



Preserving, promoting and developing Wellington North's unique cultural resources to build a vibrant community and a prosperous economy.

Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates West Luther's Mountain

Submitted by Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Member Bonny McDougall:

Over 100 years ago the Luther established hamlet of Mount View boasted a sawmill, a store and a Methodist Church. The location of Mount View is Concession 4 and Sideroad 13 where the only surviving evidence is the one room school converted to a residence. It was built in 1882 by trustees, John Shaw, John McGivney and Charles Gilder.

The community of Mount View received its name because of a small mountain of a natural gravel deposit. In later years it was used to supply gravel to most of the rural roads in the area. As a result, the "mountain" has almost disappeared. The Jones Mill was built about 1873 on the north side of Concession 4 and supplied the lumber for most of the local houses and barns powered by steam boilers supplied by the water from 4 Mile Creek. In 1906 The Hollis Mill was built on the site of the Jones Mill. This new mill not only sawed lumber but also made shingles and chopped and rolled grain which was revolutionary to the local farmers who previously had to take their oats and wheat to Fergus to process it. Next to the mill was the general store which also served as the post office.

One of the most significant landmarks at Mount View was the wooden tower that was built on the highest spot on the mountain on the farm of J.H. White. It is believed to have been built around 1880 as a survey tower. The view from the top platform of the tower was really something. Arthur Village could be plainly viewed through a telescope which was mounted on the platform as well as Grand Valley, Fergus and Dundalk. The rickety wooden structure succumbed to too many windstorms and finally met its match in the 1940's.

Over time the Mount View community gave way to boundaries, the Luther Marsh and the Damascus Lake as well as the motor car which contributed to the demise of many of the old hamlets of the early 1900's.