

THE ROUGH CAST::: early 1800's. South side of Erie St. L0722

one of the first homes to be built on Erie St, this small rough cast house has been recorded as a headquarters for the troops in the war of 1812; but it's actual age and builder remain to be traced. It is clearly seen on an old map of the town from the 1850's. Another marks it as the home of Dr. Prescott Hall. He practised medicin during the war and in Willoughby Township following; moving to Waterloo Ferry in the 1820's. He served the people of the village till his death, and is buried in St. Paul's Cemetery.

For a time R.F. Ferguson , a merchant in the village, lived in and owned this home. He moved into it after renting his large two story home on the north side of Erie. It was moved over to the south side of the street by the mill race, at the time the Peace Bridge was built.

He enlarged the small bedrooms and added dormer windows to the roof, and the front porch over the door. Although small the house boasted a large fireplace at either end. Unfortunately when the home was moved to the Garrison Rd. at the time the Niagara Parkway was completed, it was not possible to keep the fireplaces intact. The home was bought by the Peace Bridge Company, and in the 40's sold to Charles Bingleman. He m ove it to his farm on the south side of the Garrison Rd., and is now number 851.

Information supplied by Mrs. P. Kee, Erie St.

I nf. from Mrs. Reid , a daughter of Mrs. D. Paulus, comes another bit of information:: " At certain times of the year the river and the Mill Race would overflow and it was necessary for Mr. Paulus to row to this home and the home of Mr. Schyrer, to bring over the occupants where they stayed at her boarding house the Riverview, till the water subsided.

Another old house, with ^{quasi} cupboards above its fireplace once graced the river front just above the old Thompson house. It, too, had to make way for progress, and when the Peace Bridge was built it was bought and moved to the Garrison road at the edge of town. This old house was used for military headquarters during the war of 1812.

Among the earliest stones remaining in St. Paul's Cemetery are a group standing directly behind the church, dedicated to the members of the Hall family. Dr. Benjamin Prescott Hall, who died Feb. 12, 1850 at the age o 65, was a brother of Capt. George S. Hall. He served in the war as assi tant surgeon in the Provincial Marines and afterwards practised medicine in the Township of Willoughby. He then moved to Waterloo Ferry, where h resided for many years in a small house facing the mill race. As he was not a graduate of any medical college he was obliged to obtain a license of practice from time to time. He served Sir P. Maitland, Commissioner, as surgeon of the Third Lincoln Militia for six years. After settling i Waterloo Ferry, Dr. Hall continued to practise medicine till the time of his death, a period of thirty years. His three sons predeceased him:

Wm. Henry, d. May 29, 1828 - 11 years

Robert Prescott, d. May 2, 1828 - 9 years

Alexander Stuart, d. May 18, 1828 - 5 years 11 months.