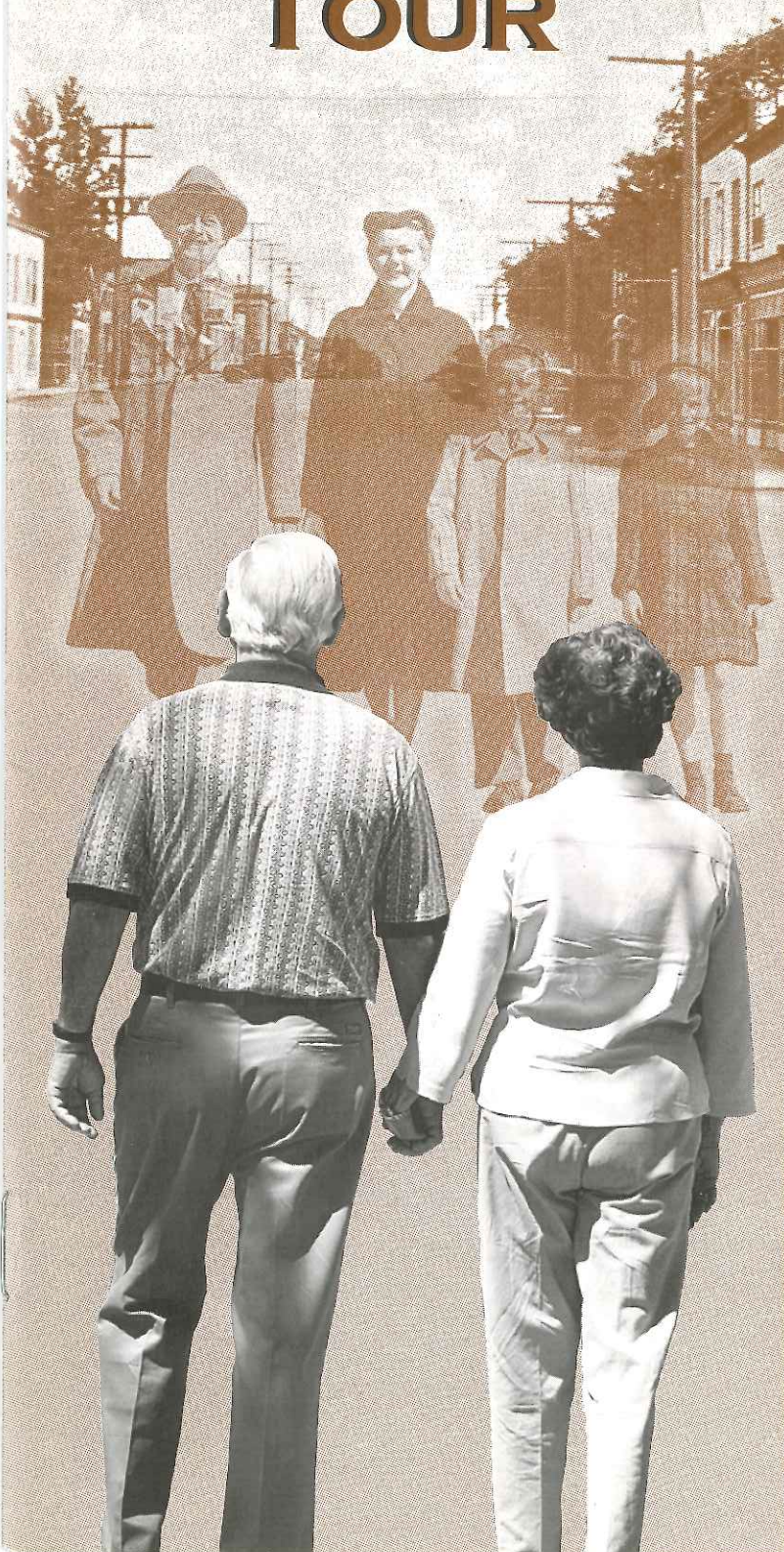
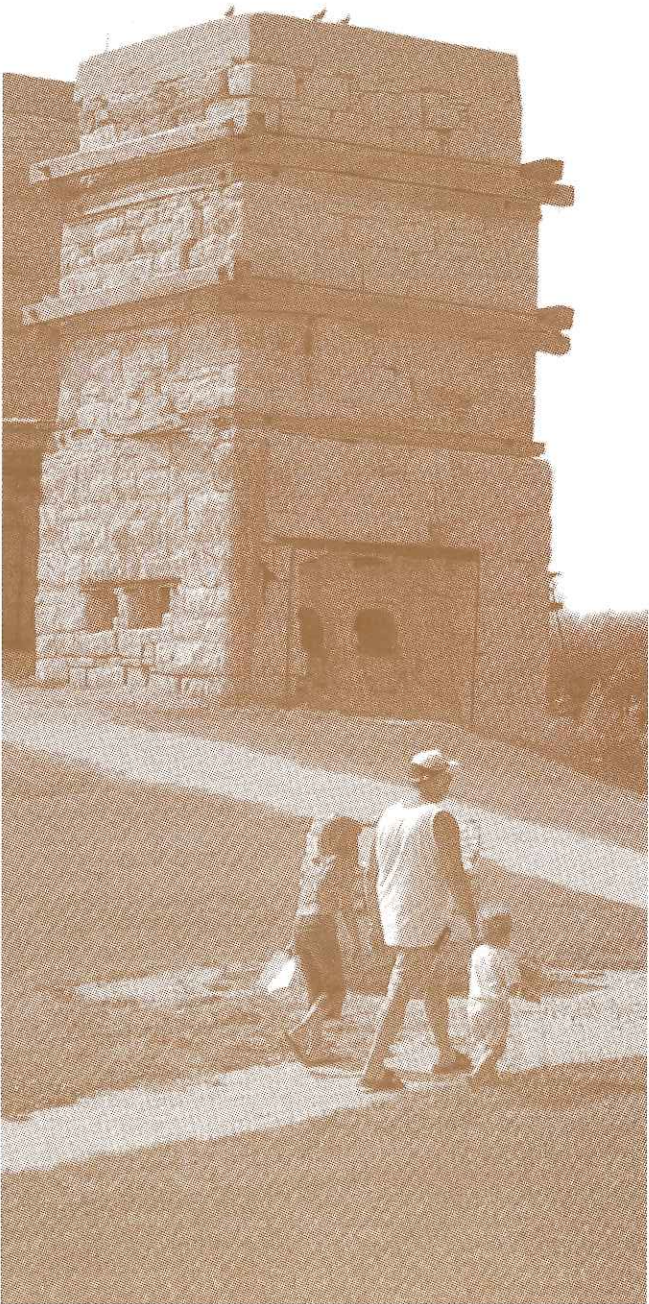


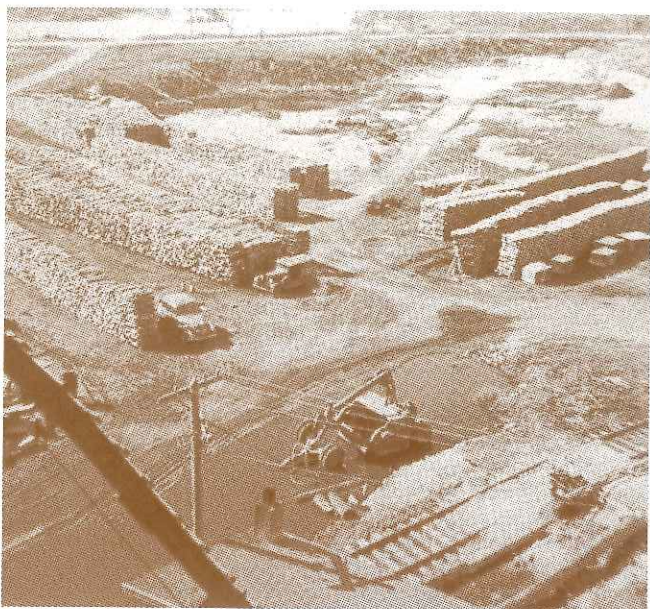
Town of Stonewall

**HERITAGE
WALKING
TOUR**



A map showing the stops on the tour is located in the center of this guide. The tour follows a circular route so you can begin at any point along the tour. More information can be obtained at Stonewall Quarry Park at 166 Main Street. Established in 1985 on the site of former limestone quarries which were once operated by Winnipeg Supply & Fuel Company, the park includes a campground, Kinsmen Lake, walking trails, and the Fines Fields Baseball Complex. The park's Visitor Reception Centre was destroyed by fire in 2007. Park staff are operating out of a temporary building until the new Centre is constructed.

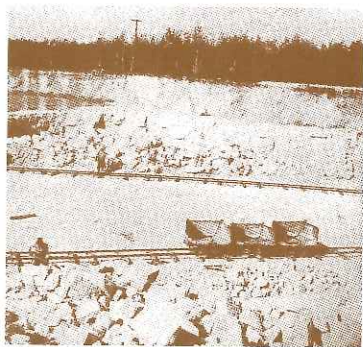




*Stockpiles of wood for use in the kilns.
Courtesy of Allan Webb*

A. The Stonewall Quarries

The quarries operated from the late 1870's until 1967. The overburden (soil on top of the limestone bedrock) was removed to expose the limestone underneath. Initially this was done using horse drawn scrapers. Later steam or electric powered shovels did the work. Once the limestone was uncovered it was blasted into large chunks which workers then broke into smaller pieces using sledge hammers. These pieces were then loaded into two-ton bins. The earliest workers were paid according to how many bins they loaded. Eight bins per worker per day was typical. These bins were then hauled away using two-wheeled horse drawn carts. Later these carts were replaced first with a narrow gauge horse drawn railway and then with trucks. Rock destined for use as fill or road building was taken to



Courtesy of Irene Pearson

a crusher to be reduced to the desired size, while limestone being burned for lime was carried to the kilns. Until the mid 1930's the bins of rock were lifted by a derrick and dumped into the top of the kilns.

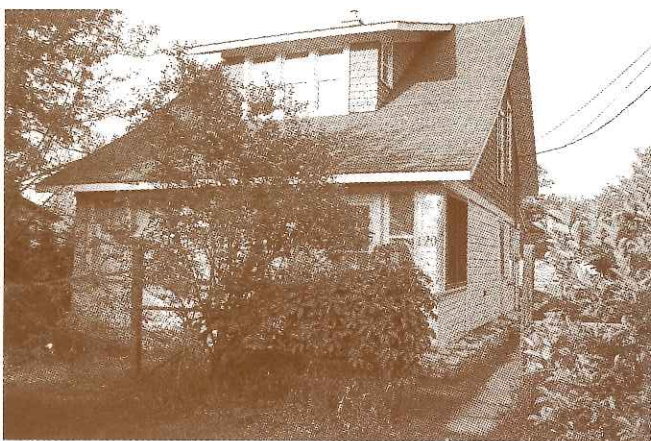


View of top of Kiln. Courtesy of Allan Webb.

Later ramps were constructed to the top of each kiln and the bins of rock were winched to the top. A hot continuous fire was maintained inside the kilns under a grate near the bottom, calcining the limestone. Carbon dioxide was drawn off leaving behind quicklime which settled to the bottom of the kilns and was raked out through small doors. The lime was shipped by rail to manufacturers of paint, white wash, masonry mortar and plaster. It was also used as a disinfectant in barns and outhouses.

The three draw kilns in Stonewall Quarry Park were built about 1904-1910. Another quarry was located cross Highway 236. The two quarries were connected by a roadway which ran through a tunnel under the highway. Limestone was dug from both quarries and transported to whichever kiln was operating. A stockpile of about 1000 cords of wood was maintained at all times.

Winnipeg Supply's horse barn was located north of the east quarry where Comco Pipe & Supply Company is today. The barn housed 8 to 14 animals which were used for hauling carts of rock, firewood, or coal and for pulling the scrapers to remove overburden. Another quarry was located to the southeast. It was operated by the Gunn Brothers who were pioneer quarry operators and builders in Stonewall. The town of Gunton is named for them.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

B. Winnipeg Supply Manager's House 190 Main Street



Courtesy of Allan Webb.

This house was built by Winnipeg Supply circa 1906. It was used as a home for the quarry manager and his family. In 1920, F.J. Pearson was manager of the quarries. He received a salary of \$175.00 a month.

C. Rockwood Registry Office 283 2nd Ave. North

This was the first municipal building in Stonewall. It was built from local stone in 1882 as a Land Titles Office. In the early 1880's one room upstairs served as an overflow classroom for the school which was located to the north. The Winnipeg Electric Railway Company used the building as a station from 1914 until 1939. There were four round trips daily from Winnipeg through West St. Paul and Stony Mountain to Stonewall. The last passenger service was May 6, 1939. Since that time the building has been a private residence.

During construction a time capsule was placed in the cornerstone of this building by the Masonic Lodge. The capsule was removed in 1990. It was destroyed in the Visitor Reception Centre fire on November 11, 2007.

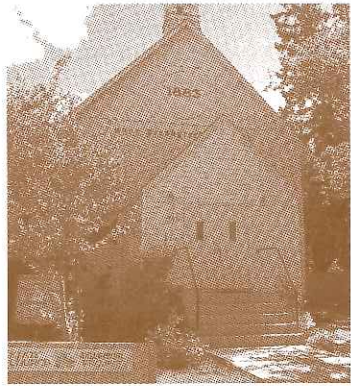


Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

Newspaper accounts of the dedication ceremony in 1882 suggest the importance of local organizations such as the Masonic Lodge, Orange Lodge, and church based groups. During this era there were no old age pensions, public health care, welfare or unemployment plans. Fraternities, charities and church based mutual aid groups were very necessary for the well being of Stonewall's residents.

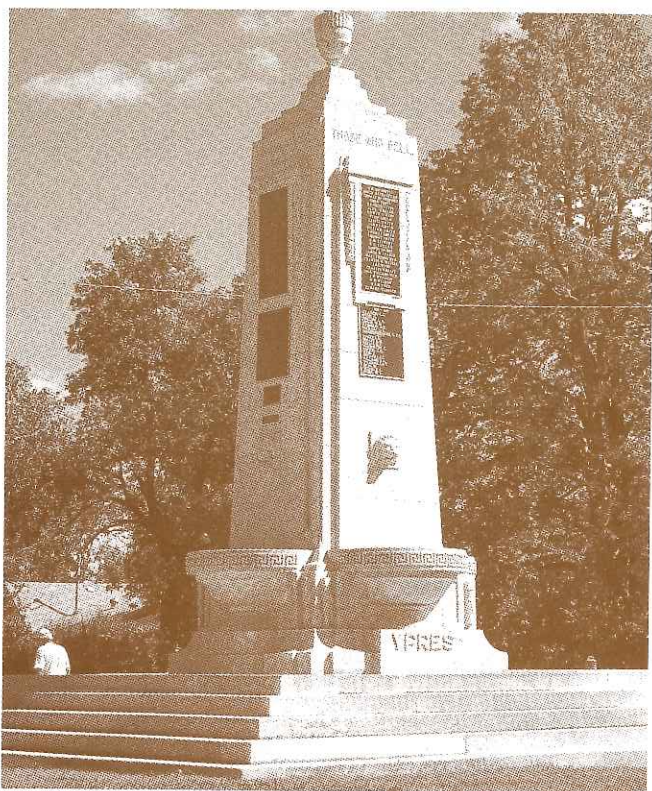
**D. Knox
Presbyterian
Church
308 2nd Ave. North**

This church was built in 1883 as a Presbyterian Church on land donated by Samuel J. Jackson. In 1925 when the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in Canada



*Courtesy of
Catherine Precourt.*

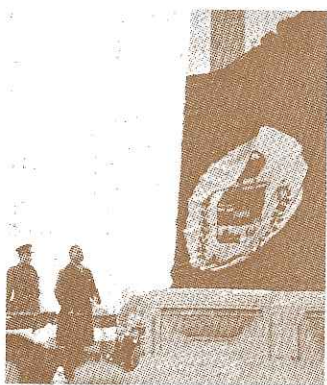
merged to form the United Church of Canada part of the congregation opposed the merger and wished to carry on as members of the Presbyterian Church. Under the terms of the union, the church building and its manse now belonged to the United Church. The congregation had to purchase back both buildings. It sold the manse to help pay for this building.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

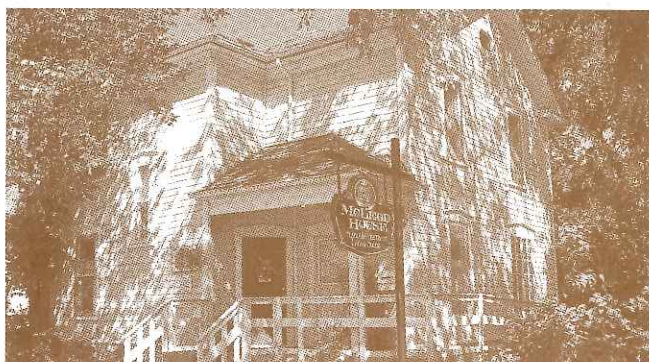
E. Memorial Park Corner of 2nd Ave. North & Main Street

Governor General Lord Byng of Vimy dedicated the Park on October 7, 1922. The Cenotaph is made of local limestone and tyndall stone and bears plaques carrying the names of military personnel from Stonewall and the R.M. of Rockwood who died while on active service during both World Wars and the Korean War. During the First World War about 500 local residents enlisted and 99 died while on active service. Their names on the cenotaph indicate the contemporary ethnic origins of the community. Nearly all were of British origin. Many were



recent immigrants or sons of immigrants. 60 local residents died on active service during the Second World War. Their names show a more diverse community with many names reflecting northern and eastern European heritage.

Turning a century



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

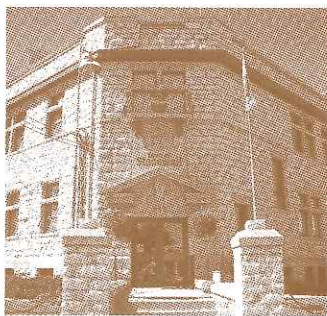
F. McLeod House - 292 Main Street

Dr. A.N. McLeod practiced medicine in Stonewall from ca. 1895-1930. This was before Stonewall had a local hospital. Dr. McLeod served as mayor of Stonewall from 1908 -1910. His wife, Margaret Arnett McLeod, was a noted Canadian historian. She was the author of many books including "Letters of Letitia Hargreaves" which was published in 1947. She was honoured with the Order of the Buffalo in 1964. She died in a Winnipeg house fire in 1966.

Dr. and Mrs. McLeod's son Alan Arnett McLeod was the youngest Canadian recipient of the Victoria Cross. Alan joined the Royal Flying Corps in 1917 and received the Victoria Cross after a battle with five German aircraft. He contracted the Spanish influenza while recovering from his wounds and died on November 6, 1918.

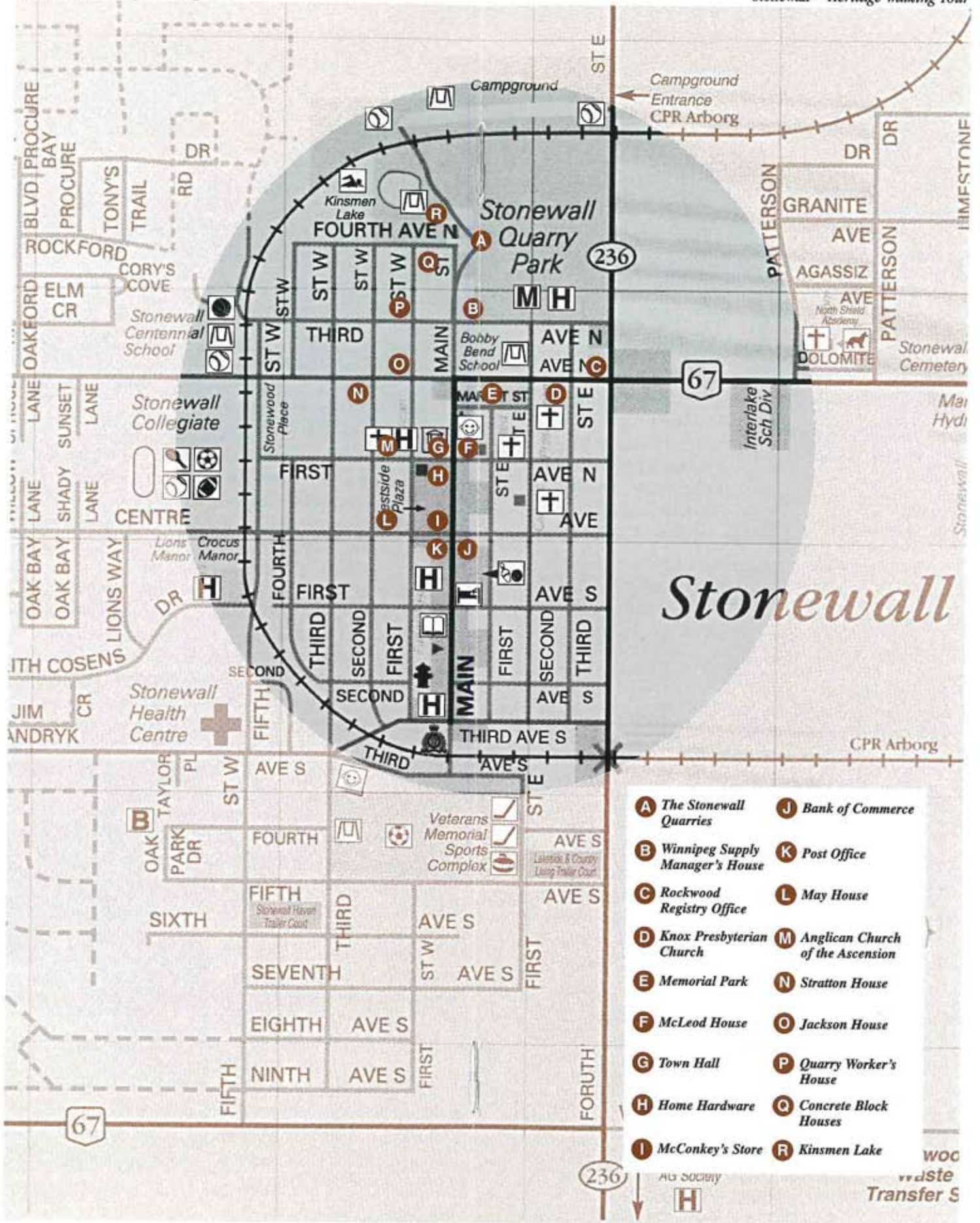
G. Town Hall 293 Main Street

This building was constructed of local stone in 1912. The original design called for a domed roof but this was never completed. It served as offices for both the R.M. of Rockwood

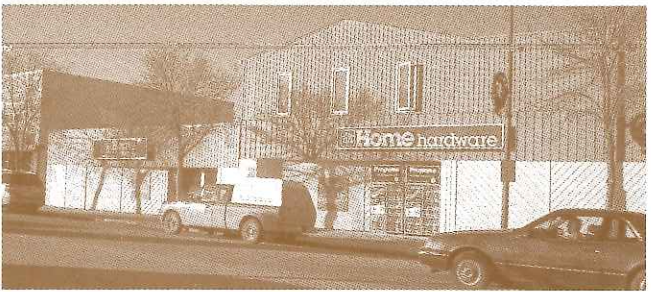


*Courtesy of
Catherine Precourt.*

and the Town of Stonewall. A SR monogram can be seen on the balcony over the front door. The second floor has been used to hold community dances, high school graduations, and as a movie theatre. Joseph Howsam, a stone mason who worked on the construction of the building, built the stone fence.



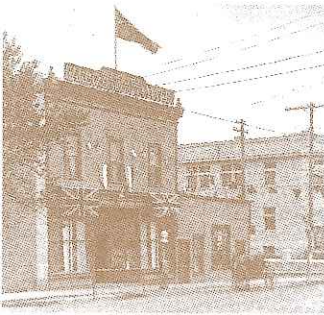
- A** The Stonewall Quarries
- B** Winnipeg Supply Manager's House
- C** Rockwood Registry Office
- D** Knox Presbyterian Church
- E** Memorial Park
- F** McLeod House
- G** Town Hall
- H** Home Hardware
- I** McConkey's Store
- J** Bank of Commerce
- K** Post Office
- L** May House
- M** Anglican Church of the Ascension
- N** Stratton House
- O** Jackson House
- P** Quarry Worker's House
- Q** Concrete Block Houses
- R** Kinsmen Lake



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

H. Home Hardware 307 Main Street

The mural on the side of this building depicts Stonewall in 1940. This building has been remodelled several times but has housed a hardware store since its construction ca 1882 as the Alfred Ashdown Hardware Store.



Courtesy of Irene Pearson.

the Alfred Ashdown Hardware Store.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

McCONKEY'S
Better Goods at Lower Prices

MENI We have the very Best you require for the "FARMERS' FIELD"
Selling Flour, Beans, Corn, and other Groceries, also
Fruit, Raisins, Dates, Apples, etc., etc.

STAPLE DRY GOODS SECTION
Large size Flour, etc. etc. \$2.50 per
Cotton - White or Grey, etc. etc. etc.
Flour, Wheat, etc. etc. etc.
Sugar, etc. etc. etc.
Bacon, etc. etc. etc.

TABLE AND FLOOR OIL CLOTH
The best quality and price in the district. All this you
can afford. QUANTITY and PRICE as desired.

GROCERY SECTION
For Feeding and Farming, etc. etc. etc.
Vegetables, etc. etc.

The Flour and other Groceries - for home use for
and the day, etc. etc.

Highest Prices allowed for Butter and Eggs in trade.
All other and not shown for sample sale.

GEO. H. McCONKEY
PHOTO. 20

Courtesy of the Stonewall Argus.

I. McConkey's Store Main & Centre

When Samuel Jackson first moved to Stonewall he lived in a house on this site. This intersection was the heart of the business district during the early boom period around 1890-1914. Jackson moved the house to make way for commercial enterprise.

This building was built in

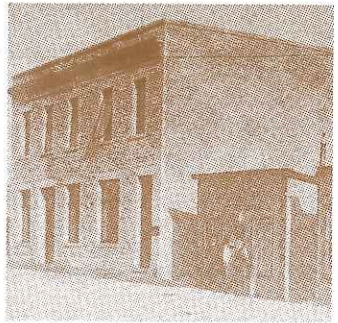
1904 by George Musgrove who operated a general store known as Musgrove and Co. It later became McConkey's Store and was operated by the McConkey family for many years.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

**J. Bank of
Commerce
356 Main Street**

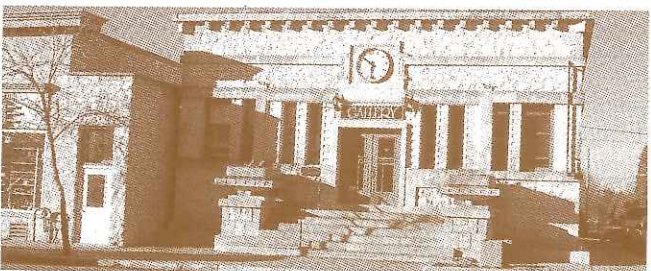
The Bank of Hamilton began operating in Stonewall in 1900. It moved to a wooden building on this site in 1907. That building was destroyed in a fire in 1911. The bank operated out of a location down the street until this building was completed in December of 1912 and later became part of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.



Courtesy of SQP Archive.

K. The Post Office - 357 Main Street

Built in 1914 as a prototype for a proposed "Prairie institutional" style of government building it is the only known surviving example of this type of architecture in Manitoba. The architect was Francis Conroy Sullivan who was a student of famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright, originator of the prairie style. It served as a post office from 1914 until 1978. It then housed the local library until the current library opened in 1993. It is a provincially designated heritage building.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

**L. May House
435 Centre Ave.**

H.O. May came to Stonewall in 1895. This home is typical of the large two story homes built by prosperous middle class residents of the time. He worked in the quarries prior to joining the staff of Musgrove & Co. in 1904 and working there for many years. He married Elizabeth Musgrove in 1910. Together Mr. & Mrs. May were the backbone of musical life in Stonewall. Much of the town's entertainment revolved around service clubs and church groups since there were no movie theatres or radios until the 1920's. Mr. May directed community bands, choirs and orchestras. Mrs. May was his accompanist and was organist for the Methodist and United Churches for about sixty years.

**M. Anglican Church of the Ascension
286 2nd Street West**

The church was built by local volunteers under the direction of Enoch Williams who acted as contractor and donated the building stone from his quarry. The land was donated by S. J. Jackson. This cooperation is typical of the founders of the town. It officially opened on July 8, 1882. The center altar window was a gift from Jackson given in memory of his daughter Anna who died at a young age. The chancel was added in 1906.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

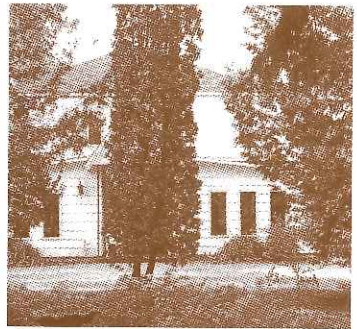
**N. Stratton
House
263 2nd Street
West**



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

This house was built in 1882 by John Gunn and was reflective of the confidence of the business class in the growing town. The upper floor was the meeting place for the Sons of England fraternal organization. Lodge Greystone, No 284 had 28 members when it was instituted in May of 1907. Ten members of the Lodge enlisted for active service in World War One. Three of these were killed in action. The Anglican Church of the Ascension has a memorial window erected in their memory. During the war, members not enlisted paid \$2.00 each for Soldier's widows and orphans. They also paid the dues for all members who had enlisted.

**O. Jackson House
435 2nd Ave. North**



*Courtesy of
Catherine Precourt.*

The entire block of 2nd Ave North between 1st & 2nd St West was once the home of the Hon. Samuel Jacob Jackson, founder of the town. This home ca 1882 is in the center of the block. Jackson was an avid gardener. His gardens and orchard were to the north of his home. The foundation to his carriage house can be seen to the northwest of the house.

Jackson was born in Ireland in 1848 and came to Brampton, Ontario with his family in 1850. His father operated a store in that community. From 1867-1871 Samuel Jackson operated a store for his father in Norwich. Jackson moved to Manitoba in 1871 where he worked briefly as a well digger and as a member of a survey party before becoming a business partner of a Winnipeg merchant. He also served as an alderman in Winnipeg. In 1875, expecting that the

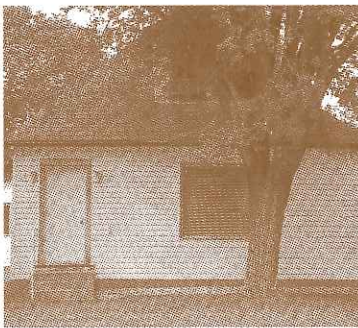


Courtesy of Manitoba Archives.

Canadian Pacific Railway would cross the Red River at Selkirk and proceed west; he acquired the land comprising the present town in 1875. He began selling lots a few years later.

Jackson's vision and generosity were important factors in establishing businesses and institutions that attracted settlers and created a stable economy. He would give new settlers free lots if they would build a suitable home and plant trees. He donated land and money for businesses and churches.

He was elected to the Manitoba Legislature from 1883-1899 and served as Speaker from 1891-1895. He was a Member of Parliament from 1904-1908. Samuel Jackson died in 1942 and is buried in the Stonewall Cemetery.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

**P. Quarry
Worker's House
425 3rd Ave.
North**

This house is one of the few remaining where Winnipeg Supply workers lived in close proximity to the quarries.

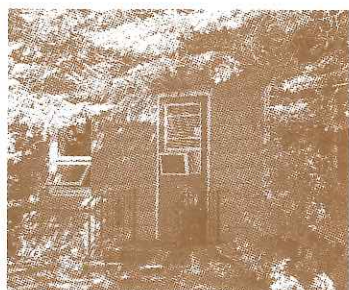
Several local contractors built standardized houses that were purchased by quarry employees. The company may have also owned some homes which it rented to employees. Many quarry workers lived close to their work on the north and east edge of town while business owners tended to build larger houses west of Main Street. Owing to the closeness of limestone to the surface, few houses on the east side of town along Hickey Ave (now Hwy 236) had basements.



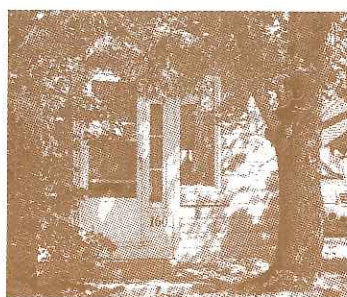
Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

Q. Concrete Block Houses
156-172 1st St.
West

These four houses are made of pre-cast concrete blocks produced by a small cement plant around 1900. Concrete production required limestone which Stonewall had in abundance and clay that turned out to be unavailable in suitable quantities. The plant was short lived but produced enough blocks to build these four houses which



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

are among the earliest examples of their type in the province. The most northerly home was once occupied by the constable of the Manitoba Provincial Police, prior to policing being provided by the R.C.M.P.

R. Kinsmen Lake

Kinsmen Lake can be seen on the North side of 4th Ave North. Once a limestone quarry, the land was donated to the local Kinsmen Club by Winnipeg Fuel and Supply. The Kinsmen converted the quarry into a man made lake. Kinsmen Lake officially opened on August 10th, 1956.



Courtesy of Catherine Precourt.

The club continued to operate the lake for many years. Today Kinsmen Lake is part of Stonewall Quarry Park.



Courtesy of Stonewall Quarry Park Archives.

As the town's population increased over the years, Stonewall's recreational facilities grew from fair grounds, cricket pitches and open air rinks to modern recreational complexes at either end of Main Street which accommodate hockey, curling, soccer, swimming, and baseball.

We hope you have enjoyed your tour of Stonewall. If you would like more information about Stonewall's Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee and the history of our community you can contact us at the address below.

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