911 CIVIC ADDRESSING:
THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLESLEY MUNICIPAL
ADDRESSING CONVERSION PROJECT

by Rosanne Atwater-Hallatt

On November 15, 1999, the Township of Wellesley implemented a municipal addressing system for rural residents that complied with the province-wide 9-1-1 civic addressing initiative. Working closely with the Region of Waterloo, Bell Canada, other townships, and emergency services personnel, among others, the Township assigned new street names and house numbers to much of its area. This new system provided a unique identification for each property and has improved the ability of delivery and emergency services (i.e., police, fire and ambulance) to locate rural residents through a central 9-1-1 dispatch. As a result, response time has been reduced. As well, the system is compatible with Bell Canada's 9-1-1 Public Emergency Response System (PERS) which will be implemented across the province within a few years.

The first steps in the conversion project determined how many duplicate street names existed within the Township itself (e.g., King Streets existed within the villages of Heidelberg, St. Clements, and Wellesley), how many duplicate addresses there were on those streets, and the total number of residences affected. (Not all homes in the Township were affected by the municipal address changes.) Next, duplication of street names and numbers within the Region of Waterloo was analyzed. In deciding which municipal addresses to change, the Township took the path of "least resistance" and changed only those street/road names and numbers that *just* had to change.

Wellesley was the third rural municipality within the Region (following Wilmot and North Dumfries) to convert its civic addressing system. Where possible, it chose to honor its rich heritage and rename its roads and streets after local figures of historical significance. A

selection of historically significant names was developed by inviting the Wellesley Historical Society along with Wellesley Township Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) to submit names for consideration and commemoration. In the end, no names were created, each name was unique, and an attempt was made to ensure that the street name chosen was appropriate for the area in which it was located. Other significant names submitted for consideration could have been used (e.g., Erb) but were not used in order to avoid conflict with names of similar sound or spelling located in other municipalities within the Region. This strategy ensured that a future review of names will be unnecessary should the Region move to one-tier government.

The goal of the conversion project was to design a system that was simple and capable of accommodating future growth. Before actually changing many of the Township's street names and numbers, it was agreed that the following number and naming conventions would be observed:

- numbers would be allocated from south to north and east to west
- where possible, even numbers would be on the south and west sides, odd numbers on the north and east sides
- all thoroughfares running east-west would be called "lines" and all thoroughfares running north-south would be called "roads"
- in towns where a thoroughfare was previously called a "street" it would retain that designation
- if an accessway ended in a "dead-end" it would be known as a "lane"
- no destination names would be used as street names
- *cul-de-sacs* would be numbered odd in a counter-clockwise fashion

A number of public meetings were held and submissions from citizens groups and individuals were received; the public became involved in the naming process and the voice of those affected was heard.

Costs for the conversion to civic addressing were the joint responsibility of the Township and the Region. Funds used by the Region for this project resulted from savings when a service contract with Bell Canada for 911 access using Emergency Code Location signs was cancelled and not from tax dollars. The Region provided project

co-ordination and computer support along with individual house number posts and house number signs as well as street name signage for Regional Roads. The Township was responsible for local accuracy, street naming, verification of information, initial installation of the house number sign, provision and installation of local street name signs and public inquiry response.

Installed by Wellesley Township volunteer fire fighters, the cost for the post and installation of same was $10.00; the four-digit green-and-white house number signs cost an additional $10.00. The ownership of the house numbering sign was vested with the property owner upon installation. Consequently, the cost of producing and installing permanent replacement signs for existing property owners, or installing new signs at new locations, will be the responsibility of the property owner. Numbers for new lots will be assigned when the property owner submits a request for a building permit.

In total, approximately 61 roads were renamed and 2,200 house numbering signs were installed. Boundary roads around the perimeter of the Township were named by the township naming first and, like any project of this size and complexity, some tradeoffs were negotiated with neighboring municipalities.

The following highlights the changes made to Wellesley Township road names and offers an overview of the historical significance of the name choice (as appropriate):

- New name: **Kressler Road**
  Old name: Township Road #2; Regional Road #16
  Description: Cedar Grove Road to Weimar Line (Regional Road #14); Weimar Line (Regional Road #14) to Ament Line [(Regional Road #17) Lot Line between 16th and 17th Concession]

The village of Heidelberg lies just inside the Wellesley townline, divided roughly in half to lie in both Wellesley and Woolwich townships. The area was settled c.1832. The first post office was established in Heidelberg in 1854, with **John Kressler** commissioned as the village's first postmaster. This was the same year that someone, perhaps Kressler himself, named the settlement after the German university town of Heidelberg.

- New name: **Empey Road**
  Old name: Township Road #2A
  Description: Boomer Line (Township Road #9E) to a point south of the Conestogo River in Lot 1, Concession XII, East Section

On the 1861 Tremaine Map, M.P. Empy *[sic]*, Esq. is listed as a clerk of the Divisional Court and conveyancer in the village of Hawkesville. **Michael Peter Empey** was an original settler of Hawkesville and was a general merchant, postmaster and served as a general counsel and advisor to the village's residents. He served as Reeve of Wellesley Township in 1854. Empey was apparently so successful that he was able to employ a coachman, a governess and nursemaids for his daughters, housemaids, a gardener, clerks for his store and assistants in the post office. Several of his sons had artistic talents and their witty drawings of local citizens decorated the walls of the old village hall. A grandson, Arthur G. Empey, was the author of the famous war story *Over the Top*.

- New name: **Temperance Road**
  Old name: Township Road #2B
  Description: Broadway Street (Township Road #11A) to Herrgott Road (Regional Road #10)

Circa 1846, John Hawke built a grist mill on a land holding located on the western bank of the Conestogo River – an event which led to the establishment of the village of Hawkesville. An interest in the temperance movement among village residents led to the formation of the **Hawkesville Sons of Temperance Lodge** in 1854. The pledge of abstinence which was taken by many young men in the Township, and the enforcement of strict rules of sobriety, had a considerable moral influence on the village of Hawkesville. The Temperance Lodge held annual gatherings in the grove at John Hawke's farm; nearby, the large island in the centre of the Conestogo River was called **Temperance Island** in commemoration of the Lodge picnics and meetings.

In a newspaper article from 1863, it was reported that an Emancipation Celebration hosted by blacks living in Wellesley and Peel townships was held in the village of Hawkesville, attended by about 2,500 people. The procession took place at 11 o'clock headed by the Berlin Band, after which a sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Miller, in the town hall. The procession then re-formed and marched to

Temperance Island, a "lovely spot." Dinner was served at half-past 12 o'clock, when 425 people sat down to the first table, 390 to the second, and a large number to the third.

- New name: **Mallott Road**
  Old name: Township Road #2C
  Description: Bricker School Line (Township Road #13E) to Line 86 (Regional Road #86)

One of the pioneer black families in Wellesley Township, a family with the surname of Mallot *[sic]* is registered in Peel Township records in 1851. The **James Mallott** family lived in Wallenstein and later moved further into Wellesley Township. Records note the death, in 1903, of Annie Della Malott *[sic]*, of Wallenstein, a servant; in 1910 of Josephine Molott *[sic]*, age 76, born in Peel. A third entry is for Wilford Mallott who died at age 24. Local residents also recall a "Honey" Mallott who worked as a thresher.

- New name: **Powell Road**
  Old name: Township Road #4A
  Description: Lawson Line (Township Road #13W) to Line 86 (Regional Road #86)
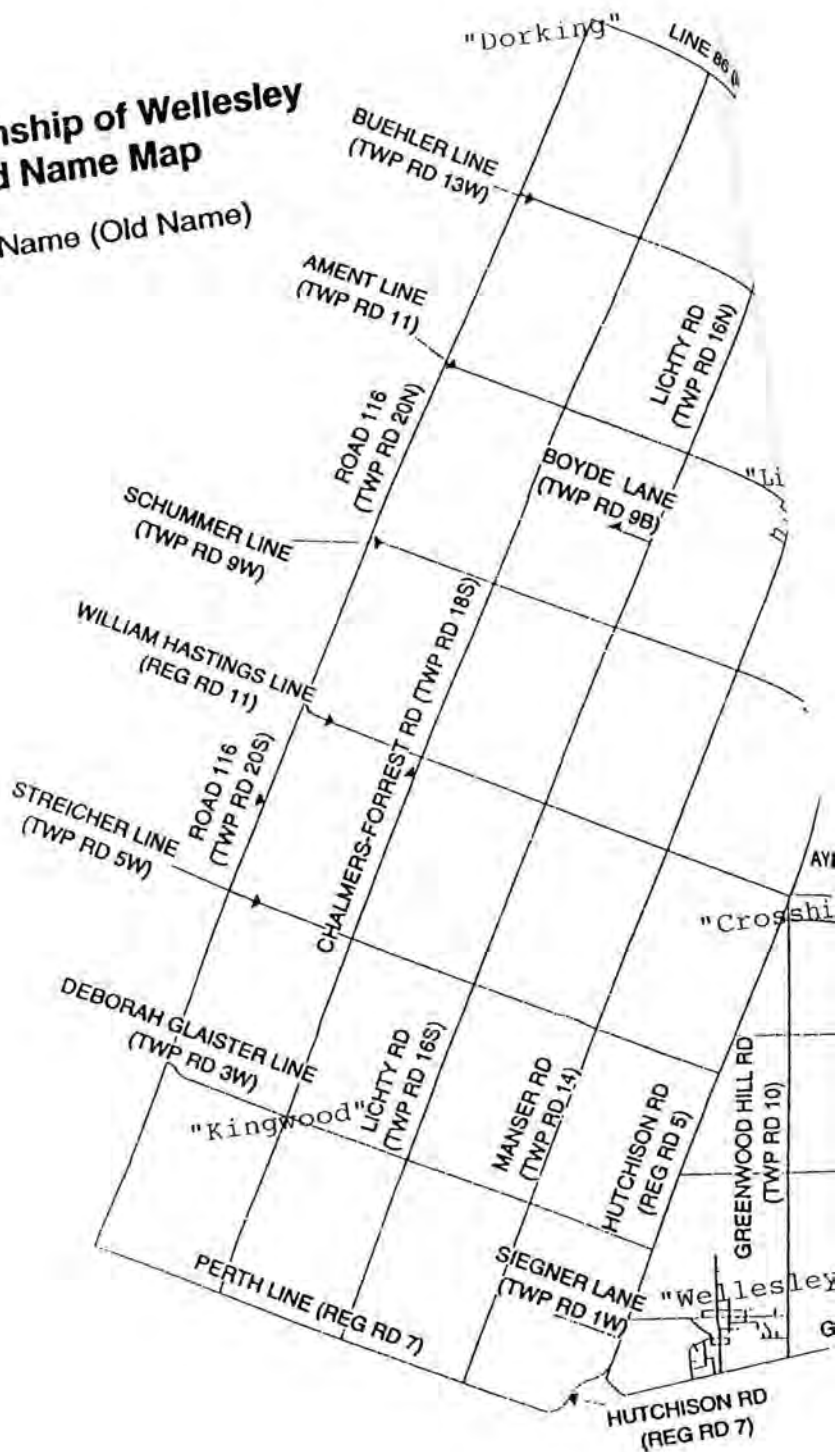
The **Lemuel Powell** name belongs to the category of "founding family" within the Township of Wellesley. The Powell family traces its own ancestry back to the Naneos Mansion in Aberystwyth, Wales, and are direct descendants of Thomas Powell who sailed to the United States in 1741(?). Lemuel Powell's registration in the 1851 census gives his place of origin as Vermont. Lemuel Powell married twice: in 1850 to Jane Nichol Stewart (who is buried along with Lemuel in the Hawkesville cemetery) and to Maud Shipman (who is buried in Forest Lawn cemetery in California).
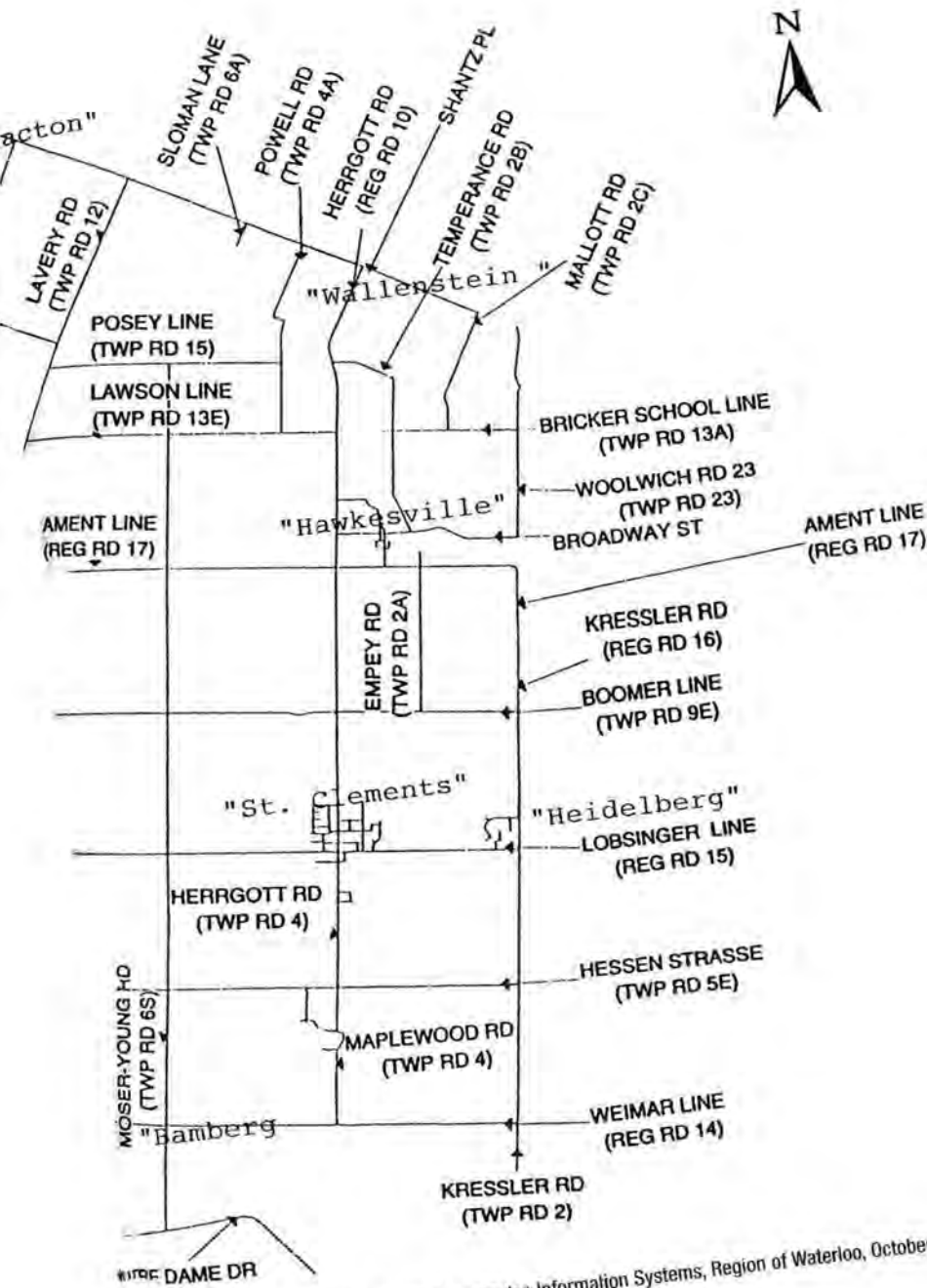
- New name: **Maplewood Road**
  Old name: Township Road #4 South
  Description: Weimar Line (Regional Road #14) to Hessen Strasse (Township Road #5E)

Local residents petitioned the Township to retain the name Maplewood – the only change was from Maplewood Drive to Maplewood Road.

Township of Wellesley Road Name Map

New Name (Old Name)

"Dorking"

LINE 86

BUEHLER LINE (TWP RD 13W)

AMENT LINE (TWP RD 11)

LICHTY RD (TWP RD 16N)

ROAD 116 (TWP RD 20N)

BOYDE LANE (TWP RD 9B)

"Li

SCHUMMER LINE (TWP RD 9W)

CHALMERS-FORREST RD (TWP RD 18S)

WILLIAM HASTINGS LINE (REG RD 11)

ROAD 116 (TWP RD 20S)

STREICHER LINE (TWP RD 5W)

AY

"Crosshi

DEBORAH GLAISTER LINE (TWP RD 3W)

LICHTY RD (TWP RD 16S)

MANSER RD (TWP RD 14)

HUTCHISON RD (REG RD 5)

GREENWOOD HILL RD (TWP RD 10)

"Kingwood"

PERTH LINE (REG RD 7)

SIEGNER LANE (TWP RD 1W)

"Wellesley

G

HUTCHISON RD (REG RD 7)

N

acton"

LAVERY RD
(TWP RD 12)

SLOMAN LANE
(TWP RD 6A)

POWELL RD
(TWP RD 4A)

HERRGOTT RD
(REG RD 10)

SHANTZ PL

TEMPERANCE RD
(TWP RD 2B)

MALLOTT RD
(TWP RD 2C)

"Wallenstein"

POSEY LINE
(TWP RD 15)

LAWSON LINE
(TWP RD 13E)

BRICKER SCHOOL LINE
(TWP RD 13A)

AMENT LINE
(REG RD 17)

"Hawkesville"

WOOLWICH RD 23
(TWP RD 23)

BROADWAY ST

AMENT LINE
(REG RD 17)

EMPEY RD
(TWP RD 2A)

KRESSLER RD
(REG RD 16)

BOOMER LINE
(TWP RD 9E)

"St. Clements"

"Heidelberg"

LOBSINGER LINE
(REG RD 15)

HERRGOTT RD
(TWP RD 4)

MOSER-YOUNG RD
(TWP RD 6S)

HESSEN STRASSE
(TWP RD 5E)

MAPLEWOOD RD
(TWP RD 4)

WEIMAR LINE
(REG RD 14)

"Bamberg"

KRESSLER RD
(TWP RD 2)

NOTRE DAME DR

- New name: **Herrgott Road**

  Old name: Township Road #4 South; Regional Road #10

  Description: Hessen Strasse (Township Road #5E) to Lobsinger Line (Regional Road #15); Lobsinger Line (Regional Road #15) northerly to the County of Wellington boundary

The first Township record of this original settlement family shows up in the Township survey of 1842 with the listing of "John Hargood" who was a squatter An earlier record of the Hergott *[sic]* family is found in the *Spetz* book which lists Martin Hergott and his father living on the Wilmot boundary line in the 1830s. The Herrgotts were German Roman Catholics originally from Alsace-Lorraine. The original Herrgott homestead is an attractive, four-storey Georgian fieldstone farmhouse with a cornerstone inscribed "1856 **John Hergott**." The family conducted a patent medicine business from the farm. A number of Herrgott sons purchased farms on the Hesson Strasse (one of these farms remained in the family for over 100 years). Successive generations of Herrgotts have served the local education community by accepting posts as trustees and members of local school boards. A Herrgott descendant served as chauffeur to the Seagram family of the Waterloo distilling company.

- New name: **Sloman Lane**

  Old name: Township Road #6A

  Description: From a point in Lot 15, Concession 14, West Section, to Line 86 (Regional Road #86)

In the first half of the 1900s, **Wiebert G. Sloman** was a school teacher at Beechvale (SS#15) and Crosshill village schools, one of a small number of black residents in the Township. An earlier school inspection report dated June 15, 1875, noted that the Beechvale school is doing "fair work; trustees to level and fence in the ground." In that same report over at the Crosshill school, the trustees were proceeding with the erection of a fine school and two apartments and a large basement.

- New name: **Moser-Young Road**

  Old name: Township Road #6 North and South; Regional Road #10; Regional Road #14

  Description: Weimar Line (Township Road #3E) to Posey Line

(Township Road #15); Weimar Line (Regional Road #14)/Weimar Line to Lobsinger Line (Regional Road #15); Gerber Road (Regional Road #12)/Notre Dame Drive (Regional Road #12) to Weimar Line (Regional Road #14)

An original settlement family, **Michael von Moser** and his three brothers (Carl, John and Joseph) emigrated from Germany in the 1840s. All dropped the prefix 'von' (a designation of nobility) when they arrived in Canada. Michael and his brother John settled in Wellesley Township. John Moser was among the first settlers of Bamberg sometime in the 1840s. Michael received the crown deed to his property near Bamberg in 1857 and he built his 2? storey fieldstone Georgian-style house in 1863. The Moser family was Roman Catholic. However, Michael left the faith possibly in response to the controversy surrounding his marriage in the 1850s to Maria Musselman, a young Mennonite woman. One of Michael's sons (Enoch) purchased one of the first automobiles in the Township.

From the early 1950s until 1968, **Lloyd** and **Florence Young** owned and operated Youngstown Lodge located on the Moser-Young Road on the former site of Waterloo bandmaster Professor C.F. Thiele's music camp in Bamberg. In 1948, prior to opening Youngstown Lodge, Lloyd Young owned and operated the Embassy Hotel (Angie's Kitchen in 2000) in St. Agatha. The 14-acre Youngstown Lodge site had two large reception halls – one licensed with a capacity of 500 people, the other with a capacity of 350 people. Also located on the property was a large park with a midway, a baseball diamond and soccer field. The Lodge employed upwards of 40 part-time employees from the local area and it played host to banquets, wedding receptions, live-band dances, and company picnics for such firms as Carling Breweries, General Spring, and Blower and Forge. Famous for its BBQ, it was not unusual to serve between 4,000 and 5,000 BBQ chicken dinners on a summer weekend. The Lodge also had a robust catering business and often served meals at large functions for area businesses. For example, Youngstown Lodge was hired to serve 6,500 meals in London, Ontario, at a farm implement dealers banquet which had Don Messer as its musical guest. After the Lodge was sold in 1968, it became known as Lakeview Lodge owned by Willard Poll; it was then sold to a church group before being sold to become a private residence. Lloyd Young died in 1992.

- New name: **Hackbart Road**

  Old name: Township Road #8 North and South

  Description: Gerber Road (Regional Road #12) to Ament Line (Regional Road #17)

William Hachbord emigrated to Canada from Berlin, Germany, in the early 1850s. An original settlement family, the Hachbords first settled in Heidelberg then moved to a farm on Concession 8 eventually owning four farms in the adjacent area. The spelling of the family surname evolved over the years, first becoming Hackbardt then Hackbart.

- New name: **Greenwood Hill Road**

  Old name: Township Road #10

  Description: Gerber Road (Regional Road #12) to Hutchison Road (Regional Road #5)

One of the first families settling in the vicinity of what is today the village of Wellesley (located in the extreme southwest portion of the Township) was **John Greenwood**. The Greenwoods had been settled in the area for some years prior to 1843, the date of the Walker survey. "Greenwood Hill" is the colloquial name for the hill at the intersection of Weimar Line and Greenwood Hill Road.

- New name: **Hutchison Road**

  Old name: Township Road #12; Regional Road #5; Regional Road #7

  Description: William Hastings Line (Regional Road #5) to Ament Line (Regional Road #17); Ferris Street (Regional Road #5) to William Hastings Line (Regional Road #5); from the line between Lots 11 and 12, Concession 1, Township of Wellesley, to Ferris Street (Regional Road #5)

An original settlement family, **Hugh Hutchison** emigrated from Scotland to Canada to settle in the Township around 1843 or 1846. He may have been responsible for naming the settlement of Crosshill after his home in Ayrshire, Scotland. (The name Crosshill was probably "cross on the hill" originally.) The geographic location of the village in rolling countryside near the high point of the Township was similar to his home land. Hutchison's property was at the corner in Crosshill where today stands the Township council chambers. The 1851 census

lists Hugh, aged 29, and his wife Jane, age 17, and an infant daughter Elizabeth. The census records that there was a township hall on his lot (also used at times for religious worship), a tavern, a log house and a shanty. Hutchison was an entrepreneur and planned the survey of the village of Crosshill with his friend William Hastings.

- New name: **Lavery Road**
  Old name: Township Road #12 North
  Description: Ament Line (Regional Road #17) to Line 86 (Regional Road #86)

By 1874, the village of Dorking had two blacksmith's shops, a hotel, a general store, a post office, a church and school, private residences and area farms. The land surrounding the village was heavily wooded with the finest timber. As the land was cleared for settlement, many farms were mixed operations including orchards and sugar bushes. An original settlement family, the **Lavery family** are reported to have bought their first team of oxen using maple sugar as payment.

- New name: **Manser Road**
  Old name: Township Road #14 South; Regional Road #5
  Description: Perth Line (Regional Road #7) to William Hastings Line (Regional Road #5); William Hastings Line (Regional Road #5)/William Hastings Line (Regional Road #11) northerly to the County of Wellington boundary

A well known name in the district, the Manser family was large and owned much property in the area. An original settlement family, George Manser married Rebecca Miller in 1854 and settled on a farm south of Crosshill. One of their six children was a son also named George Manser. The younger George became a veterinarian, graduating from the Ontario Veterinary College in Toronto. In 1891, after graduation, **Dr. George Manser** purchased the practice of Dr. Charles Hackett of Linwood. His practice was extensive and took in a geographic area that approached Elmira, went as far north as Arthur, Listowel and Atwood, west to Milverton and as far south as the village of Wellesley. At first, Dr. Manser traveled by horse; later in a Ford car. He served the farming community for over forty years. Dr. Manser's office was in his home and he is remembered as an organized and

fastidious man. He was married to Dr. Hackett's sister, Sarah. Dr. Manser judged at local fall fairs and was a good friend of his high school classmate Prime Minister Mackenzie King.

- New name: **Lichty Road**
  Old name: Township Road #16 North and South
  Description: Perth Line (Regional Road #7) to Line 86 (Regional Road #86)

An original settlement family, many descendants of the **Lichty family** live in and around the village of Wellesley. Among them, they include Amish, Mennonite, Lutheran, Methodist and Catholic faiths. A branch of the Lichty family has also lived at the corner of Lichty Road and Deborah Glaister Line for three generations.

- New name: **Chalmers-Forrest Road**
  Old name: Township Road #18 North and South
  Description: Perth Line (Regional Road #7) to Line 86 (Regional Road #86)

The Chalmers name is well known in the Township. John Chalmers was one of the first settlers of Mornington Township. In 1887, his son **John Brown Chalmers** purchased a farm in Wellesley Township located on Lot 1, Concession 1. John Jr. and his wife Florence Peden had three daughters and a son. Other members of the Chalmers clan included David Chalmers who served as the first president of the Millbank Cheese and Butter Company, and Hugh Chalmers who was a Township councilor, president of the Wellesley Agricultural Society and chairman of the Wellesley Municipal Telephone System.

An original settlement family, **Alexander Forrest** and his wife Robina and their seven children emigrated from Dunes, Berwickshire, Scotland, in 1823. In 1832, they moved to Wellesley from the Rice Lake, Ontario, area taking possession of two farms – one in North Easthope and one on Lot 7, Concession 1, Wellesley Township. The Forrests were accomplished stone masons and built on the Wellesley property first where they constructed their own house. Alexander operated a bakery in the village of Wellesley and his wife Robina practised medicine. Eventually the family purchased the adjacent farm to the north of their Wellesley property and built a stately Victorian home of yellow brick.

- New name: **Road 116**
  Old name: Township Road #20 North and South
  Description: Perth Line (Regional Road #7) to Line 86 (Regional Road #86)

Road 116 was named by the neighboring municipality formerly known as Mornington Township because it preceded Wellesley Township in the conversion program. Mornington Township (now known as Perth East) chose to use a numbering system rather than a naming system (e.g., Regional Road #86 is now Line 86).

- New name: **Gerber Road**
  Old name: Township Road #1 East; Regional Road #12
  Description: Nafziger Road (Regional Road #5) to Hutchison Road (Regional Road #7); Moser-Young Road (Regional Road #14) to Nafziger Road (Regional Road #5)

One of the Township's founding pioneer families, the Gerbers were among the early waves of Amish Mennonites who left southern Germany and Switzerland in order to re-establish themselves in Waterloo County. First they purchased land in Wilmot Township, but later moved a few miles north into Wellesley Township. **John J. Gerber** (1809-1899) was born in Switzerland and married Veronica Oesch (1822-?). They emigrated to Canada after the birth of their son Christian O. Gerber (1845-1928) and arrived near mid-century in Wellesley village where they farmed just southeast of the village. John was a fine wood and cabinet maker and made furniture during the winter months. During the 1860s and 1870s, together with his son Christian, he provided fine furniture (cupboards, desks, wardrobes and chests of drawers) for the Amish population of Wellesley Township. Christian continued to woodwork in the two shops on his farm providing a general line of pine furniture for the local community.

- New name: **Siegner Lane**
  Old name: Township Road #1 West
  Description: Hutchison Road (Regional Road #7) to a point on Lot 11, Concession 1, West Section

Siegner Lane is named in honor of **Abe** and **Max Siegner** (father and son) from the Kingwood area. Abe Siegner was born in Kingwood on February 12, 1887, and moved to Millbank in 1911. In 1918, Abe

bought his first car (a model-T) –one of the few cars in the Township. In 1920, he moved back to the 200-acre family farm in Kingwood with his family where he operated a mixed farm with dairy cows, pigs and chickens. Abe and his wife Alice Chalmers had five sons; he was one of the top farmers and producers in the area and in the depression year of 1929, he bought a second farm in Mornington Township. Abe Siegner also served as the road foreman for Wellesley Township. He had his driver's licence until his death at age 98 on April 27, 1985.

Son Max was born on the farm in Millbank on December 4, 1918. At the age of two his family moved back to Kingwood to the family farm. Max married Janet Hart in 1949 and had three sons. Max is remembered as an innovative and colorful individual with diverse interests – he was a farmer and woodworker; during the Second World War he served (from 1942 to 1945) in the airforce; he was a lover of classical music and the theatre; he was a member of the Wellesley Historical Society, Horticultural Society and the Legion; he served his church; he played hockey, curled and skied until three years before his death; he traveled with Elderhostel; he was an inventor and innovator. Max Siegner died on September 26, 1999.

- New name: **Weimar Line**
  Old name: Township Road #3 East; Regional Road #14
  Description: Moser-Young Road (Regional Road #14) to Hutchison Road (Regional Road #5); Kressler Road (Regional Road #16) to Moser-Young Road (Regional Road #14) and Moser-Young Road (Regional Road #10)

Bamberg, founded in 1861, is located near the south centre of the Township and was originally named the **village of Weimar** first settled in 1848. Ferdinand Walter, the first postmaster in Bamberg in 1861, is believed to have changed the name from Weimar to Bamberg because at that time the German city of Bamberg was a well known European cultural centre.

- New name: **Deborah Glaister Line**
  Old name: Township Road #3 West
  Description: Hutchison Road (Regional Road #5) to Road 116 (Township Road #20 North and South)

Dr. Deborah Glaister Hannay was born in Wellesley village on August 19, 1906, and was the third generation medical doctor to practise in Wellesley. Her father, Dr. William Glaister (born in Crosshill), had an established medical practice in Wellesley; her mother Louise Morton Glaister (born in Wellesley village) was a practising nurse; and her maternal grandfather, Dr. William Morton, also practised in Wellesley in the latter decades of the nineteenth century. In 1927, Deborah Glaister graduated from the University of Toronto. She continued her studies and earned a master's degree in 1932 and a medical degree in 1938. Deborah Glaister was one of 12 women in the graduating class of 130. After two years of post-graduate research in London, England, Dr. Deborah Glaister returned to Wellesley village to practise medicine where she became affectionately known as "Dr. Deborah," not Dr. Glaister. In 1941, Deborah Glaister married Jack Hannay and in the spring of 1944 she was sent overseas as a captain in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps where she served in England and Belgium. Upon return from Europe, Dr. Glaister Hannay settled in Kitchener where she started a private practice. Eventually, she joined Freeport Hospital and was Chief of Staff at the hospital before her retirement in1977. Dr. Deborah Glaister Hannay died at the age of 79 in 1986. Throughout her life and career, Dr. Deborah Glaister Hannay followed paths not common for women of her generation.

- New name: **Hessen Strasse**
  Old name: Township Road #5 East
  Description: Kressler Road (Regional Road #16) to Hutchison Road (Regional Road #5)

In 1845, Hessian Lutherans from Germany settled along the fifth concession in Wellesley Township on land and soil that was familiar to them and in order to preserve their heritage. Like others of the time, they held religious services in private area homes. Eventually they came to worship in St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Heidelberg which was built in 1861. The 'fifth line' became known as **Hesson** *[sic]* **Strasse** (or Hessian Road) after a familiar route running through their native province in Germany.

- New name: **Streicher Line**
  Old name: Township Road #5 West
  Description: Hutchison Road (Regional Road #5) to Road 116 (Township Road #20 North and South)

An original settlement family, the **Streichers** settled near the village of Wellesley in the first half of the 19th century. In 1859, the Streichers established the area's first Amish Mennonite church a quarter mile west of Kingwood.

- New name: **Lobsinger Line**
  Old name: Regional Road #15
  Description: King Street North (Waterloo) to Hutchison Road (Regional Road #5)

Since Wellesley Township preceded its neighboring municipality of Woolwich Township in the street-name conversion program, Wellesley Township chose the name of Lobsinger Line (former Regional Road #15) to honor **Edward Lobsinger**. Active in, and a strong supporter of, the village of St. Clements, Eddy Lobsinger was an avid sportsman and minor league coach and was instrumental in spearheading the Linwood arena project.

- New name: **William Hastings Line**
  Old name: Regional Road #5; Regional Road #11
  Description: Hutchison Road (Regional Road #5) to Road 116 (Township Road #20 North and South); Manser Road (Regional Road #5) westerly to the County of Perth boundary

Known as the "Squire of the Township," **William Hastings** and his family were an original settlement family. They emigrated from Scotland to Canada (along with Hugh Hutchison and John Campbell) and eventually settled in Crosshill in the late 1840s. William Hastings served as the Justice of the Peace and may have given the village of Crosshill its name. He was also prominent as the surveyor of the village and named the road which divided the eastern section of the village from the western in honor of his friend Hugh Hutchison. The Hastings family included William, his father James, and his brothers David and James. Between them, they owned four farms in the Township. A Joseph Hastings ran the village hotel. William Hastings married Deborah Glaister (aged 17) and they had eight children (one daughter – the eldest – and seven sons). In 1861, William Hastings built a fine stone house which included limestone brought from Guelph. A sculptured likeness of the "Squire" decorated the front portico. The structure became known as Belmont House. The Hastings family was highly respected throughout the Township and excelled in

raising the finest stock – Hampshire hogs, Shorthorn cattle, Clydesdale horses and they introduced Leicester sheep to the area. The Hastings often exhibited at world fairs in Chicago, St. Louis and Toronto.

- New name: **Ayrshire Lane**
  Old name: Township Road #7
  Description: Lot Line between Lots 10 and 11, Concession 8, East Section to Hutchison Road (Township Road #12)

The village of Crosshill in Wellesley Township was named after Crosshill in **Ayrshire, Scotland**. The naming of Crosshill village is variously credited to three individuals – Hugh Hutchison, John Campbell or William Hastings. These three men and their families emigrated from their native Scotland to Canada in the early 1840s.

- New name: **Boomer Line**
  Old name: Township Road #9 East
  Description: Kressler Road (Regional Road #16) to Hutchison Road (Township Road #12)

The village of Linwood was first settled in the late 1840s. The name of the village comes from the Welsh and means "a pool in the woods." The village plan was set out in 1857 by Moses McFadden and all streets were named after the children of the **Alfred Boomer** family. John Boomer owned and operated the local sawmill and built one of the earliest homes in the village. Later descendants of the Boomer family included the Boomers of St. Clements who built a manor-style home with five bedrooms and a library. Mr. Boomer was Justice of the Peace and often held court in this house. A creek which flowed through the villages of St. Clements and Hawkesville was called Boomer Creek.

- New name: **Schummer Line**
  Old name: Township Road #9 West
  Description: Hutchison Road (Township Road #12) to Road 116 (Township Road #20 North and South)

An original settlement family in the Linwood area, the **Schummer family** is recorded in the 1851 census. In the 1880s, Peter Schummer was a storekeeper and had a shop on the main street of St. Clements. As well, he served the village as postmaster and clerk of the township for over 40 years. Another descendant was Henrietta Schummer, a practising nurse in St. Clements in the early 1900s.

- New name: **Boyde Lane**

  Old name: Township Road #9B

  Description: Lichty Road (Township Road #16 North) to a Lot Line between Lots 5 and 6, Concession X, West Section

One of the more remarkable figures to emerge in the early religious life of Wellesley Township was that of **Reverend James Boyd** *[sic]*. A native of Scotland, where he studied the missionary curriculum of theology and medicine (along with David Livingstone of Stanley and Livingstone fame), Rev. Mr. Boyd arrived in Wellesley Township in 1859. Prior to his arrival in Wellesley he had studied for two years at King's College (University of Toronto) and Knox College and served some years as a minister and teacher near present-day Toronto. Two congregations were assembled under his direction – the Zion Presbyterian Church was established in the southwestern section of the Township, and the Crosshill Presbyterian congregation met in the township hall. In 1888, the Crosshill group erected a new church building and named it the Boyd Presbyterian Church. Rev. Mr. Boyd served his two congregations for 29 years before passing away on June 10, 1888. He was a man learned in many fields and served as both physician and minister to his community. As well, for 25 years Rev. Mr. Boyd served as examiner of schools for Wellesley and Woolwich townships, he was appointed Inspector of Schools and was county representative on the Board of Education for Waterloo. Rev. Mr. Boyd's family continued to serve the church — his daughter Mary spent 36 years working in the City Mission in Troy, New York, and grandsons Rev. Roland B. Ferris ministered in London, Ontario, and Rev. Dr. Arthur Boyd ministered in Milford, Michigan.

- New name: **Ament Line**

  Old name: Township Road #11 West; Regional Road #17

  Description: Manser Road (Regional Road #5) to Road 116 (Township Road #20 North); Kressler Road [(Regional Road #16) Lot Line between 16th and 17th Concession] northerly and westerly to Manser Road (Regional Road #5)

An original Heidelberg settlement family, the Ament family was listed as "Wament" in the census of 1851. **John Ament** was born in France; his wife Mary was German. It is likely that the family squatted

in Wellesley Township in the mid-1830s (1834?) since in the 1851 census they list their eight children, ranging in age from one to 15, as all being born in Canada. Other Ament descendants include Andrew Ament who was a tight-rope performer in Hawkesville (walking on a rope that stretched across the street from the post office to the building opposite), Francis Ament a bricklayer in Linwood who built the first post office in the village, and Archie Ament who served as Linwood's postmaster from 1920 to 1959.

- New name: **Broadway Street**
  Old name: Township Road #11A
  Description: Woolwich Road #23 to Herrgott Road (Regional Road #10)

This street name existed prior to the conversion program. The street was extended, however, due to the 911 project.

- New name: **Bricker School Line**
  Old name: Township Road #13A
  Description: Woolwich Road #23 to Temperance Road (Township Road #2B)

In the census of 1851, **John Bricker** and his family were registered as Mennonites located on Lot 22, Section A of Wellesley Township. John Bricker was born in Waterloo County in 1826 and was related to Samuel Bricker who traveled from Pennsylvania to Ontario in order to buy the Beasley Tract. In doing so, Samuel Bricker established the German Company which opened up the land for the influx of Mennonite families into this area. The **Bricker School** was built on John Bricker's property.

- New name: **Lawson Line**
  Old name: Township Road #13 East
  Description: Herrgott Road (Regional Road #10) to Lavery Road (Township Road #12 North)

William Lawson, a black immigrant who settled in Wellesley Township in the mid-1800s, is believed to be only one of two black farmers (the other was neighbor William Douglass) who did not lose their farms through fear or coercion. Many black (and white) settlers unable to read or write were duped by unscrupulous dealers into the sales of their property at much less than fair market value.

- New name: **Buehler Line**

  Old name: Township Road #13 West

  Description: Lavery Road (Township Road #12 North) to Road 116 (Township Road #20 North)

An original settlement family, the Buehlers were Mennonites who settled in Wellesley Township. A later generation of the Buehler family included **Allan M. Buehler** who was born in 1900, the son of Abraham Buehler and his second wife Nancy Meyer Martin (the Meyers – also spelt Moyer – were amongst the first settlers in the Heidelberg area). Allan was a talented man and many people considered his abilities bordering on genius. He was a linguist, an inventor, an artist, a businessman and an author. He was eventually excommunicated from the Old Order Mennonite religion but he never lost his love and respect for his people. He wrote a book on his early life primarily for the purpose of keeping the Pennsylvania Dutch language alive. The book *The Pennsylvania German Dialect and the Life of an Old Order Mennonite* was published in 1977.

- New name: **Posey Line**

  Old name: Township Road #15 East

  Description: Powell Road (Township Road #4A) to Lavery Road (Township Road #12 North)

The first Canadian census taken in Wellesley Township identifies 45 settlers as "coloured persons – Negroes." The **Posey family** was included among these black pioneers.

Hawkesville Settlement Area

- New name: **Geddes Street**

  Old name: Union Street

  Description: Broadway Street to Herrgott Road (Regional Road #10)

John Hawke, the founder of Hawkesville, chose the original four street names of the village. These included Hawke, **Geddes**, Union and River.

- New name: **Diefenbacher Street**
  Old name: Church Street
  Description: Unopened George Street to Geddes Street (Union Street)

George Diefenbacker *[sic]* (who always spelt his name this way until his death in 1907) lived in the village of Hawkesville and was a highly skilled carriage, sleigh and wagon maker. He was also the grandfather of the late Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker. George's parents had emigrated to Canada from the Palatinate-Baden region of Germany *via* Holland in the early 1820s. George was remembered as strong in his opinions and very independent.

- New name: **Chapel Street**
  Old name: George Street
  Description: Geddes Street to Chapel Street

This street name existed prior to the conversion program. The street was extended, however, due to the 911 project.

St. Clements Settlement Area

- New name: **Church Street**
  Old name: Church Street East and West
  Description: Park Street to a point in Lot 3, Concession VIII, East Section

This street name existed prior to the conversion program. However, the 'east' and 'west' designations were eliminated.

- New name: **Sunset Drive**
  Old name: Ottawa Street
  Description: Voisin Crescent to Ottawa Street

"Sunset Drive" was the name registered by the developer in the plan of subdivision in the 1980s.

Linwood Settlement Area

- New name: **Alfred Street**
  Old name: Alfred Street East and West
  Description: Isabella Street to Alice Street

This street name existed prior to the conversion program. However, the 'east' and 'west' designations were eliminated.

- New name: **Isabella Street**
  Old name: Isabella Street North and South
  Description: Alfred Street to Adelaide Street
  Old name: Peter Street
  Description: Adelaide Street to Friedmann Street (David Street)

This street name existed prior to the conversion program. However, the 'north' and 'south' designations were eliminated and the street was extended.

- New name: **Knarr Street**
  Old name: Jane Street
  Description: Alfred Street to Ament Line (Regional Road #17/King Street East)

Knarr Street honors a prominent Linwood family. Active in Linwood for four generations, the Knarr family is thought to have originally settled in Hawkesville before moving to Linwood. More recently, **Vernon "Shorty" Knarr** has been active in sports, namely Linwood's intermediate softball team.

- New name: **Wilker Way**
  Old name: Albert Street North and South
  Description: From a point in Lot 9, Concession X, west section, to former CPR right-of-way
  Old name: Albert Street West
  Description: Alfred Street West to King Street West

Wilker Way honors three generations of Wilkers. **Conrad, Edgar** and **David Wilker** owned and operated a car garage and implement dealership in Linwood. A fourth generation, Jeff Wilker, has recently been elected to serve as a councillor for Linwood on Wellesley Township Council.

- New name: **Gordon Hain Street**
  Old name: John Street North and South
  Description: Alfred Street to Adelaide Street

Born in West Toronto, **Gordon Robert Hain** served in the First World War as a surgeon sub-lieutenant in the Royal Navy. Following his graduation in 1921 from the University of Toronto, Dr. Hain worked for a short season with the Abitibi Paper Company. He then began as a temporary replacement for, then assistant to, Dr. Glaister in Wellesley. In the rural setting he practised home obstetrics and co-operated with fellow doctors as anesthetist in home surgeries. In 1927, Dr. Hain married Elizabeth Szember. In that same year he purchased the practice of Dr. Donald McEachern in Linwood and continued practising in and around the village for the remainder of his career. Again, the rural setting made it necessary (at least for the first decade or so) to care for home confinements and perform minor surgeries. Fractures were generally treated without the help of x-rays and with homemade Plaster of Paris dressings. In the winter he made his housecalls by horse and cutter. Dr. Hain continued to practise until the early 1970s when ill health forced his retirement. Dr. Irene Hain, his daughter, became an obstetrician and gynecologist practising in Kitchener.

- New name: **Friedmann Street**
  Old name: David Street
  Description: Adelaide Street to a point in Lot 10, Concession XI, West Section

The Friedmann's moved into the Linwood area from New Germany (Maryhill) in the 1880s. **John Friedmann Sr.** owned and operated the Friedmann Hotel in Linwood in the late 1890s and was the proprietor of the King Edward Hotel in Linwood, c.1900. After leaving the hotel business, John Friedmann Sr. bought a farm just outside of Linwood and today a housing subdivision (including Friedmann Street) has been developed on that farm's land.

Wellesley Settlement Area

- New name: **Nafziger Road**
  Old name: William Street North; Regional Road #5
  Description: Queen's Bush Road (Queen Street West/Regional Road #5) to a point in Lot 13, Concession II, East Section; Gerber Road (Regional Road #12) to Ferris Street (Regional Road #5)

An original settlement family, **Christian Nafziger** was one of the first Amish Mennonites to leave southern Germany and Switzerland

seeking productive land in Waterloo County in general and Wellesley Township in particular. The naming of Nafziger Road originated with Wilmot Township when it chose a name for its end of Regional Road #5. Wellesley Township continued the use.

- New name: **Queen's Bush Road**
  Old name: Queen Street East
  Description: Greenwood Hill Road (Township Road #10) tu Nafziger Road (Regional Road #5)

Wellesley Township (incorporated in 1852) was the last township to be settled in Waterloo County and was held by the Crown as Clergy Reserve. During this period, Wellesley was known as the **"Queen's Bush"** (or crown/government forested land). The system of Clergy Reserves was established by the English in 1791, whereby one-seventh of the land in Upper Canada (Ontario) was donated to the church for the support of the Anglican clergy. The intention was to pay the church for missionary and educational services it provided to the colony. This was accomplished by having the government of the colony use the rental income from the Clergy Reserves to build parsonages and rectories for the use of the Church of England. In 1827, the government decided to permit the sale of clergy reserve lots. The land in Wellesley Township remained then in government control and was not opened for sale until the adjoining townships of Wilmot and Woolwich were well settled.

- New name: **Maple Leaf Street**
  Old name: Charles Street East
  Description: From a point in Lot 12, Concession II, to Nafziger Road (Regional Road #5)

The *Wellesley Maple Leaf* was the first weekly newspaper in the Township. It began publication on October 25, 1900, with James Wheeler Green serving as the first editor and proprietor. The paper was later taken over by H.W. Kaufman; it ceased publication in July 1921. Not a *minutiae* of detail escaped this weekly publication.

- New name: **Stroh Lane**
  Old name: John Street
  Description: From a point in Lot 13, Concession II, East Section, to Nafziger Road (William Street North)

An original settlement family in the St. Clements area (originally the village of St. Clements was called St. Alphonsus but was re-named in 1852 after St. Clement, the Bishop of Rome). **John Stroh** became prominent as the local tavern-keeper and Justice of the Peace. He became postmaster of St. Clements in 1853. A German Roman Catholic from the Alsace-Lorraine region, John Stroh as postmaster served as the communication link between the Catholic bishop in Toronto and local parishioners until the St. Clements church received a resident priest. John Stroh died on May 3, 1905.

- New name: **Doering Street**
  Old Name: Doering Street East and West
  Description: Doering Street (Molesworth Street) to David Street
  Old name: Molesworth Street South
  Description: Doering Street to Lawrence Street East

Wellesley village was originally called Smithville after John Smith who had developed the initial dam site and mill pond. In 1855-1856, **Christopher** and **Henry Doering** laid out Smithville's streets and began to sell building lots. The Doering brothers were very prominent in the early life of the village and by 1855 had established a sawmill in the village. In 1856, they built a flour mill. The Doering family also built a tannery and donated the Swedenborgian church building to its congregation. As well, the Doerings started and managed the village's first general store.

- New name: **Lawrence Street**
  Old name: Lawrence Street East
  Description: Molesworth Street South to Nafziger Road (Regional Road #5)
  Old name: Lawrence Street West
  Description: Nafziger Road (Regional Road #5) to Reiner Crescent

This street name existed prior to the conversion program. However, the 'east' and 'west' designations were eliminated.

- New name: **Henry Street**
  Old name: Henry Street East and West
  Description: From a point in Lot 12, Concession II, East Section to Water Street

This street name existed prior to the conversion program. However, the 'east' and 'west' designations were eliminated.

The Township of Wellesley is to be commended for honoring its rich historical heritage in its new street/road names. This decision reflects local history and commemorates the strong women and men who settled the Township and/or who contributed to its ongoing success. These names will serve future generations as a daily reminder of who we are and where we have come from.

NOTES

All of the historical information was sourced directly from the following documents and interviews:

Barbara J. Stewart, Phyllis Leleu Kitchen and Debbie Dietrich (editors), *The Maple Leaf Journal: A Settlement History of Wellesley Township*. The Corporation of the Township of Wellesley, 1983.

Heritage Driving Tour of Wellesley Township. Wellesley Township Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC), 1984.

A.D. Campbell, MD, "The Linwood Physicians," *Waterloo Historical Society* Volume 86 (1998), pp. 129-135.

Denise Moberly, "Deborah Glaister Hannay 1906 – 1986," *Waterloo Historical Society* Volume 79 (1991), pp. 86 – 91.

Personal interview with Susan Duke, Director of Administration & Planning, Township of Wellesley, November 7, 2000, as well as various e-mail correspondences.

Telephone interview with Frank Friedmann, former Mayor of Wellesley Township, December 31, 2000.

Telephone interview with Paul Siegner, son and grandson of Max and Abe Siegner, December 31, 2000.

Telephone interview with Dennis Young, son of Lloyd and Florence Young, January 2, 2001.

Telephone interview with Tim vanVliet, Corporate Resources-Information Systems Division, Regional Municipality of Waterloo, January 5, 2001.