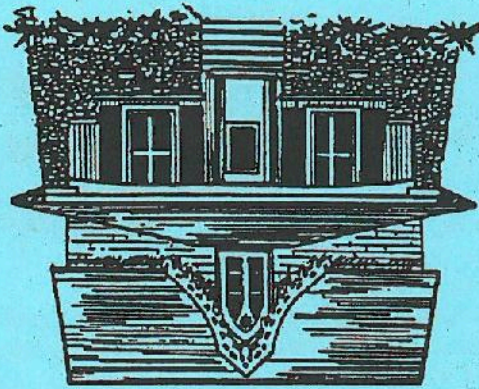


Produced by the
Whitchurch-Stouffville
Historical Society
1997

6139 Main Street



covering the south side of Main Street,
west from the railway tracks, and
Albert, Victoria & Clarke Streets,
the Ninth Line and Sunset Blvd.

Stouffville Junction
South
7

STOUFFVILLE VILLAGE
WALKING TOUR

We are starting this tour at the south west junction of the railway tracks and Main Street. The railway came through Stouffville in 1871. This brought prosperity to the village and an area known as Stouffville Junction started to develop. As with the rest of Stouffville, land in this area was owned by the Stouffer family. The first development occurred south of Main Street in the 1870s, but research has shown that there were three houses on Main Street prior to that time.

The commercial building, #6193, was built about 1934 as a garage for car repairs by Isaac Boadway, on property purchased from the Sanders estate in 1931. Five years later he leased the establishment to the Shell Oil company and this became the first gas station in town. It remained as a station until 1973, when, following a major clean-up and renovation, a medical lab was established in the building.

The adjacent house, #6185, was built about 1876 for W.B. Sanders, the grand-poooha of Stouffville. He, at various times, was postmaster, lumber, coal and grain merchant, Reeve of Stouffville and Warden of York County. He had a house built that was fitting for his position in town: a 2½-storey home, with ten rooms. There was decorative gingerbread trim in the porticoes, large ornate upper and lower verandahs on the east side facing the railway, and circular windows in the peaks. The entire lot, which included the site of the garage, was enclosed by a looped, iron-rod fence. When purchased by Isaac Boadway, in 1931, it was converted into a two family dwelling. It is now a multi-apartment building.

The square of land from here along Main Street for nine houses and south to Sunset Blvd was all sold by Abraham Stouffer Sr. to Abraham Jr. in 1871 and then subdivided into 37 lots, with Albert and Victoria Streets being created at this time.

On the site of #6179 Main Street was a frame two-storey home built about 1873 for Eliza Cook. In 1918 William Quantz purchased her home and replaced it with this brick house the following year.

#6173: This frame house built on the centre hall plan with the large front verandah was built about 1872 for David Musselman, who lived here for six years. Then Henry Woodgate, first clerk of the Village of Stouffville, following incorporation in 1877, purchased this lot, and the corner lot. He later acquired the first lot south on Albert St. All three lots



9 Albert Street

were sold to Joseph A. Todd in 1895. The Wellington Helmkey family were here from 1914 to 1948 when it was purchased by Magnus Mowat, an early station agent, and it remains in that family to this day.

Walk south on Albert Street. On the corner lot was once a large red-brick, eight-roomed home built around 1895 probably by Nathan Forsyth, for Joseph A. and Florence Todd. Pictures show it to be similar to the house just south on Albert St. Joseph was a grain dealer, postmaster in the early 1900s and the Reeve of Stouffville in 1902. He built the block of stores across the street. Llewellyn, his son, inherited the house and business in 1913. He moved to Toronto in 1935. Delbert Holden

lived here until his death in 1946 and his wife Gertrude lived here for another 10 years. Henry and Marie Adams purchased in 1954. A Christian bookstore was established here before the house burnt down in December 1980.

#19 Albert: This house was also built c1896 for the Todd family. Note the decorative soldier-brick trim above the stained glass windows. This was the Joseph Mowder family home from 1919 to 1947. Here son Fred operated the Snow White Dairy whose motto was "You can't beat our milk, but you can whip our cream."

#14 Albert: Built for George Collard, a retired druggist, about 1921, this brick and shingle home replaces the 1890s veterinary clinic of John Storry, who first had his office here, before moving to the north side of Main Street about 1906.

#12 Albert St: This new home, built in 1987, replaces a plastercast home built here c1872 for Benjamin Sullivan.

#11 Albert St: Thomas Wallis built this home about 1877. Notice the low fieldstone foundation, the double arched windows and the enclosed porch which replaces the original wooden verandah with its ornate gingerbread trim. The insulbrick siding is a 1930s upgrade, and is becoming increasingly rare.

#9 Albert: John Park, co-owner of the planing mill, built this charming frame home about 1887. They lived here until 1922 when John and Ida Cleaver purchased it. It was sold again in 1943. Notice the detailed trim over the windows on the upper floor and the five-sided lower bay window with gingerbread detail and shingled canopy. Can you see where the larger side window has been replaced with a modern one?

1 Stouffville Centre North
2 Stouffville Centre South
3 Brimstone Point North
4 The Slough of Despond
5a Heart of Stouffville - W
5b Heart of Stouffville - E
6 Brimstone Point South

Other Brochures:

Map and Illustrations by
Fenella Smith

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in
this brochure. Corrections and additional
information will be gratefully received.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Historical Society
hopes that you enjoy this walking tour, and asks
you to respect the privacy and property of the
residents by keeping to the roads and sidewalks.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Historical Society was
founded in 1987. Its purpose is to make the
community more aware of its heritage through
entertainment, education and participation. We
encourage you to join us at our bi-monthly
meetings. Further information is available in the
Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library.

THE WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

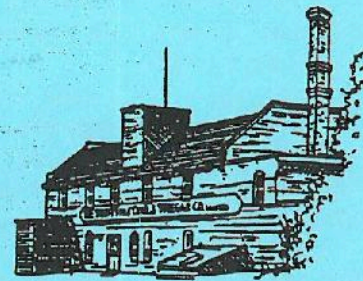
Following the creation of the
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville in 1971, its
crest was developed as a symbol of the Town. Its
images represent the three entities which combined
land and population to the new Town, Whitchurch
and Markham Townships and the Village of
Stouffville. A white church represents the former
Stouffville. The crosses of St. George and St. Andrew symbolize
the earliest founders of Markham, and the star and
chalice are from the family crest of Stouffville's
founding Stouffer family.



Stouffville was founded by Abraham and Elizabeth
Stouffer who came from Chambersburg,
Pennsylvania in 1804 and purchased land on both
sides of the Town Line in Concession 9. Here they
built a mill around which this community developed.
Earliest development took place in what is now the
east end, around the 10th Line crossroads.
A second development focus centred on mills
near Stouffville Creek in the vicinity of Mill and
Market Streets. The railway line came through in
the 1870s and brought prosperity and development
further west.

THE VILLAGE OF STOUFFVILLE

On the east side of Albert, where Testa Villa apartments now stand, there was a large factory building. In March 1876, a group of local businessmen formed a joint stock company under the title of The Stouffville Flour Manufacturing Company. Jesse G. Reesor was elected president and overseer of the company. In March 1878 a general meeting of shareholders was held to resolve the company's financial problems. The shareholders agreed to sell the building and



"Vinegar Works"

the business to Jesse Reesor, which they did in April. A year later Jacob Raymer purchased the Flour Company and Jesse Reesor moved to St. Joseph's Island, taking most of the milling machinery with him. The company went out of business in 1888 and in 1889 the firm of Sanders, Williamson & Company converted the old mill into a roller mill. New machinery was installed and Ed Wheeler Sr. was the manager. They also were a grist and chop mill for the local farmer.

In 1893 the partnership of William McCormick and George Boulton bought the building and opened the Toronto Fruit and Vinegar Company, manufacturing cider, vinegar and ketchup. In 1901 the Pakenham Pork Packing Company rented a portion of the building to process meat. This venture did not last very long.

In 1908 the Toronto Fruit and Vinegar went into receivership and was sold. The T.A. Lytle Co. purchased the property in 1909. In April 1921 the property was purchased by the The Stouffville Cider & Vinegar Company. In August of the same year the property was sold again to The National Cooperage Co. Equipment to manufacture barrels for apples, flour and nails was installed. The new company opened for business in June, 1922. The 1924 firemap indicates that the company was no longer in business at that time.

George Aston purchased the building and The Goldfish Supply Company, which had a worldwide trade, was opened in November 1930. During WWII part of the basement was used by Campbell Soup Co. for storage of canned goods. This property was sold for development in 1970, and Testa Villa Apartments was opened about 1972.