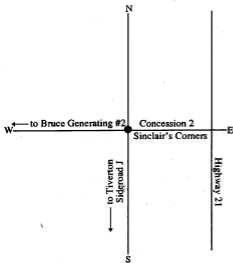


SINCLAIR'S CORNERS



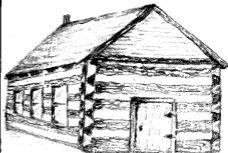
The Township of Bruce Historical Society acknowledges with thanks the support of the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications and the Corporation of the Township of Bruce.

Copies of the Society's books are available at The Chapel or from:

Donelda MacGillivray,
R.R.4, Paisley, Ontario N0G2N0



Presbyterian Church



1857

CORNER CONCESSION 2
AND
SIDEROAD J

FIRST SETTLEMENT
IN
BRUCE TOWNSHIP

In 1989 a plaque was placed by the Township of Bruce Historical Society

Sinclair's Corners

Sinclair's Corners is significant in the history of Bruce Township because it marks the first settlement in the Township. In 1852 Archibald Sinclair moved to Lot 1 Concession 2 Bruce Township from Kincardine Township. He built his house near the northwest corner. In the same year he built the first sawmill and grist mill in the Township on the creek south of the house. Another first for the Township was the Post Office, opened in 1853 bearing the name Bruce. It was located in the Sinclair home with Peter Sinclair, Archibald's son, as the first Postmaster.

In 1853 David Gibson, the Government Engineer, allowed the Saugeen to Goderich Road to deviate westward through Sinclair's Corners, bringing all north south traffic through this settlement.

After several years planning the first Presbyterian Church of the Township was erected in 1857. It was a log construction measuring 40 x 35 feet. By 1860 the congregation outgrew the log church and a new one was built in Tiverton.

In that same year, 1857, there were two small stores operated out of the home owned by Alex MacIntosh and Granny Cameron. A pearl and potashery located in a two storey building provided a market for the abundance of ashes from the pioneer's chimneys.

The first pioneer at Sinclair's Corners was Michael Green who arrived in 1851 and remained until 1884. Other early pioneers in this community were John MacKinnon and Alexander McBain.

When the Post Office was transferred to McInnes' store in Tiverton and the Presbyterian Church relocated there also, Sinclair's Corners declined.