14 -

Gwen Howe (Wilson),
the last teacher
Helen Smith (McKenzie)
Dorothy Catto
Ruby Webb
Effie McCulloch
James MacKinnon
Evelyn Noble
Winnifred Baird
Isabel MacKinnon (Howe)

Howard Collins
Pearl Clazie
Leslie Bain
Miss Murray
Miss Reid
Bertha Moulton
Alice Mutton
Miss Brown
Vera McPherson
Miss C. Fisher

Some Students of S.S. #14 -