

(THE EVOLUTION OF A FALL LINE SETTLEMENT
BUCKINGHAM, QUEBEC)

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Thesis presented to the
Faculty of Arts of the
University of Ottawa as
partial fulfilment of
the requirements for
the degree of

Master of Arts
in
Geography

*Degree granted
May 21 1968
(SENAT - 4/12/67)
Beauchamp
Secretary*

Ottawa, September 22, 1967



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This thesis was prepared under the supervision of Professor D.S. Erskine of the Institute of Geography, University of Ottawa.

The writer is also indebted to Professor D.P. Fitzgerald for his help in formulating this research project and Professor H.P. Srivastava for his criticisms on methodology.

Other persons who contributed much data and advice were Messrs. Patrick Ryan and John Simpson of Buckingham.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The size of Buckingham, 7,227 inhabitants,¹ does not seem to be justified by its location. Perched on the "fall line" of the Canadian Shield, near the junction of the Ottawa and Lièvre Valleys, the town is relatively inaccessible (Fig. 1). It is served only by a spur line of the C.P.R. and by secondary highways on either side of the Rivière du Lièvre, which is itself not navigable between Buckingham and Masson. The town presently has only one major industry, employing about 300 persons, although an abandoned pulp mill suggests that the settlement was not long ago a much more important industrial centre. This prompted the writer to trace the development of Buckingham from its inception. In this manner some insight may be gained into how the town has attained its present size and form.

Most of the research done in the Buckingham area has been historical in nature, the principal work being that of Patrick Ryan,² a life-long resident of the town. No geographical work of any importance has ever been done in

¹Canada. Dominion Bureau of Statistics, 1966 Census of Canada. Population, Vol. I, Table 9.

²Patrick Ryan, "The History of the Town of Buckingham Prior to 1900," Unpublished B. Comm. thesis, St. Patrick's College, Ottawa, 1949.



Fig. 1. Location map, part of "Ottawa" sheet 31G, N.T.S., 1:250,000, 1965.

the area, even though Buckingham was, until recently, one of the most important industrial towns in the Ottawa Valley. The following quotation underlines the significance of this oversight and points to the need for such work to be carried out. "Without a geographical basis, the people, the makers of history, seem to be walking on air, as in those Chinese pictures where the ground is wanting."³ As well, the growth and development of Buckingham is in many ways typical of settlements in the Ottawa and its tributary valleys, particularly along the north shore of the Ottawa River. Therefore, many of the conclusions derived from this study may apply to other settlements in this area.

Material for this thesis was derived from a number of varied sources. Chief among these were unpublished manuscripts, old newspapers, church records, personal collections of notes, documents and photographs, and personal communication with some of the town's most distinguished citizens. Most of the maps appearing in this work are copies of originals which may be found in the Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa.

In pursuing such a topic as this one a writer is faced with a number of problems in the collection of data. Perhaps the most acute ones in this case were a lack of maps

³H.C. Darby, "On the Relations of Geography and History," The Institute of British Geographers, Transactions and Papers, No. 19 (1953), p. 2, quoting Jules Michelet, Histoire de France, preface to the edition of 1869.

of the area between 1856 and 1930, and incomplete population data before 1861.

Buckingham has evolved in several fairly distinct stages throughout its long and varied existence (Fig. 2). Accordingly, the methods of historical geography, the study of geographical conditions of past periods, are applied in this dissertation. This means a return to the days when the pioneers arrived to exploit the area's natural resources. On this note the writer will take the reader back to 1799 when Buckingham Township, of which Buckingham is the principal settlement, began to take shape.

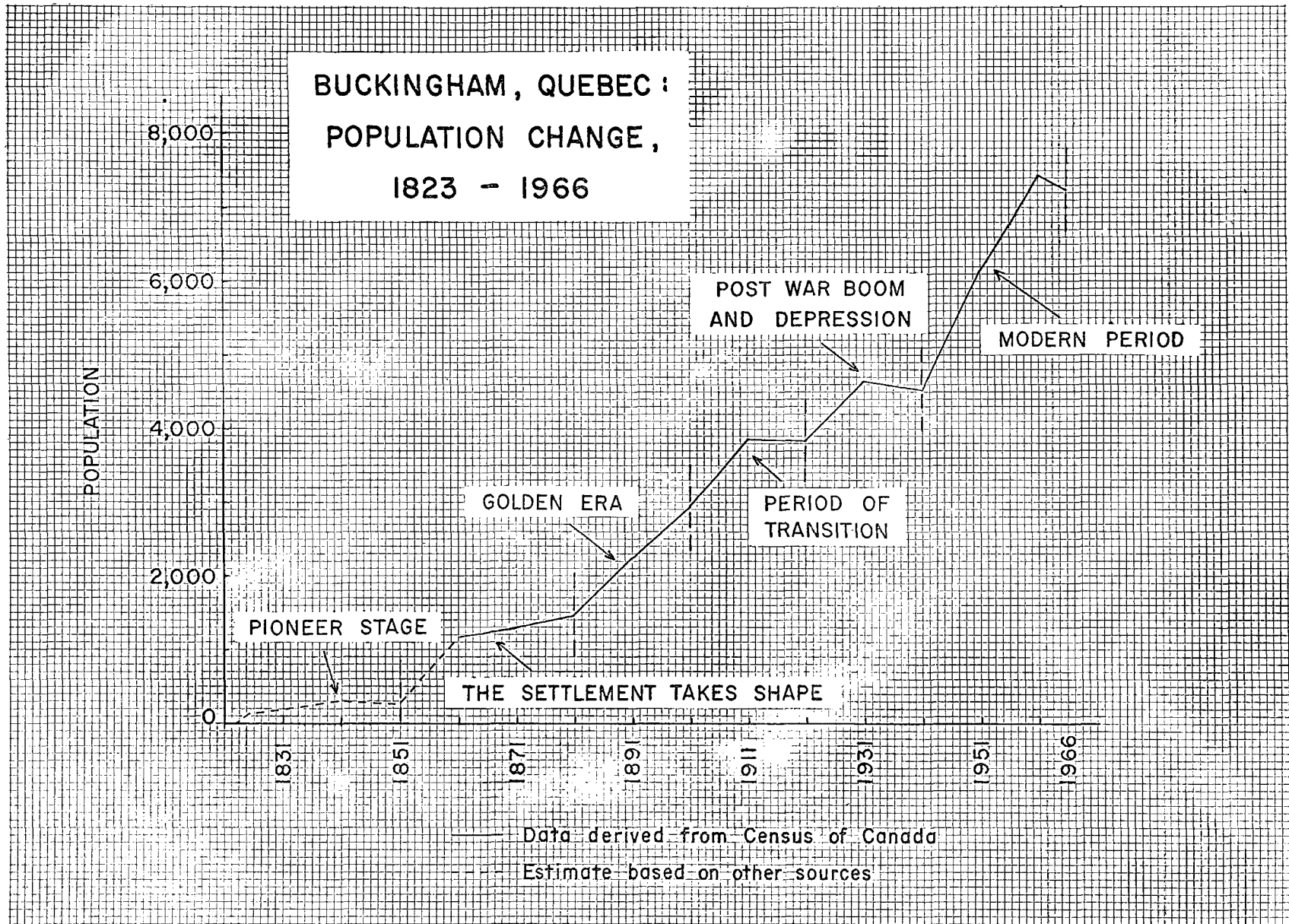


Fig. 2

CHAPTER II

BREACHING THE FRONTIER: 1799 - 1822

The first recorded sign of interest or activity in what is now Buckingham Township took place in 1799 when Ensign John Robertson was issued a large tract of land, on either side of the Rivière du Lièvre, by the Lieutenant-Governor of Lower Canada.⁴ This land grant, of approximately 2,000 acres, is outlined by the letters CDEF on Joseph Bouchette's map of part of Buckingham Township in 1802, Fig. 3. In return for this favour, the Ensign was required to satisfy certain conditions established by the Lieutenant-Governor. His first task was to complete a survey of the granted territory within six months, a measure it was hoped would lead to the settlement of the area.

In 1800 William Fortune and Elias Hawley, also military men, were granted 14,400 acres of land adjacent to the lands granted to Robertson.⁵ Part of their territory may be seen in Fig. 3. It included lots 1-25, in ranges 1, 2 and 3, and lots 1-23 in range 4, less the Ensign's 2,000 acres. They were similarly required to complete their

⁴Robert Shore Milnes, *Instructions to Surveyor General, Lower Canada Land Papers* (Ottawa: Public Archives of Canada, R.G.1., L3L, Vol. 167, 1799), pp. 81691-81694.

⁵Ibid.

BUCKINGHAM

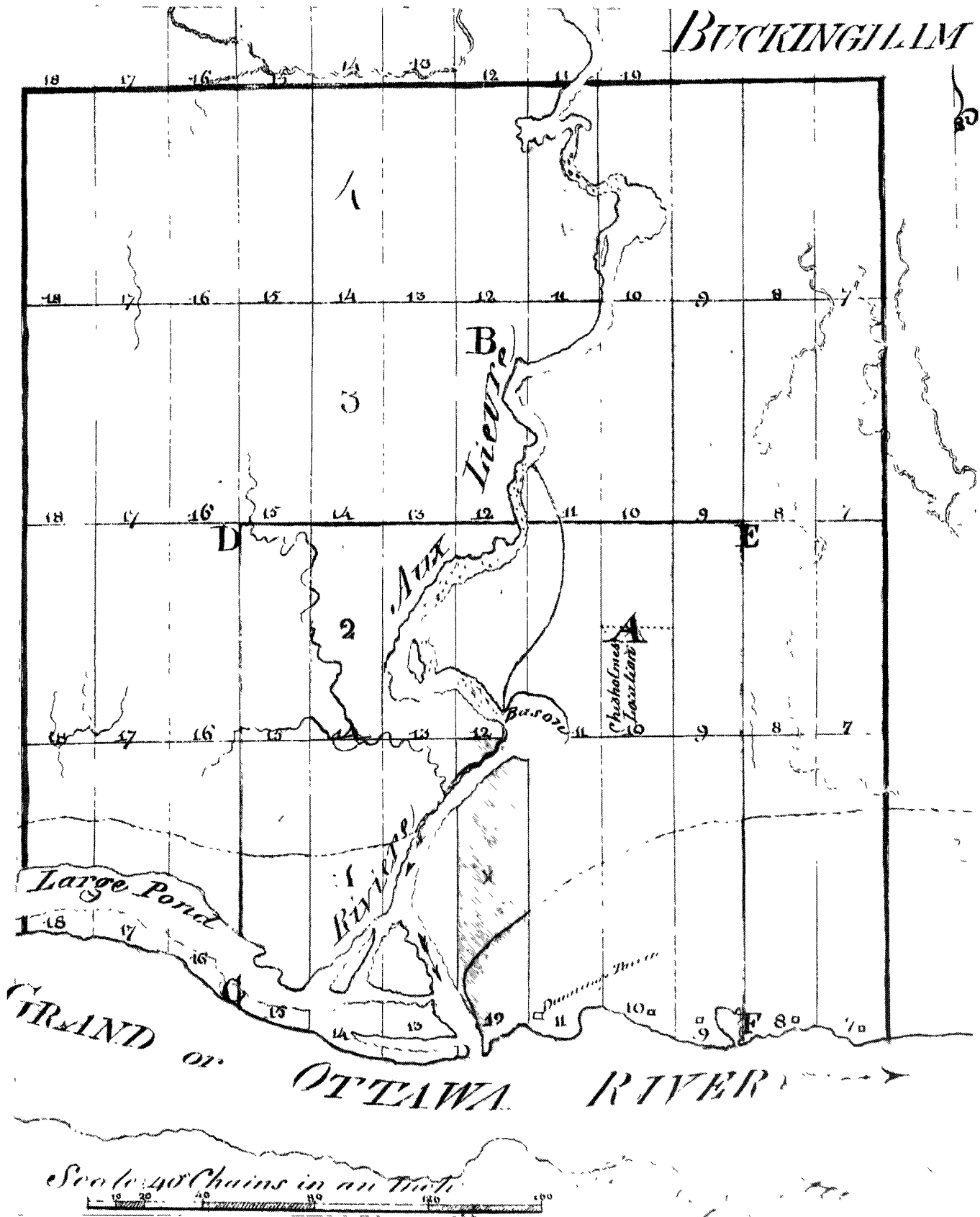


Fig. 3. "Part of Buckingham," 1802, after Joseph Bouchette, PAC.

survey duties within a six month period.

By 1802 the township of Buckingham was beginning to take shape as the remainder of the first four ranges and one-half the fifth, including the site now occupied by the town, had been surveyed (Fig. 3). All lands were divided into 200 acre lots, and arranged so that as many people as possible would have access to the Ottawa River. These lots, except for the timber reserves represented by shaded sections in Fig. 3, were then made available to prospective settlers.

Apparently none of those who received land grants at this time, including Robertson, Fortune and Hawley, ever settled in the township which they helped create. This gives rise to the suspicion that they came to the region for speculative reasons, hoping to benefit from the sale of lots to incoming settlers. As well, one must consider the possibility of their being recalled during the war of 1812. In any case their attempts to establish settlement in the area, on a large scale, during this period was not crowned with success. Only a few settlers had taken up residence in the township by 1815.

Buckingham, on the north bank of the Ottawa, in the county of York, joins Lochaber; four ranges of it have been surveyed, and little more than one quarter granted. Bordering the river, the land is low, and from several large bays and ponds that run a great way into it, is frequently overflowed; but when that is not the case there is some excellent meadow land, and also some that is tolerably good for other purposes. In the rear the soil is but indifferent; in places so uneven and stony as to be fit for no sort of tillage. It is watered by several small streams, descending from the rear into the Ottawa. A few families have settled on convenient spots in front of the township and pursue their agricultural

labours with success, and favourable prospects of improvements.⁶

Bouchette, then Surveyor General of Lower Canada, was referring to the southern part of the township. The families which he mentioned were farming in range 1 (Fig. 3), comprising 38 individuals by 1824.⁷ His topographical description of the township, except for the northern part which was almost unknown at that time, is quite adequate even today. However, like his predecessors, he seems to have considered only the agricultural potential of the region, in which respect the area presently occupied by the town of Buckingham was of limited value. It was left to the lumbermen, who arrived some eight years later, to recognize the suitability of the area for the timber industry.

Despite the extent of the granted lands in the township during the first quarter of the nineteenth century, settlement was confined to those lots which bordered the Ottawa River. Throughout this period the area where Buckingham was to emerge remained a virtual wilderness, with dense forest hugging the Rivière du Lièvre as it made its descent to the Ottawa. Its only visitors, besides the surveyors, seem to have been Indians from "the back country"⁸ and

⁶Joseph Bouchette, A Topographical Description of Lower Canada (London: W. Faden, 1815), p. 250.

⁷Joseph Bouchette, "Statistical Statement of Buckingham," Lower Canada Land Papers (PAC. No. 8, December 20, 1824), p. 13077.

⁸Joseph Bouchette, A Topographical Dictionary of the Province of Lower Canada (London: Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, Green & Longman, 1832).

hunters and trappers from the Montreal region. However, the latter's stories about the richness of the forests and streams of the Lièvre Valley were instrumental in attracting the first settler to the site of the present town.

CHAPTER III

PIONEER STAGE: 1823 - 1850

On their return to Montreal many hunters and trappers would rendez-vous at a hotel owned by Captain Justus Smith. Apparently made ambitious by their accounts of the virgin timbers of the Lièvre Valley, which had a ready market in Britain,⁹ and of the cascading Rivière du Lièvre (Fig. 1), the former lumberman from New Hampshire set out for the Valley in 1823.¹⁰ The date of his arrival was perhaps not completely accidental as it was in that year that the first steamer on the Ottawa River began to operate between Montreal and Hull.¹¹ The steamer's course may be seen on Bouchette's map of Buckingham and surrounding townships in 1831, Fig. 4. Through the efforts of this man, several settlers were attracted to the site now occupied by the town, which in turn led to the establishment of the settlement.

The Captain travelled west along the Ottawa River to the mouth of the Rivière du Lièvre (Fig. 3). From this

⁹ J.W. Hughson and C.C.J. Bond, Hurling Down the Pine (2d ed. rev.; Old Chelsea, Quebec: The Historical Society of the Gatineau, 1965), p. 14.

¹⁰ Essay written by one of Justus Smith's great grandchildren, and published in the Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

¹¹ Hughson and Bond, p. 9.

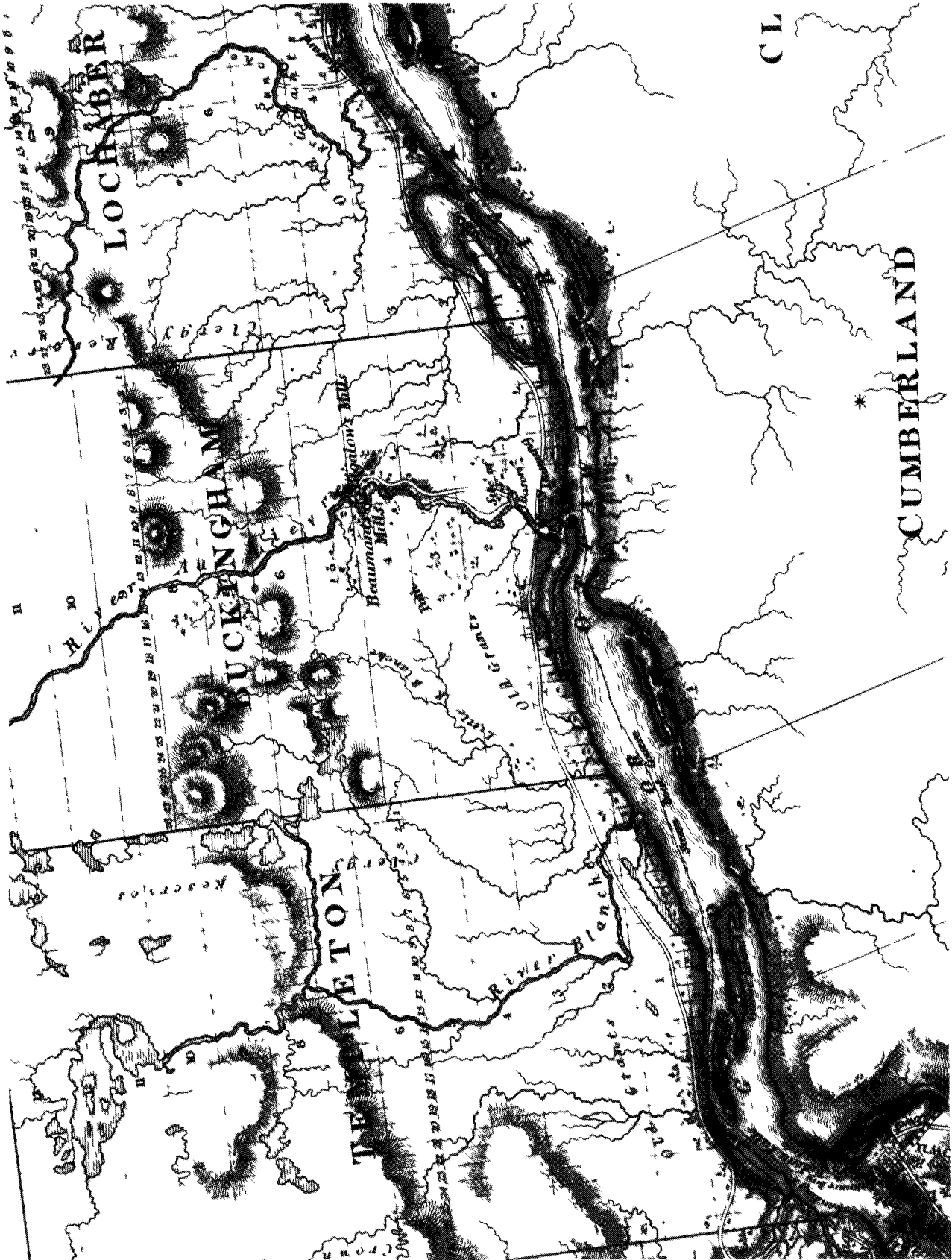


Fig. 4. Buckingham and surrounding townships, 1831, after Bouchette, PAC. No scale available.

point he probably went inland by canoe as far as the Bason (now Masson), used the old portage route, shown in Fig. 3, to bypass a series of rapids and minor waterfalls, and then paddled up the river until his progress was impeded by the southernmost of two closely spaced falls. Here, Smith found an area which possessed all the natural resources necessary for the establishment of a timber industry.

This area was strategically located where two large waterfalls interrupt the Rivière du Lièvre, which was otherwise navigable for bateaux¹² for about thirty miles to the north (Fig. 1). Either of these falls, if harnessed, would provide the power required to drive a saw mill. In addition, the Lièvre Valley was "covered with large and well-grown timber."¹³

With these resources at his disposal, Smith determined to build a saw mill on the west side of the higher of these two waterfalls, in lot 11 of range 4.¹⁴ This falls, now known as Dufferin Falls, had a natural drop of 62 feet.¹⁵ It was advantageous to build on the west side because the river's current, being strongest on that side, would draw floating logs toward the bank and hence toward the mill.

¹² Joseph Bouchette, A Topographical Dictionary

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

¹⁵ R.E. Threlfall, 100 Years of Phosphorus Making 1851-1951 (Oldbury, England: Albright & Wilson Ltd., 1951), p. 278.

After selecting the site for his mill, the Captain built himself a log shanty a few hundred yards back from his proposed mill site,¹⁶ about where the present Buckingham High School stands. His shanty stood alone, literally surrounded by a wilderness, but it was the rude beginnings of what was to become an important industrial town by the turn of the century.

Mr. Smith then returned to Montreal and on his next trip he brought with him a number of men to aid in constructing the mill; they were Mr. Mathews, who came as clerk; Clement Eaton, a mill-wright, Daniel Dale and Samuel Lough as carpenters; Baxter Bowman, Patrick McFaul and Mr. Hall as laborers.¹⁷

The saw mill was completed in 1824 and began operations under the guidance of Baxter Bowman,¹⁸ who had apparently euchred the Captain out of business.¹⁹

White and red pine, which were abundant in the area at that time,²⁰ were squared at the mill and then sent by means of a sluice to the Basin (Fig. 4). From that point the timbers were made into giant rafts and floated to Quebec City (Wolfe's Cove), via the Ottawa, and thence to Britain to be

¹⁶ Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ This name is also referred to as Boamin and Beaumont. The latter name is used by Bouchette on his map of 1831, Fig. 4.

¹⁹ Buckingham Post, January 26, 1934.

²⁰ Ibid., January 20, 1911.

used for shipbuilding.²¹ This form of lumbering would provide the basis for Buckingham's economy until about 1850.

As a result of the building of the saw mill many more settlers were soon attracted to the area (Appendix). In 1824 the employees of the Bowman mill began to move their families into the vicinity of the mill site.²² By 1825 there was a total of 158 persons in the township.²³ Of this number about 120 had arrived in the area since 1823.²⁴

Levi Bigelow, who was to become the outstanding figure in Buckingham's "Pioneer Stage", also came to the township in 1824. Like Justus Smith, he was a former lumberman from New Hampshire.²⁵

Mr. Bigelow, the actual proprietor of a large portion of the granted lands in this T., has commenced the erection of a saw-mill on the R. au Lièvre and cleared several acres adjacent. In 1827 he had cleared above 400 acres; 300 of which were; the year preceding, in crops of grass, grain, potatoes, & c. He commenced his improvements in 1824, and in three years erected several houses, barns, stores & c. & c., and was still animated with a laudable desire to make additional improvements for the benefit of himself and other settlers in this and the neighbouring townships.²⁶

²¹ A.R.M. Lower, "A History of the Lumber Trade Between Canada and the United States," in A.R.M. Lower, W.A. Carrothers and S.A. Saunders, The North American Assault on the Canadian Forest (Toronto: The Ryerson Press, 1938), p. vii.

²² Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

²³ Le Nord de L'Outaouais (Ottawa: Le Droit, 1938), p. 278.

²⁴ There were 38 persons living in range 1 just before the arrival of Smith in 1823. Bouchette, "A Statistical Statement... ."

²⁵ Buckingham Post, January 26, 1934.

²⁶ Bouchette, A Topographical Dictionary... .

Bigelow apparently came to the Buckingham area with the intention of farming, probably to supply the employees of the Bowman mill. During the year of his arrival he and two other men cleared a large section of land on lot 10, in range 3.²⁷ He also built a shanty on this property, which was to become a temporary home for several of the early settlers. It was not long, however, before Bigelow realized that there was room for another saw mill at Dufferin Falls. In 1826 he was engaged in the construction of the region's second mill.²⁸

Bigelow's mill was built on the east side of the falls, opposite the Bowman enterprise (Fig. 4). This mill offered further opportunities for employment, thus attracting another wave of settlers to the area (Appendix). Many of these pioneers took up residence near the new mill site, in homes owned by their employer.

During the same year (1826) the enterprising Bigelow opened the growing community's first store and shoe repair shop, with provisions being brought in from Montreal.²⁹ The next year he built a second store, which was operated by a Mrs. Burke.³⁰ The opening of two stores by 1827 is indicative of the large number of persons who had settled in

²⁷ Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid.

the township since 1823, many in the vicinity of the saw mills.

Buckingham Mills

Within a few years after the arrival of Justus Smith, several homesteads dotted the landscape around the saw mills. A tiny frontier settlement began to emerge from what had been virgin forest only four years earlier. Founded in 1827, it was called Buckingham Mills, named after Buckinghamshire, England.³¹

The little settlement seems to have been quite self-sufficient with regard to staples for both man and beast. By 1826, Bigelow had 300 acres of land planted in such crops as grass (hay), grain and potatoes (page 15). During the same year Simeodore and Narren Noyes cleared land on lot 12 of range 4, and "raised a splendid crop of corn."³² Captain Smith "also raised a large crop."³³ The first year they were required to travel to Hull to have the corn ground.³⁴ Thereafter, however, the grinding was done in Buckingham Mills as the settlement had its own corn-mill before 1832.³⁵ As well, the Rivière du Lièvre was "well stocked with fish,"³⁶ which

³¹Ryan, p. 1.

³²Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

³³Ibid.

³⁴The Noyes brothers and Captain Smith conveyed the corn to the Basin by ox-sled and thence by canoe to Hull, at which time they reported that Colonel By was constructing a canal.

³⁵Bouchette, A Topographical Dictionary

³⁶Ibid.

was one of the pioneer's "main articles of food..."³⁷

The Ottawa [which included the Lièvre] square timber trade was always strongly self-contained. Many of the operators, in fact, later setting up their own farms, maintaining their own teams, supply sources and bases.³⁸

The settlement was still growing rapidly in 1830. During that year Bigelow constructed a large two-storey house, opposite the intersection of the present Main and Church Streets.³⁹ He also built another store and office near his new home.⁴⁰ At the same time Bigelow became post-master, with mail arriving three times a week via the steamer Shannon.⁴¹

In 1832 the population of Buckingham Township was 266,⁴² which reflected the rapid growth and development of the township since Smith's arrival. The substantial increase in inhabitants during the 1820's may be attributed to the successful timber operations in Buckingham Mills after 1823. No exact population may be allotted to the settlement at this time,⁴³ although the majority of the township's settlers seem to have been living in the vicinity of the saw mills.

³⁷Buckingham Post, September 10, 1937.

³⁸Charlotte M. Whitton, A Hundred Years A Fellin', 1842-1942 (Ottawa: The Runge Press, 1942), p. 118.

³⁹Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

⁴⁰Ibid.

⁴¹Ibid.

⁴²Bouchette, A Topographical Dictionary...

⁴³No exact population may be assigned to the settlement until 1861.

The names of Buckingham's early pioneers (1823-1830) suggest that most of them were of British origin (Appendix).

During the next decade there is no record of any further expansion in the settlement's timber trade. On the contrary, in at least two years, 1835 and 1837,⁴⁴ the market for squared timber was very depressed. Nevertheless, despite the apparent lack of new opportunity in the area, many Irish settlers moved into the township during the 1830's.

From this on [about 1830] settlers rapidly came into the township among whom were numerous Irish who settled in what is now Connaught. They would have suffered a great deal only of [sic] Levi Bigelow, who advanced clothing and provisions for which he did not get his pay for many years.⁴⁵

One may conclude that most of these Irish settlers did not live in Buckingham Mills, as "Connaught" still represents an area a few miles northwest of the present town. During a visit to the township in 1838, Father Brady reported that the majority of his parishoners (Irish Catholics), "have their homes from five to ten miles from the church," which was located in the settlement.⁴⁶

The church which Father Brady mentioned was built in 1835.⁴⁷ Judging by a picture of the ancient structure,

⁴⁴ Hughson and Bond, pp. 29-30.

⁴⁵ Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

⁴⁶ Father Brady was parish priest in Buckingham from 1838 to 1862. Ryan, p. 48.

⁴⁷ Ryan, p. 48.

appearing in the Buckingham Post, June 25, 1965, it resembled a cottage more than a church. However, it was probably representative of the humble means of the township's "Irish Community" during this period. Two years later a Presbyterian church was built, on a plot of land donated by the Bigelow firm.⁴⁸ The erection of these two churches seems to represent the bulk of the construction carried on in Buckingham Mills during the 1830's.

In 1840 the settlement was elevated canonically to a parish.⁴⁹ At this time there were about ninety Catholic families in the township, besides those of other faiths.⁵⁰ It is difficult even to approximate the population of Buckingham Mills in 1840 because only those of the Roman Catholic faith seem to have been enumerated, and many if not most of these settlers (mainly Irish) were not living in the settlement. However, one would expect a slight growth in Buckingham Mills during the 1830's because the settlers living in the Lièvre Valley, north and north-west of the settlement, would have been obliged to use it as a supply centre (Fig. 1).

After 1840 Buckingham Mills' timber firms began to experience difficulties due to declining markets for squared timber.⁵¹ As a result of the slump in the timber trade, the

⁴⁸ Ibid., p. 61.

⁴⁹ Ibid., p. 47.

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Hughson and Bond, p. 39-40.

Bigelow mill ceased to operate in 1849.⁵² This left the Bowman mill, employing 34 men,⁵³ as the only major industry in Buckingham Mills at mid-century. The settlement's inhabitants accordingly suffered at this time. Lawrence Bigelow, on his departure in 1849, stated that "poverty and distress prevail here at present more than at any previous time since the first settlement of this township... ." ⁵⁴ At mid-century, however, a change took place in Eastern Canada's lumber industry which would give the tiny settlement's growth and development a new impetus.

During the years 1823-1850, Buckingham Mills was very much a frontier settlement with no definite limits. Before 1850 the settlement and township are referred to as a single unit, with the result that no exact population figure is available for Buckingham Mills during this period. Most of the pioneers lived in modest dwellings similar to that of Plate I, which probably represented their humble means. The settlement grew quickly during the 1820's, but showed little evidence of further growth between 1830 and 1850.

⁵² Buckingham Post, April 17, 1903.

⁵³ Board of Registration and Statistics, Census of the Canadas, 1851-52. Personal Census, Vol. I, p. 328-333.

⁵⁴ Buckingham Post, April 17, 1903.



Plate I. This scene is probably typical of Buckingham's "Pioneer Stage". The dwelling is constructed of squared timber, the settlement's main export during that period. Oxen were used both as draught animals and as a means of transportation by the pioneers. The brick chimney may be an anachronism as the date of the original photograph is unknown. Plate from Patrick Ryan's collection of notes, documents and photographs of the Buckingham region.

CHAPTER IV

THE SETTLEMENT TAKES SHAPE: 1851 - 1879

At mid-century a number of factors combined to revolutionize the lumber industry in Canada, which would be of great benefit to Buckingham Mills. By about 1850 the British had abandoned most of the preferential import duties on colonial timber. In 1854 the Reciprocity Treaty allowed planks and boards to enter the United States as raw materials, which were duty free.

This disappearance of preferential duties released all British restrictions on the flow to the southward, while the bonding legislation and the Reciprocity Treaty opened the gates still more widely.⁵⁵

The American market⁵⁶ began to replace the British market by 1851, as indicated by the heavy lumber shipments being conveyed by Lake Champlain during that year.⁵⁷ The impact of this new market was immediately felt in the tiny settlement.

The Bigelow mill, which had gone bankrupt in 1849, was reactivated in 1853 by Thompson and Company from Quebec City.⁵⁸ At about the same time George Eaton took over the

⁵⁵Lower, p. viii.

⁵⁶Since 1835 sawn lumber had been required to house a rapidly growing population in the eastern United States. Hughson and Bond, p. 38.

⁵⁷Hughson and Bond, p. 41.

⁵⁸Ryan, p. 13.

Bowman mill (Fig. 5). Both companies were dealers in sawn lumber,⁵⁹ as opposed to their predecessors who had been engaged in the squared timber trade. This expansion in the lumber business was followed by a building boom during the 1850's, and would mean prosperity for the settlement for over two decades.

The sawn trade made possible work, almost the whole year round, and so the mill town or village took on a permanency of community life, with homes from which the younger men went to the bush and on the drive for winter and spring, and turned to the mill for the sawing season.⁶⁰

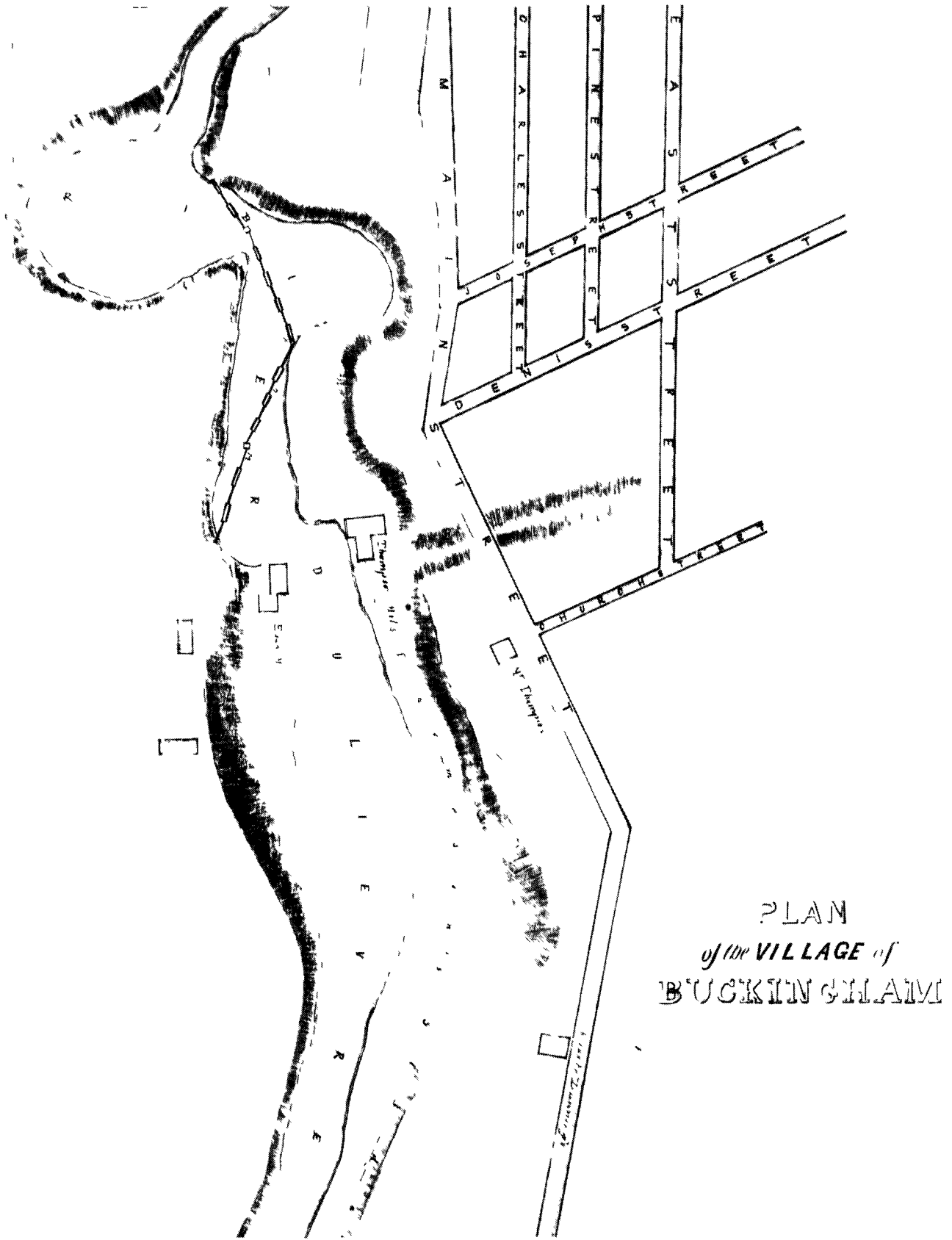
Two of the buildings erected during the early 1850's⁶¹ are still in existence in Buckingham. The "Big Store" (Plate II) stands on the corner of Main and Church Streets. It was called the "Big Store" because it dwarfed the pioneers' homes of the earlier period. It has undergone only one major change in appearance since that time - gone is its bell tower which summoned the Thompson employees to work at 5:00 a.m.⁶² A few hundred feet away on the opposite side of Main Street (Fig. 5) stands the Thompson house and carriage shed (Plate III).

⁵⁹ Canadian Directory, 1857-58 (Montreal: Published by John Lovell, 1858), p. 79.

⁶⁰ Whitton, p. 152.

⁶¹ Buckingham Post, February 17, 1928.

⁶² Ibid.



PLAN
of the *VILLAGE* of
BUCKINGHAM

Fig. 5. Plan of Buckingham in 1855, PAC. Neither author nor scale are known.



Plate II. The "Big Store".

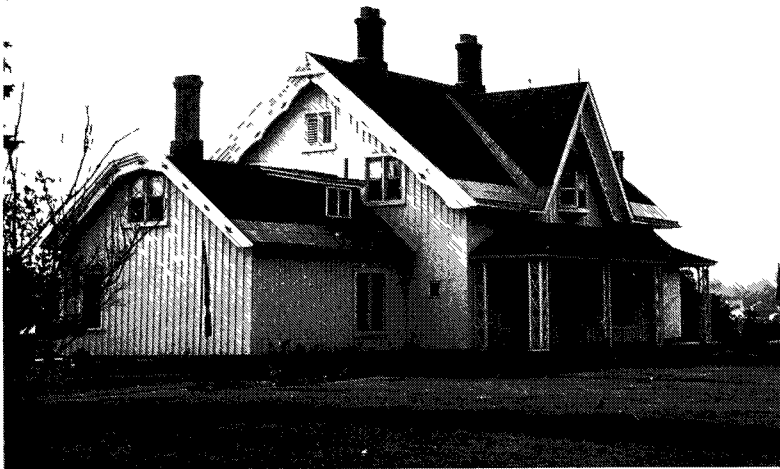


Plate III. The Thompson House.

In 1855 Buckingham Mills was incorporated as a village,⁶³ with lots 9, 10, and 11 of range 4 being set aside for this purpose.⁶⁴ According to the Canadian Directory, it was a thriving settlement with a good lumbering and milling business, and a population of about 250.⁶⁵

Fig. 5 gives, for the first time, some idea of the form and limits of Buckingham Mills. The streets with their names still intact, except Denis and East,⁶⁶ provide the nucleus of the business section of the present town. The widened portion of Main Street remains unchanged today, a remnant of a once active market place.

It is interesting to note that this plan covers only what is now the eastern part of Buckingham. A glance at Fig. 4 reveals, at least partially, why the settlement tended to grow on the east side of the Rivière du Lièvre, rather than on the west side. The pioneers found that the topography, along the east banks of the river, offered less resistance to travel between the Ottawa River and Buckingham than it did along the west banks, which were quite swampy

⁶³Canada. Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Seventh Census of Canada, 1931. Summary, Vol. I, p. 166.

⁶⁴Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

⁶⁵Canadian Directory, 1857-58, p. 79.

⁶⁶These streets are now called Maclaren East and Belanger respectively.

(Fig. 4). The configuration of the river at the "Bason" also made the ascent to the settlement shorter on the east side. Once the settlement was established, communication between the east and west sides would have been limited because there seems to have been no substantial bridge at Buckingham before 1867. Also, one cannot overlook the influence on the shaping of the settlement, in the "Pioneer Stage", of Levi Bigelow whose mill, stores and several houses were built on the east side of the river.

By 1861, Buckingham Mills had a population of 1,186 persons.⁶⁷ This represented a phenomenal rate of growth during the 1850's as the settlement had a population of only about 250, less than a decade earlier. This increase in population may be mainly attributed to a thriving sawn lumber industry. Of 1861's total, 555 were of French origin, 602 of British (mainly Irish), 21 of other extractions and 8 of unknown origins.⁶⁸ These are the first accurate census data regarding both population numbers and composition for Buckingham.

Two outstanding men came to the settlement in the 1860's, who would greatly influence the future growth and development of Buckingham. The first man to arrive was James Maclaren, a wealthy lumberman from the Gatineau Valley,

⁶⁷ Bureau of Agriculture and Statistics, Census of the Canadas, 1860-61. Personal Census, Vol. I, pp. 28-29.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

who purchased Eaton's saw mill in 1864.⁶⁹ The next year the James Maclaren Company was formed, which would mushroom into one of the major industrial empires of the Ottawa Valley in the twentieth century. Maclaren and his heirs were to play a large role in the evolution of the settlement to the present.

Plate IV is a picture of Maclaren's saw mill at Dufferin Falls, taken between 1870 and 1880.⁷⁰ Many of the buildings are the original ones constructed by Justus Smith.⁷¹ Debris, in the foreground, was thrown in the river until the turn of the century, when the companies were forced to build wood burners. The houses on the right were homes of the Maclaren employees, and are representative of the settlers' homes during this period.

In 1867 McPherson Lemoyne took over the Thompson mill.⁷² Being a man of ambition and order, he began to rebuild and remodel the old mills, completing this work by 1869. He also determined to have a complete survey made of all the lots upon which his firm's buildings stood. As well, the tract of land between Church and Denis Streets (Fig. 5) was to be surveyed and laid out in streets and lots for new homes. "This being done it gave an impetus to the growth of the village."⁷³

⁶⁹ Buckingham Post, June 25, 1965.

⁷⁰ According to notes accompanying the photograph, from Mr. Ryan's collection.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Buckingham Post, December 11, 1908.

⁷³ Ibid.



Plate IV. Maclaren's first saw mill at Dufferin Falls.

Buckingham: 1867

The village at that time probably had not much more than a thousand inhabitants [1,186 in 1861], the principal streets being Main, Joseph and Denis, and along these streets the dwelling houses were few and far between. South of Gorman's Bridge, and east of Main Street, for as far as the line of the present East Street, were a few scattering residences, all owned by the firm and principally occupied by the employees.⁷⁴

Coupling this description of Buckingham in 1867 with the plan of the village, Fig. 5, one may get a reasonable idea of the internal form of the settlement. Gorman's Bridge spanned the gully crossing Main Street, between Denis and Church Streets (Fig. 5). This gully, which has since been filled in except for a small portion on the west side of Main Street, serves as a reminder that the site occupied by the town was much dissected by several similar gullies.

One notes that most of the homes in the settlement were owned by the lumber companies, and that most of the residents were company employees. This shows the great dependence of the village on the lumber industry during this period. Only after 1880, when its economy became more diversified, were many homes owned and occupied by persons not employed by these companies.

One of the houses built in 1867 may still be seen in Buckingham (Plate V). It stands near the corner of Joseph and James, and is owned by the editor of the Buckingham Post, John Simpson. This house is larger and more decorative than those of the "Pioneer Stage" reflecting the greater

⁷⁴Ibid.



Plate V. A view of John Simpson's house,
built in 1867.

prosperity of the more recent period.

During the same year a covered wooden bridge was constructed to connect the eastern or main part of the village with the west part.⁷⁵ Other bridges, probably built on pontoons, had spanned the river at earlier dates, but this seems to have been the first really permanent structure to have been built there. It undoubtedly facilitated travel between the two parts of the settlement, allowing the west part to develop more rapidly thereafter.

By 1871 the population of Buckingham had reached 1,301,⁷⁶ a gain of 115 since 1861. This substantial increase mirrored the settlement's prosperity during this decade, based mainly on a stable lumber trade. In 1871 there were 738 persons of French origin, 560 of British (417 Irish) and 3 of other origins.⁷⁷ The high percentage of inhabitants of French origin is in marked contrast with the "Pioneer Stage", when the majority of the settlers were of British origin. This trend has continued to the present day when about three-quarters of the town's residents are of French extraction.⁷⁸

⁷⁵Buckingham Post, August 14, 1933.

⁷⁶Department of Agriculture, Census of Canada, 1870-71, Vol. I, Table 1, pp. 32-33.

⁷⁷Ibid., Table III, pp. 282-283.

⁷⁸About 72 per cent in 1941, according to DBS, Eighth Census of Canada, 1941, Vol. II, Table 32, pp. 386-387.

In the early 1870's the settlement showed signs of decline. A strike was called by the employees of Lemoyne, Gibb and Company in 1871.⁷⁹ It lasted only two and one-half days, but the lumber company was forced to raise its wages as well as shorten working hours. This naturally increased the costs of lumber production, and along with the decline in the American lumber market during the 1870's,⁸⁰ resulted in the sale of the company to Ross Brothers in 1873.

Neither Ross Brothers nor the James Maclaren Company, owners of the west side mills, fared much better during the remainder of the decade. The bottom had literally "fallen out" of the American market on which the village's mills were almost wholly dependent. The settlement correspondingly suffered. A quotation from the local newspaper sums up these difficult years quite adequately. "It was not an uncommon occurrence between 1875 and 1879 to find people reduced to going out to Camp for their board, or drawing the pitiful sum of 25 cents daily."⁸¹

During the period 1851-1879, Buckingham Mills began to take the form it exhibits today. Many of the inhabitants began to live in frame homes, in contrast to the typical log

⁷⁹ Buckingham Post, November 17, 1905.

⁸⁰ H.A. Innis, Essays in Canadian Economic History (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1962) pp. 244-45.

⁸¹ Buckingham Post, February 22, 1924.

cabin of the "Pioneer Stage". The changing ethnic origin of the village's citizens also provided a contrast, as those of French origin now comprised the majority, compared with British in the earlier period. The settlement experienced rapid growth and expansion in the 1850's and 1860's, although it declined during the 1870's. Lumber markets would improve after 1880, but it was the beginning of phosphate mining in the Lièvre Valley which would usher Buckingham into its "Golden Era".

CHAPTER V

THE GOLDEN ERA: 1880 - 1900

As early as 1829 Lieutenant Ingall had reported the occurrence of phosphate bearing rock in the Lièvre Valley, a few miles north of the then tiny hamlet of Buckingham Mills.⁸² However, the potential ore body was to remain dormant until a market for phosphate fertilizers developed in Europe in the 1870's.⁸³ The village council, anxious to exploit this market, sent samples of the mineral to the World's Fair of 1878, in Paris. A French company was so impressed by the high quality of the ore that it formed a mining company in the Buckingham area in 1881, with an operating capital of \$500,000.⁸⁴ The commencement of phosphate mining, aided by a revival in lumbering, began a chain of events which would see the settlement enjoy tremendous growth and prosperity for almost two decades.

The town and township began to grow rapidly at the time of the mines and they have continued growing until now [1899], though some say it would be a more enterprising place if the descendants of the old settlers had as much sticktoitiveness as their forefathers had.⁸⁵

⁸²Threlfall, p. 279.

⁸³Ibid.

⁸⁴Ryan, p. 29.

⁸⁵Buckingham Post, January 5, 1899.

On its arrival in the area, the "French Company" purchased mining rights in the valley, between Buckingham and High Falls (Fig. 6), totalling \$60,000.⁸⁶ Thus, some residents of the Buckingham area made direct and immediate financial gains from the mining enterprise before the first ton of ore was removed. This mine employed about 100 men for more than ten years.⁸⁷

Several other mining companies followed the French company into the Lièvre Valley in the early 1880's (Fig. 6). Some of the larger mines were the High Rock, the Union, the North Star Phosphate Mine and the Emerald. These mines employed more than 100 men each during this period.⁸⁸ There were also numerous smaller mines operated by Buckingham area citizens, who had apparently caught the mining fever. These smaller enterprises usually employed between 25 and 50 men each.⁸⁹ In all, the phosphate mines gave work to over 1,000 Buckingham and area individuals between 1880 and 1894, and perhaps as many as 2,000 at the peak of their production in 1890. The average miner's wage was about \$18 a month including board, compared with \$7 a month for lumbermen in the 1870's.⁹⁰

⁸⁶Ryan, p.29.

⁸⁷Ibid.

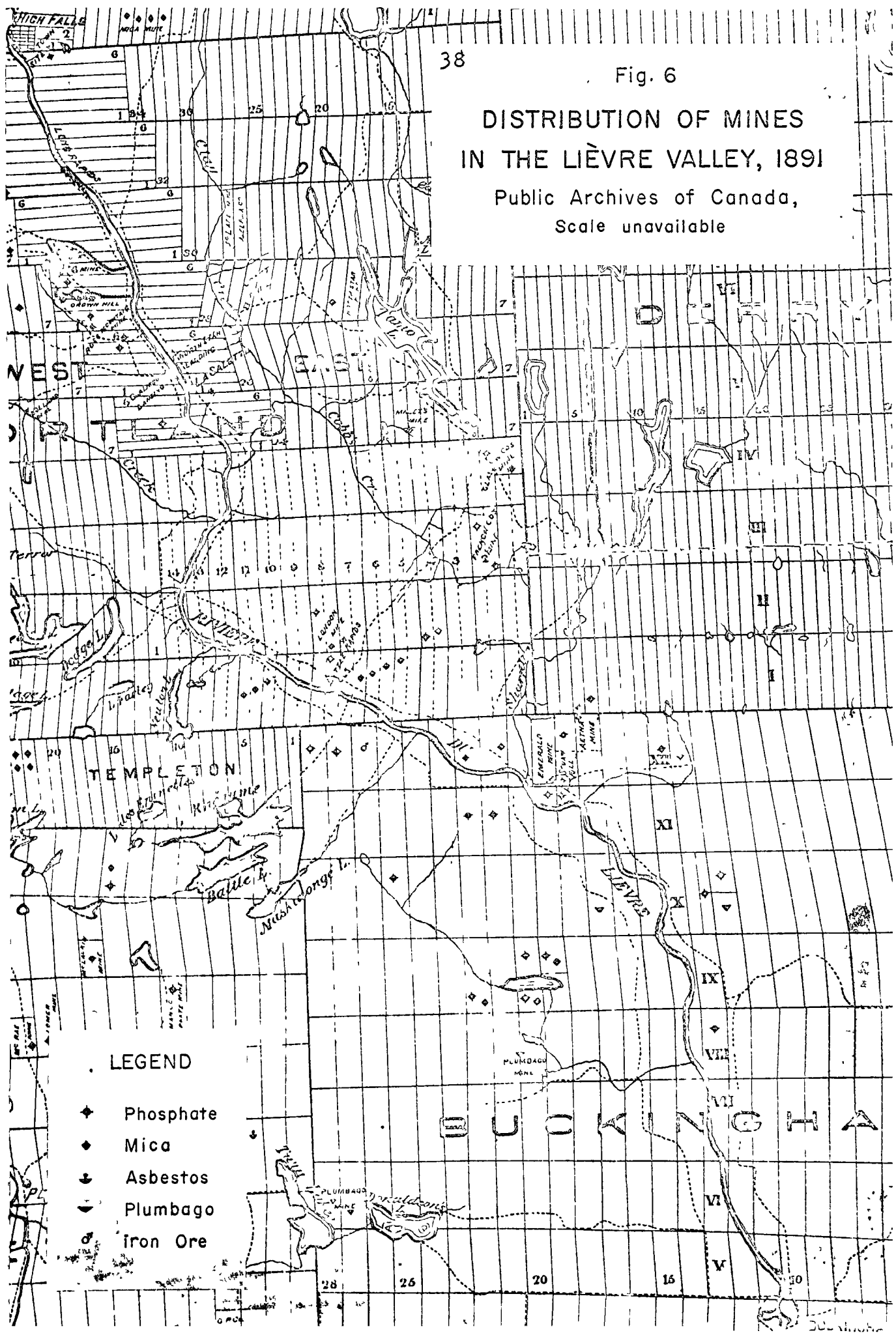
⁸⁸Ibid., p. 30.

⁸⁹Ibid.

⁹⁰Ibid., p. 31.

DISTRIBUTION OF MINES IN THE LIÈVRE VALLEY, 1891

Public Archives of Canada,
Scale unavailable



LEGEND

- ◆ Phosphate
- ◆ Mica
- ▼ Asbestos
- ▲ Plumbago
- Iron Ore

The phosphate mines, although they were all located ten or more miles north of Buckingham, had many far reaching effects on its growth and development. This was due in large part to the settlement's strategic location in the Lièvre Valley (Fig. 1). The mining companies and their employees were obliged to use Buckingham as a dépôt.

Green phosphate was shipped via the Rivière du Lièvre by steamer and barge to Buckingham.⁹¹ It was unloaded on the east bank of the river just above Upper Falls,⁹² which came to be known as the "Landing". From that point the ore was conveyed by horse and wagon to make connections with either the railway⁹³ or a steamer at Masson (Fig. 1). In 1884 the C.P.R. built a spur line to Buckingham,⁹⁴ to take advantage of the greatly increased freight occasioned by the mining industry. The boats then returned to the mine sites loaded with passengers and supplies from the settlement. By 1882 there were at least five steamers plying the river between Buckingham and High Falls.

After 1880 the lumber industry once again became an important factor in the life of the community, with the

⁹¹ During winter the ore reached the settlement by horse and sleigh, utilizing the frozen river as a road.

⁹² This falls is located a few hundred yards north of Dufferin Falls, within the present town limits.

⁹³ The C.P.R. built a line between Montreal and Hull in 1878, which included Masson, some three miles south of Buckingham. Threlfall, p. 278.

⁹⁴ Threlfall, p. 278.

improvement in foreign markets.⁹⁵ The Buckingham lumber concerns were also aided by increased local demands, resulting from the construction accompanying the mining boom. During this period Ross Brothers and the James Maclaren Company each employed about 125-150 men for sawing operations in summer,⁹⁶ and about twice that number in their lumber camps in winter.⁹⁷ Although these companies produced more and greater varieties of lumber products as well as employing more men than they had done in the previous period, they still ranked second in importance to the phosphate companies. "The lumber kings on the Lièvre were small potatoes along side of the phosphate men in those days, they had small salaries with little or no increases".⁹⁸

Several other smaller industries located in the Buckingham area during this period. Among the more important ones were two additional saw mills, a pulp company and two brick yards. As well, the Singer Manufacturing Company wished to establish at Rhéaume Falls, about one mile south of the village, in 1885. However, James Maclaren, owner of the site, refused to sell the rights to the power with the result that the company had to locate elsewhere.⁹⁹ It has been said

⁹⁵Whitton, p. 127.

⁹⁶Ottawa Citizen, October 11, 1893.

⁹⁷Ryan, p. 19.

⁹⁸Buckingham Post, August 17, 1906.

⁹⁹Ibid., June 25, 1965, p.8. The company then established at St. John's, Quebec and later at Thurso, Quebec, where it was that thriving town's main industry for many years.

that had Singer's been allowed to locate in the area in 1885, Buckingham would be much larger than it is today.¹⁰⁰

One of the new saw mills was erected by Grondin and Racicot at Priest's Creek (about eighteen miles north of Buckingham), on the west bank of the river.¹⁰¹ Soon, however, these gentlemen went bankrupt, and the mill was moved to within about one mile of the settlement, this time being situated on the east bank. This mill, operated by steam,¹⁰² in contrast to all previous saw mills in the area, was only moderately successful but managed to exist until the outbreak of the first world war. At about the same time, Kuschick and Gillies built another saw mill near the Landing.¹⁰³ Logs for this mill had to be brought down the Lièvre on small rafts to keep them separate from those of the larger firms.¹⁰⁴ The Gillies family has until recently carried on sawing operations at this site.¹⁰⁵

In 1886 the first attempt was made to harness the energy of Upper Falls, which had a natural drop of 30 feet.¹⁰⁶

¹⁰⁰ Buckingham Post, June 25, 1965, p. 8.

¹⁰¹ Ryan, p. 20.

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ Ibid., p. 21.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid.

¹⁰⁵ The use of steam power, rather than water power, to drive these saw mills probably increased the costs of their operations very considerably.

¹⁰⁶ Threlfall, p. 278.

During that year the Buckingham Pulp Company was formed, erecting a grinding mill on the west side of the falls.¹⁰⁷ The enterprise met with little success for by 1891 it had ceased operations.¹⁰⁸ However, the partial development of these falls helped pave the way for the establishment of a large chemical plant at this site a few years later.

Two years later the first of two brick industries was begun in the Buckingham area (Plate VI). This yard, operated by the Buckingham Brick and Tile Company, was located on the "McGurn Farm", near the settlement.¹⁰⁹ It too had a short life span, being forced out of business in the early 1890's, when the brick market became glutted and the price of the product dropped to only \$8 per thousand.¹¹⁰ A second brick yard was opened a few years later. It was located in the area now occupied by Short Street.¹¹¹ This company, operated by the Pressed Brick Company of Buckingham, was more successful than its predecessor,¹¹² remaining in business for several decades, and has left its imprint on

¹⁰⁷ George Carruthers, Paper in the Making (Toronto: The Garden City Press Co-operative, 1947), p. 611.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Ryan, p. 26. Clay suitable for the making of bricks existed in large quantities on this farm.

¹¹⁰ Ryan, p. 26.

¹¹¹ Ibid.

¹¹² It made a superior quality brick to the Buckingham Brick and Tile Company. Ottawa Citizen, March 16, 1894.

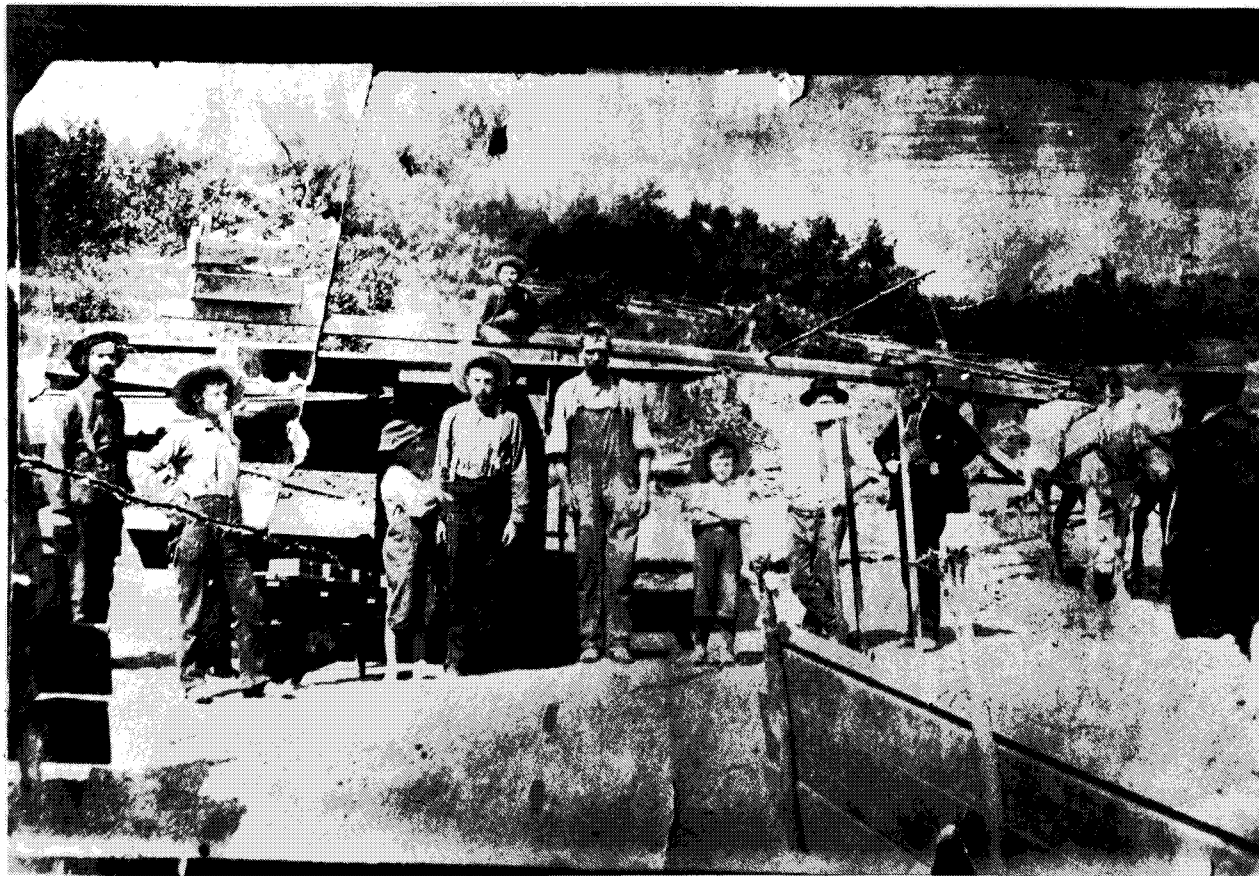


Plate VI. The Buckingham Brick and Tile Company was founded in 1888. The clay was mixed by the rotating action of a blade connected to a long pole hitched to a team of horses, which walked in a circular fashion around the mixing machine. The bricks were pressed by hand which was not only a very difficult task, but also resulted in a rather poor quality product. In about 1890 the company resorted to steam power both to drive the machine and to press the bricks. Information and photograph from Mr. Ryan's collection.

the settlement. Many brick buildings were erected in the "Golden Era," several of which are still in evidence in the town (Plate VII).

Incorporation

On June 14, 1890, Buckingham was incorporated as a town.¹¹³ The importance of this act was illustrated by the installation of water works, sewage lines and an electric light system in the next few years. In 1894 the town acquired from Maclaren's a site on the east bank of the river at Upper Falls, with rights to develop a limited amount of water power.¹¹⁴ At this site a pumping and power station was erected, to provide the settlement with water and electricity.¹¹⁵

Evidently the mayor, James Martin, who had signed the agreement, envisaged that profits from the sale of electricity and water would dispense with ordinary taxation.¹¹⁶ Although this ideal was never realized, the townfolk benefited in many ways from the transaction, including low rates of electricity. Both the electrical and water departments were to become mainstays in Buckingham finance.¹¹⁷

¹¹³ DBS, Seventh Census of Canada, 1931. Summary, Vol. I, p. 166.

¹¹⁴ Threlfall, p. 280.

¹¹⁵ This station is still in operation.

¹¹⁶ Buckingham Post, June 25, 1965, p. 1.

¹¹⁷ Ibid.

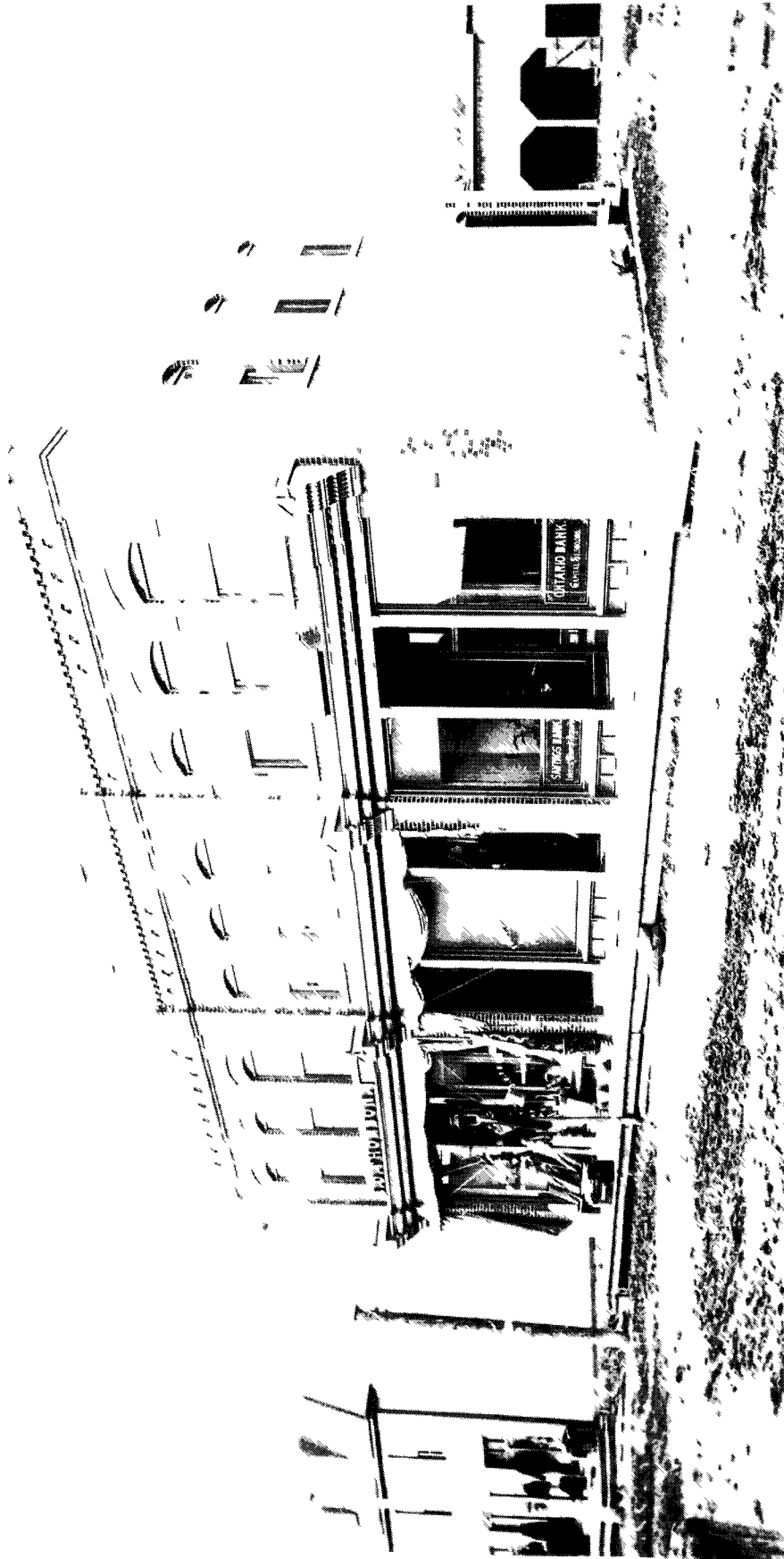


Plate VII. This structure, built with "Buckingham bricks", stands opposite the present Alexandria Hotel. It was erected in 1892, and is typical of that period's commercial establishments. Photograph first appeared in The Globe, November 7, 1894.

By 1891 the population of the town numbered 2,239, which represented an increase of 760 persons or 51.3 per cent since 1881.¹¹⁸ The phenomenal rate of growth during the 1880's, matched only by the 1850's, reflects the flurry of activity and resulting prosperity, associated primarily with the mining industry, during that decade.

No plan is available for the settlement at this time but one may gain a fair impression of its extent, in 1890, from the following extract.

The town of Buckingham shall comprise all that tract of land known as lots Numbers 9, 10, 11 and the east half of twelve in the fourth range, and the south half of lot ten in the fifth range and all that part of the south half of lot eleven in the fifth range lying on the east side of the River du Lièvre, all in the Township of Buckingham and the Province of Quebec,¹¹⁹

The western part of the settlement was beginning to take shape in this period, as two churches and several houses were built in that sector between 1880 and 1900. A quotation from the Buckingham Post lends further weight to this observation.

"The experience of America is that all towns build westward and our town is no exception to the rule."¹²⁰ One may recall that neither the plan of the village in 1855 (Fig. 5), nor the description in 1867 (page 31), indicates that any development had taken place on the west banks of the river up

¹¹⁸ Department of Agriculture and Statistics, Census of Canada, 1890-91, Vol. I, Table 11, p. 98.

¹¹⁹ From a special session of the Buckingham Council in 1890. Ryan, pp. 74-75.

¹²⁰ Buckingham Post, January 14, 1897.

to that time, apart from the lumber company.

As a result of the growth and prosperity of the previous decade, the 1890's witnessed a building boom in Buckingham perhaps equalled only after the second world war. Besides a large number of private dwellings, several churches, schools and stores were erected in rapid succession. Some of the more pretentious structures were a Catholic church (1894), an Anglican church (1899), a Presbyterian church (1890), a town hall (by 1894), and a post office (1894). Many of these buildings served until the mid-twentieth century, and several still exist.

A.H. Parker, Buckingham correspondent for the Ottawa Citizen in the 1890's,¹²¹ emphasized the importance of the town in the "Golden Era". At the same time, he deplored the town's lack of facilities.

Buckingham asks for a post-office, not as a reward for unswerving allegiance to the Conservative party, but as an act of simple justice; a recognition of her great importance as a lumbering, as a mining, a manufacturing and a distributing centre.¹²²

Despite all the industry, the rapid growth and the prosperity of the settlement during this period, it remained a frontier settlement in many ways. Each house, even those on Main Street, had a large garden plot beside it.¹²³ Wooden

¹²¹ The Buckingham Post was founded in 1895.

¹²² Ottawa Citizen, December 16, 1893. A post office was built the next year.

¹²³ Ryan, p. 67.

side-walks, often in complete neglect, lined some of the principal streets, which were not even gravelled before 1895¹²⁴ (Plate VIII).

The prosperity brought to Buckingham by the phosphate industry was short-lived. The discovery of similar, more easily excavated, minerals in Tennessee and Florida forced the Buckingham phosphates off the market by 1894.¹²⁵ The area's mining industry did not completely collapse, however, as mica which was also abundant in the Lièvre Valley then became a sought after mineral. "... very shortly after the apatite (phosphate) ceased to be a marketable product, a brisk demand for mica arose."¹²⁶ Unfortunately the mica industry in the Buckingham area was on a much smaller scale than its predecessor. Thus, the decline of phosphate mining, along with the failure of several of the town's smaller industries during the 1890's, meant that the settlement was again forced to rely on just one major industry, lumbering, as the nineteenth century drew to a close. As the twentieth century dawned, however, more permanent industries would emerge in the area, which would stimulate the growth and development of Buckingham once again after 1900.

¹²⁴ Ottawa Citizen, August 20, 1894.

¹²⁵ Adam Shortt and Arthur G. Doughty, (eds.), Canada and its Provinces, Province of Quebec (Toronto: Glasgow, Brook and Co., 1914), Vol. 16, Part 11, p. 588.

¹²⁶ Ibid., p. 589.



Plate VIII. A view of Main Street in 1894. The site of this store, built in 1869, is now occupied by the Alexandra Hotel. Photograph from The Globe, November 7, 1894.

CHAPTER VI

PERIOD OF TRANSITION: 1901 - 1918

The coming of the twentieth century was to witness several changes in the little town, especially with regard to its economic base. Lumbering, the area's only major industry surviving from the nineteenth century, would be joined by pulp manufacturing in 1901 and a chemical works by 1902. The latter two would not only fill much of the void left by the dormant phosphate mines, but they would also be of a more permanent nature. Buoyed up by the lumbering, pulp and chemical industries, the town would soon approach the prestigious position it had held only a few years earlier.

In 1901 the James Maclaren Company constructed a ground wood pulp mill at Dufferin Falls,¹²⁷ with a capacity of 60 tons of pulp per day.¹²⁸ The pulp trade emerged in Buckingham at this time due to the area's abundance of two of this industry's vital resources, electricity and black spruce, combined with a growing demand for ground wood pulp the United States.¹²⁹ During the same year the Maclarens

¹²⁷ Buckingham Post, March 6, 1908.

¹²⁸ 75th Anniversary Souvenir Program, Town of Buckingham, P.Q. (Buckingham: Le Bulletin de Buckingham Inc., 1965), p. 33. The grinders were propelled by hydraulic turbines.

¹²⁹ Threlfall, p. 281.

purchased all Ross Brothers' property, including their saw mill at Dufferin Falls and timber limits along the Rivière du Lièvre.¹³⁰ The Maclaren company then carried on its lumbering business opposite its pulp mill, utilizing the Ross saw mill.¹³¹ The pulp and lumber operations of the James Maclaren Company employed as many as 600 men in this period.¹³²

A small chemical works had been begun at Upper Falls as early as 1896 by William T. Gibbs.¹³³ However, it was not until six years later that the heretofore experimental venture was put on a sound economic basis. In 1902 controlling interests in Gibbs' little works were purchased by Albright and Wilson Limited of Oldbury, England.¹³⁴ The new company was incorporated under the name of the Electric Reduction Company, and is now the town's major industry. The English firm apparently realized the value of Gibbs' work,¹³⁵

¹³⁰Buckingham Post, June 25, 1965, p. 20.

¹³¹By this transaction the Maclaren company became dominant owners of the timber rights as well as the undeveloped water power of the Lièvre Valley.

¹³²Buckingham Post, March 6, 1908.

¹³³Gibbs had come to Buckingham in 1890 as chemist to a London-owned phosphate company. When the mine closed in 1894 he decided to apply his experience of electrical processes to the development of local phosphates. Two years later he purchased the site (including wing dam, office and two generators) formerly occupied by the Buckingham Pulp Company. Threlfall, p. 281-282.

¹³⁴Threlfall, p. 289.

¹³⁵Many of Gibbs' formulas are still in use today. Buckingham Post, February 16, 1962.

but it also took advantage of the availability of inexpensive electricity at Buckingham. "Cheap coal was no longer the key to cheap production; the key became cheap electricity; and that is why our story will shift to Niagara Falls, U.S.A., and to Buckingham, Canada"136

By 1906 Buckingham showed further signs of casting off its image as a frontier settlement. In that year the town began to pave its principal streets and to construct cement sidewalks.¹³⁷ By the end of the "Period of Transition" most of this work had been completed - quite a change from the previous era when dirt streets, lined with often neglected plank walks, were characteristic.

The following quotation from the Buckingham Post gives some idea of the importance of Buckingham in this period.

... we are a town practically on the main transcontinental line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, of 4,000 population, and have several extensive businesses depending entirely upon the outside world for their success. Our domestic and foreign trade is undoubtedly the largest of any point between Ottawa and Montreal,¹³⁸

Later in the same year the paper noted the settlement's rapid growth since the turn of the century. "Since the summer of 1901, houses have been going up on both sides, particularly on the east side" of Main Street, between the present Presbyterian Church and the northern boundary of the Roman

¹³⁶Threlfall, p. 94.

¹³⁷Buckingham Post, August 23, 1907.

¹³⁸Ibid., February 12, 1909.

Catholic cemetery.¹³⁹ The results of the 1911 census further attest to the town's growth at this time. Between 1901 and 1911 Buckingham's population increased from 2,936 to 3,854.¹⁴⁰

The outbreak of World War I seems to have acted as a check on the town's growth and development. The "Chemical" which had been buying a high grade of phosphate ore from Germany had their supply choked off when war was declared.¹⁴¹ This proved a costly setback for the company as "lower grades had to be bought at five to ten times the pre-war price, from sources so far apart as Abyssinia and California."¹⁴² Besides this problem encountered by the chemical industry, the town's other major industries experienced difficulties at this time due to a decline in world markets. According to A.R.M. Lower, "all production and business came to a stand-still" in 1914, 1915 and part of 1916.¹⁴³

In the latter half of 1916, however, the war began to affect Buckingham's industries, and hence the settlement, in a very different manner owing to the growing demands of the war at this time.¹⁴⁴ Besides a brisk demand for lumber to

¹³⁹Ibid., October 29, 1909.

¹⁴⁰Department of Trade and Commerce, Fifth Census of Canada, 1911. Areas and Population by Provinces Districts and Sub-districts, Vol. I, Table 1, p. 106.

¹⁴¹Threlfall, p. 295.

¹⁴²Ibid.

¹⁴³Lower, The North American Assault ..., p. 192.

¹⁴⁴Ibid.

be used in shipbuilding,¹⁴⁵ a large quantity of phosphorus was required to make smoke screens.¹⁴⁶ The Electric Reduction Company sent several shipments of phosphorus to England during the latter part of the war, as well as shipping 495,000 pounds of this product to the United States War Department in 1918.¹⁴⁷

In 1919 the population of Buckingham was 3,838,¹⁴⁸ which revealed a loss of 16 persons since 1911. In addition to the problems associated with a fluctuating economy during the war years, war losses, influenza and non-returning veterans¹⁴⁹ contributed to the town's lack of growth in the latter third of this period.

During this "Period of Transition" two of the Buckingham area's major industries, pulp and chemicals, were established. These industries, along with the traditional lumber trade, assured the town of prosperity in the first decade of this century. This prosperity was reflected in the erection of many homes, the introduction of paved streets

¹⁴⁵Whitton, p. 76.

¹⁴⁶Threlfall, p. 295.

¹⁴⁷Ibid., p. 296.

¹⁴⁸According to a municipal census of Buckingham. Buckingham Post, January 3, 1919.

¹⁴⁹Many British immigrants who came to Canada in the decade 1901-1911 returned to their homeland as members of the armed forces and did not return to Canada after the war. DBS, Seventh Census of Canada, 1931. Summary, Vol. 1, p. 74-75.

and concrete sidewalks and a substantial population increment by 1911. During the war years, however, the growth and development of the town were generally retarded. By 1919 Buckingham's population showed a decrease for the first time since it had been recorded. After the war there were signs of progress once again in the area; the settlement was moving into a new stage of its evolution.

CHAPTER VII

POST WAR BOOM AND DEPRESSION: 1919 - 1939

After the termination of World War I the people of Buckingham began the huge task of restoring their town to its lofty eminence of a decade earlier. Within a year of the cessation of hostilities the Electric Reduction Company began to expand its facilities. During the same year a large felspar mine was opened in the area, which would contribute to the town's economy to the present. A year later the James Maclaren Company renovated part of its pulp mill. The town seemed to be well on its way to recovery, although it was to meet with a host of difficulties in the early 1930's.

In 1919 the Electric Reduction Company constructed a new dam and power house at Upper Falls.¹⁵⁰ This was only the first of several forward steps that the company would make in this period. At the same time a large felspar mine was opened a few miles north of the town by O'Brien and Fowler.¹⁵¹ Buckingham felspar, of a very high quality and of a colour peculiar to the Lièvre Valley, soon became a commodity sought after by both European and American manufacturers.¹⁵²

¹⁵⁰Threlfall, p. 296.

¹⁵¹Buckingham Post, July 2, 1965. The mining companies north of Buckingham continued to transport most of their ore via the Rivière du Lièvre until 1939.

¹⁵²Buckingham Post, July 2, 1965.

The felspar industry provided employment for many Buckingham men during this period. Quartz, a by-product of the felspar mine, and graphite mining also gave work to several of the area's citizens.¹⁵³

In 1920 the Maclaren company built new headworks for their pulp mill at Dufferin Falls, to replace the original structure erected in 1901.¹⁵⁴ A further indication that the settlement was on the road to recovery may be noted in the volume of local trade during the fall of that year. Extra help had to be hired at the C.P.R. station to handle the greatly increased freight, as both major companies were making heavy daily shipments of their products.¹⁵⁵ At this time Maclaren's exports¹⁵⁶ included ground wood pulp and lumber, mainly destined for the United States.¹⁵⁷ White phosphorus seems to have been the "Chemical's" main export until 1933.¹⁵⁸

¹⁵³Ibid.

¹⁵⁴Ibid., June 25, 1920.

¹⁵⁵Ibid., October 8, 1920.

¹⁵⁶Following the decline of barge traffic on the Ottawa River after World War I, the Maclaren company began to ship both their ground pulp and lumber via rail directly from Buckingham. Threlfall, p. 279.

¹⁵⁷Buckingham Post, October 8, 1920.

¹⁵⁸After production of this material ceased at oldbury in 1919, the Buckingham plant supplied England's total wants until 1933. Threlfall, p. 211.

The town received a temporary setback in 1921 due to the depression in trade in Canada during that year.¹⁵⁹ Buckingham's two major concerns were forced to discontinue production for a few months in the summer of 1921, although each company managed to keep a large number of its employees at work on various construction jobs.¹⁶⁰

By 1922 the town's economic situation was greatly improved and this trend continued until 1927, when the settlement probably reached the peak of its prosperity in this period. In addition to those employed by the smaller enterprises in the area, the James Maclaren Company and the Electric Reduction Company employed a total of 875 men that year.¹⁶¹ "With all our industries running full time and full handed the town is prosperous."¹⁶²

Riding the crest of the post war boom Maclaren's seized the opportunity to fulfill a long-held goal - the erection of a paper mill. From their experience with the pulp mill at Dufferin Falls, it had become obvious that regulation of the river's flow had to precede the construction of a newsprint plant.¹⁶³ Thus, in 1928, the company began a series of projects along the Rivière du Lièvre, which would culminate in a much more efficient use of the river's energy.

¹⁵⁹ Lower, The North American Assault ..., p. 194.

¹⁶⁰ Buckingham Post, June 25, 1965, p. 19.

¹⁶¹ Ibid.

¹⁶² Ibid., November 4, 1927.

¹⁶³ Threlfall, p. 299.

In co-operation with the Streams Commission, Whitefish Lake¹⁶⁴ was converted into a storage reservoir by the erection of a 30 foot dam at its outlet.¹⁶⁵ A few miles south-east of this outlet a new dam and four-generator power house was built at High Falls (Fig. 1), with a generating capacity of 120,000 H.P.¹⁶⁶ A second power house was then erected at Masson with a capacity of 125,000 H.P. The greatly increased hydro-electric power produced by these plants allowed the tripling of the output of the pulp mill, and also provided the power necessary to operate a paper mill.¹⁶⁸

For a number of reasons, among which was a better location in relation to transportation facilities, Maclaren's decided to build their newsprint mill at Masson¹⁶⁹ (Fig. 1). In any case, "with the development of long-distance transmission of electric energy, proximity to the source of the water power was no longer of vital importance in the location of industries using hydro-electric power."¹⁷⁰ The evolution of hydro-electricity into a highly mobile source of power had thus made Buckingham's site obsolete for all its major

¹⁶⁴This lake is the largest in the Lièvre Valley, with an area of about 38 square miles.

¹⁶⁵Threlfall, p. 300.

¹⁶⁶75th Anniversary Souvenir Program ..., p. 33.

¹⁶⁷Ibid.

¹⁶⁸Ibid.

¹⁶⁹The pulp ground at Dufferin Falls was sent to Masson in a fluid state via a 24 inch wood stave pipe line.

¹⁷⁰Threlfall, p. 299.

industries by 1930. However, as Masson is only three miles distant from the town,¹⁷¹ the growth and development of the "fall-line" settlement does not seem to have been adversely affected by the decision to locate the paper mill at Masson.¹⁷² Buckingham people apparently have preferred to remain in their home town and commute to work each day since that time.

The prosperity enjoyed by the settlement after 1922 is indicated by a substantial increase in population during the twenties, in contrast with the previous decade. By 1931 the town's population numbered 4,638 persons compared with 3,835 in 1921.¹⁷³ One may gain some idea of the form as well as the extent of the town at this time by an analysis of Fig. 7. The railway siding, built off the C.P.R. spur line, led to Maclaren's lumber piling yard on the east bank of the river.

In the early thirties Buckingham, like other Canadian communities, began to feel the effects of the "depression". However, as a result of the extra employment associated with the Maclaren projects, the townfolk did not suffer greatly

¹⁷¹The two settlements were connected by a road passable for motor traffic at least as early as 1910. Buckingham Post, February 18, 1910.

¹⁷²It should be noted that Buckingham has always offered a much greater range of services than Masson. The former has a variety of large stores while the latter has only a few. In addition, Buckingham has many facilities that Masson does not have including a hospital, an arena, a high school and churches of various denominations, to name a few.

¹⁷³DBS. Census of Canada, 1931. Population, Vol. II, Table 21, p. 193.

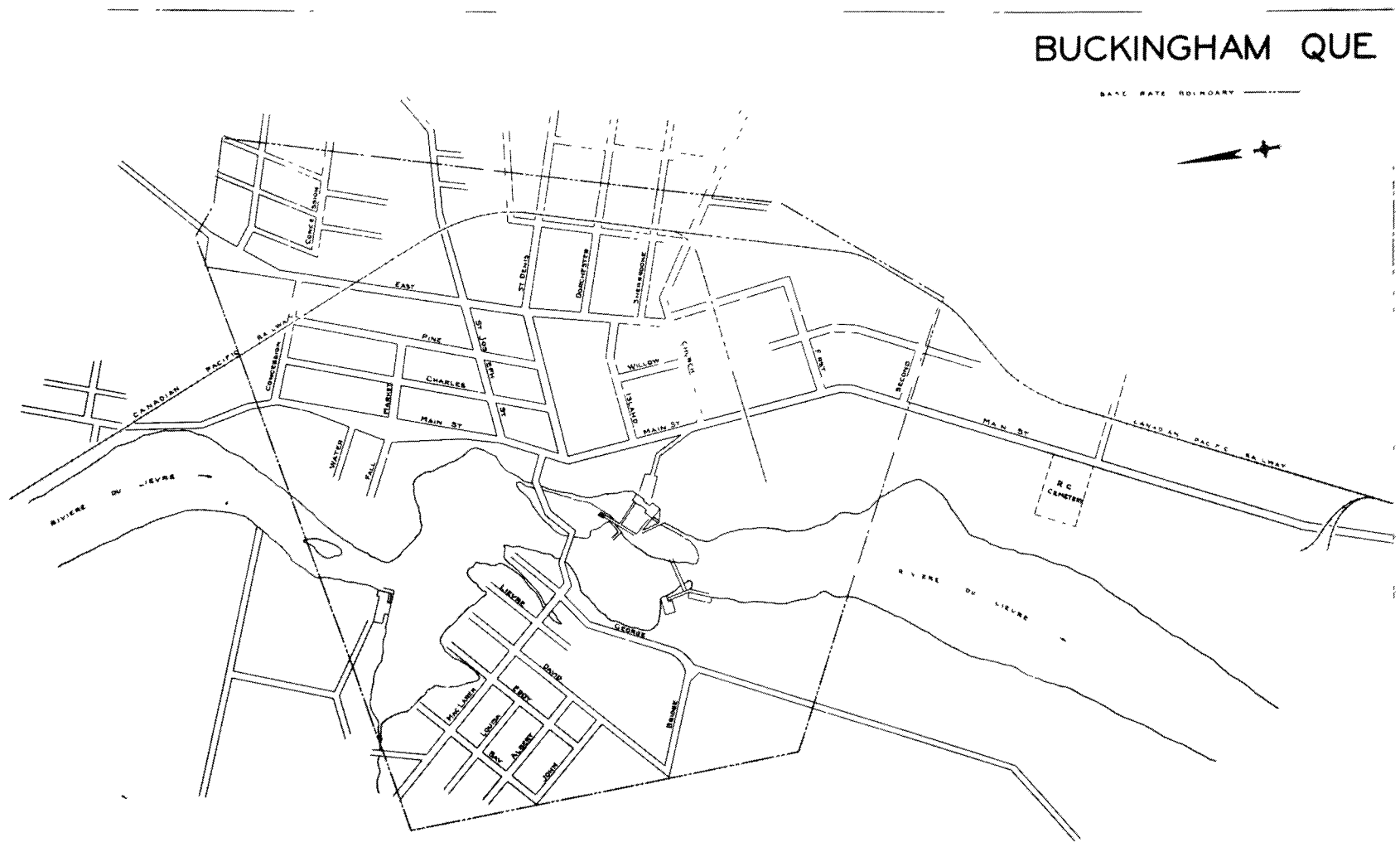


Fig. 7. Plan of Buckingham in 1931. Compiled by the Bell Telephone Company of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario. Scale approximately 1:15,000.

until after 1931. In that year the manager of a Buckingham bank wrote that "the money put into circulation during the development has helped local conditions very materially."¹⁷⁴ In 1932, however, there were 109 families on relief in Buckingham,¹⁷⁵ and the situation would have been worse had it not been for relief works¹⁷⁶ carried out in the town during that year and the next. A municipal census taken in 1933 records a total population of 4,478,¹⁷⁷ which indicates that the settlement had lost a total of 160 persons since 1931.

By 1934 the town's industrial enterprises began to recover from the "depression". During that year the Electric Reduction expanded its facilities and increased its production, with the result that the company's payroll grew from about 100 in 1931¹⁷⁸ to 170 persons in 1934.¹⁷⁹ As well, mining once again employed several men, after being abandoned since 1930.¹⁸⁰ The lumber, pulp and paper industries also increased their sales as a result of improved markets in the

¹⁷⁴ Ibid., June 25, 1965, p. 19.

¹⁷⁵ Buckingham Post, September 15, 1933.

¹⁷⁶ During 1932 and 1933 a series of projects, such as the construction of streets, sidewalks, sewers, water works, and other renovations of the "townscape", were initiated to aid the large numbers of unemployed. The federal and provincial governments shared the cost of the labour involved in all projects. Ibid.

¹⁷⁷ Buckingham Post, September 15, 1933.

¹⁷⁸ Personal communication with Clarence H. Living, former paymaster at the Electric Reduction Company. June, 1967.

¹⁷⁹ Buckingham Post, November 2, 1934.

¹⁸⁰ Ibid., September 14, 1934.

United States and Britain.

Throughout the remainder of the 1930's the town slowly regained the prosperity which it had so quickly lost during the worst years of the "depression". However, the later's adverse effects on Buckingham were still in evidence in the census of 1941. From 1931 to 1941 the settlement's population decreased by 122 individuals.¹⁸¹ This loss represents the sharpest decline for any ten year period in the history of the town.

Although Buckingham enjoyed real prosperity for only a few years in the mid-twenties, this period was remarkable for the expansion which took place in the area's major industrial concerns. The town itself was characterized by a lack of building construction, with only one large structure of note being erected - the Buckingham Arena. As the 1930's came to a close the settlement's economic conditions were generally improved, but it was the outbreak of World War II which would launch Buckingham into its second golden era.

¹⁸¹

DBS, Census of Canada, 1941. Population, Vol. II, Table 32, p. 386.

CHAPTER VIII

MODERN PERIOD: 1940 - 1967

Coincident with the second world war and the two succeeding decades, Buckingham experienced a second golden era. Mainly as a result of the war, new and larger foreign markets were made available to the area's chemical, pulp and paper industries.¹⁸² These industries responded to the new demand for their products by expanding markedly after 1940. The town accordingly prospered, and this prosperity was reflected in the erection of several fine structures and a rapid population growth during this period.

By 1941 the Electric Reduction Company, one of the town's two major industries since the turn of the century, already showed the dramatic and direct effects of the war. During that year the company's phosphorus production was expanded to meet wartime needs.¹⁸³ Its number of employees had reached 587,¹⁸⁴ or about twice that of any other time during the previous period. The company continued to expand its facilities in the next few years, including "Project 29",

¹⁸² For the first time in the history of the town lumbering was relegated to a minor role in Buckingham's economy.

¹⁸³ Buckingham Post, June 25, 1965.

¹⁸⁴ Personal communication with Clarence H. Living. June, 1967.

which was instituted to construct phosphorus smoke boxes and hand grenades for the armed forces. This project employed about 100 persons between 1942 and 1946, so that the Electric Reduction Company had as many as 700 employees on its payroll during the war years. In 1951 the company had 501¹⁸⁵ hourly employed workers, not including members of staff.

The Maclaren pulp and paper company, which had struggled for its very existence during much of the previous decade, was also rejuvenated in the early 1940's. After the outbreak of the war, the Scandinavian paper mills, which had been the United States' largest suppliers of newsprint, were cut off from their American customer.¹⁸⁶ The Americans then turned to Canada for the bulk of their newsprint orders. Maclaren's also protected by proration,¹⁸⁷ began to ship large orders of newsprint and ground pulp to the United States and have done so ever since. This company, now the most stable industry in the Buckingham area, has employed about 300 men throughout the "Modern Period".

Although both Maclaren's and the "Chemical" experienced tremendous growth and development during the war years,

¹⁸⁵ Threlfall, p. 306.

¹⁸⁶ Buckingham Post, December 26, 1941.

¹⁸⁷ Established in 1938 by the governments of Ontario and Quebec, this was a system of sharing newsprint orders so that each mill would get a just proportion of the available orders.

few other changes in the settlement were in evidence until the end of the war. This was due in large part to government restrictions and shortages of both building materials and manpower. Shortly after the war, however, this latent prosperity began to manifest itself in the construction of many fine buildings, a bridge, and the introduction of new industry.

In 1946 the old wooden covered bridge, built in 1867, was finally replaced by a steel and concrete structure capable of handling auto and truck traffic. The new bridge greatly facilitated travel between the two sectors of the town, as well as modifying its appearance, especially at the eastern approaches. It also marked the beginning of a general improvement in transport facilities in the Buckingham area during this period.

It will materially change the outlook of Main Street and do away with a nasty and dangerous approach to the main thoroughfare of the town, as well as be a marked improvement to the longer way around to the hill¹⁸⁸ with its dangerous twists and turns.¹⁸⁹

The next year a new high school was erected in the west ward to replace the old structure on Church Street, which had served since the "Golden Era". When it was built it was one of the most modern and best equipped schools in

¹⁸⁸The old bridge was built below the level of the river banks. This left an escarpment to be mounted on either side, being most marked on the east side where it was known to the local people as the "hill".

¹⁸⁹Buckingham Post, May 2, 1947.

Canada. In about 1960 a wing was added to seat additional students as the main building was already overcrowded, an indication of the town's rapid growth during this period. This high school was the first of four fine schools to be erected in the "Modern Period". It was on this site that Justus Smith had constructed the settlement's first building - a log shanty.

During the late 1940's several manufacturing companies attempted to establish branches in Buckingham. Attractive forces included the availability of water, cheap electricity, a railway system, cheap labour and a large building fit for industrial purposes. Among the companies desiring to locate in the town were the Canadian International Paper Company, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Rainbow Plastics Limited and the Chipman Chemical Company. However, for reasons which are not entirely clear, only the latter two managed to establish in Buckingham.

In 1947 Rainbow Plastics Limited purchased the building left vacant by "Project 29" for a rather low sum, and began producing a variety of plastic articles, including dishes. This company employed approximately 100 persons for about 10 years, until it was forced out of business in the 1950's by market competition and increasing labour costs. The building was then taken over by Cyanamid of Canada Limited (Plate IX), also a manufacturer of plastic goods, which remains in operation today.

The Chipman Chemical Company of Winnipeg, Manitoba,

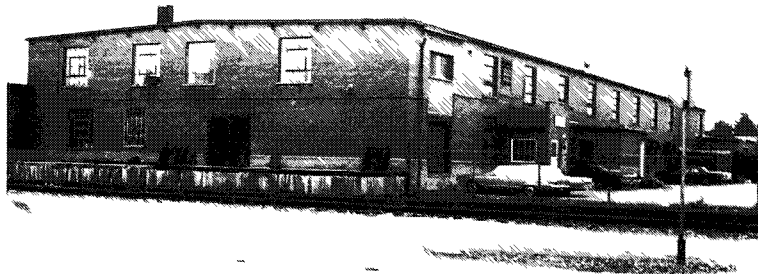


Plate IX. This building was erected in 1942 for "Project 29". It was purchased in 1947 by Rainbow Plastics Limited. After the latter company disbanded, the structure was taken over by Cyanamid of Canada Limited.

began operations in the town in 1949. This company converts a by-product of the Electric Reduction Company into a powerful weed killer, used to spray the railroad rights of way across Canada. Its several employees have contributed to the life of the town since that time.

The census of 1951 reflects the growth and prosperity of the town during the 1940's. The 1951 total of 6,129¹⁹⁰ was a gain of 1,613 since 1941. This was the greatest numerical increase for any decade in the history of the settlement, and is in marked contrast with the net loss recorded at the close of the previous decade.

During the 1950's Buckingham maintained its prosperity as a result of a healthy economy based mainly on the area's pulp and paper and chemical industries. The building boom continued during this decade, and the population accordingly increased. In 1951 a new convent was erected to replace the old structure which had been used since the 1890's. Five years later St. Michel's College for boys was built, similarly to replace an outdated structure from the "Golden Era".

Although much of the Lièvre River, between Masson and High Falls (Fig. 1), had been altered in earlier periods by heightening falls or by otherwise changing the level of the water, one of the most drastic alterations took place within the town limits in 1959. In that year a power plant, with a rated capacity of 50,000 H.P.,¹⁹¹ was constructed at

¹⁹⁰DBS, Census of Canada, 1951. General Characteristics, Vol. I, Table 6.

¹⁹¹75th Anniversary Souvenir Program ..., p. 33.

Dufferin Falls. The erection of this power station necessitated the changing of the river's course so that the main current now flows over the historic falls only during periods of high water. This development, combined with the erection of a new pulp mill in Masson, eliminated the pulp mill at Buckingham. Since then both pulp and paper are produced at Masson. The shell of the old pulp mill still stands at Dufferin Falls, serving as a reminder of the giant role it played in the town's development since the turn of the century. It is still too soon to determine to what extent the transfer of pulp operations to Masson will affect Buckingham.

Fig. 8, drawn in 1959, is the latest plan available for the town. Comparing Fig. 8 with Fig. 7, representing the previous period, one notes a few interesting changes. Besides the growth around the periphery, perhaps the most obvious changes are the removal of a railway siding and the more direct approaches of the new bridge. This siding, built to serve a huge lumber yard of the James Maclaren Company on the east bank of the river, has since been replaced by streets and residences.

A glance at Fig. 8 also gives a good indication of the ethnic character of the settlement, in both distribution and numbers. Street names in the eastern section of the town indicate that most of the residents of that part of Buckingham are of French origin. In the west ward, street names reflect British origins. As the east ward comprises about 75 percent of the settlement's total population, it follows

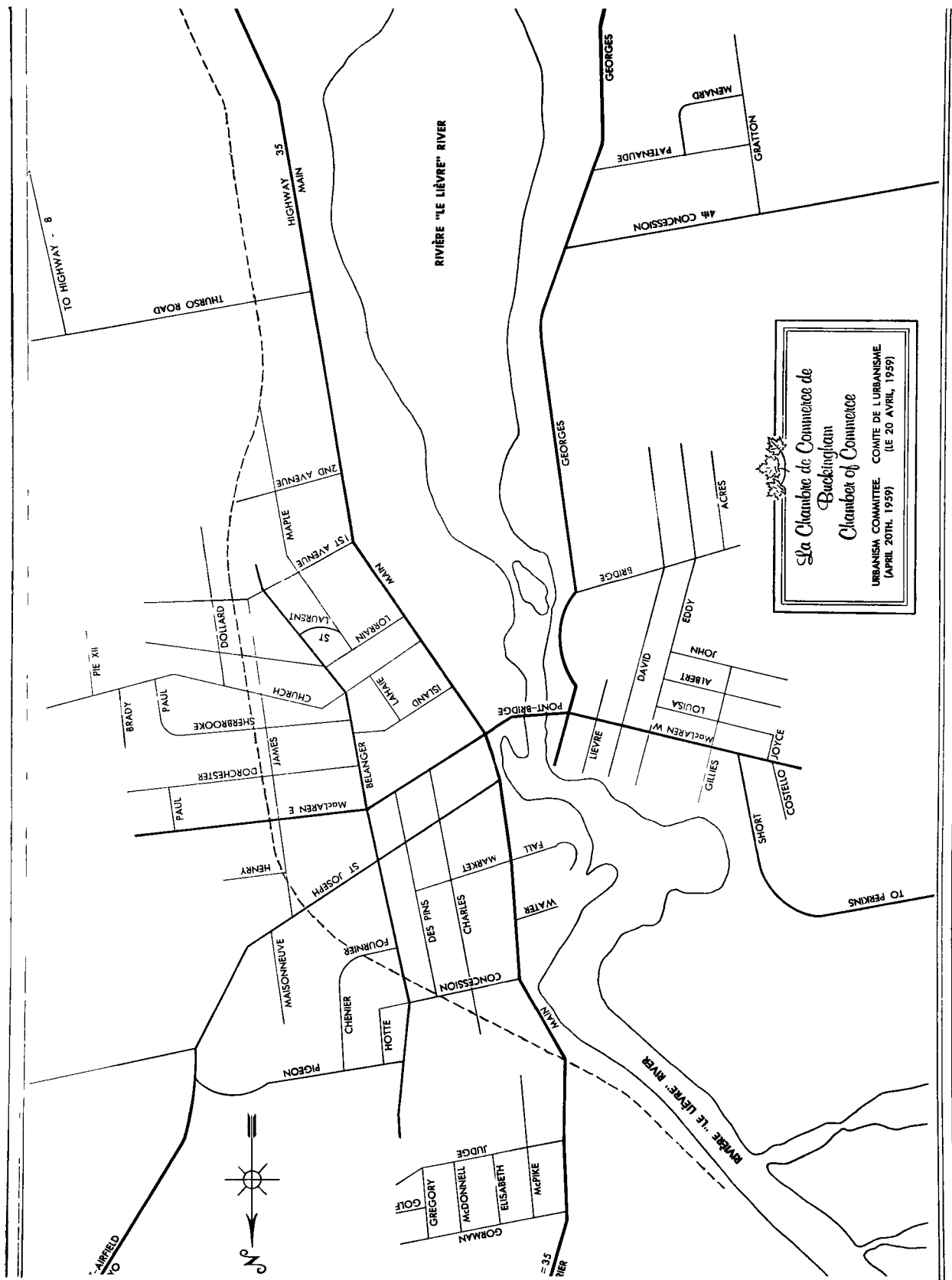


Fig. 8. Plan of Buckingham in 1959. Scale approximately 1:15,000.

that about three-quarters of the town's inhabitants are of French extraction. In 1941 about 72 percent of the town's residents were of French origin.¹⁹² Another indication of the ethnic distribution may be derived by analyzing the distribution of churches and schools in Fig. 9. This plan of Buckingham (1952) shows that all the Catholic churches and schools are located in the east ward, where as the Protestant school and two of the four Protestant churches are found in the western sector.

By 1961 the population of Buckingham had risen to 7,421,¹⁹³ which represents a gain almost comparable to that of the previous decade. This addition of 1,292 persons since 1951 again reflected the prosperity of the town during the fifties.

During the 1960's several new homes have been built, especially in the west ward, as well as a new town hall. However, despite these signs of prosperity and growth, the town has lost a total of 204 persons since 1961.¹⁹⁴ One reason for this decline may be traced to recent curtailments in operations at the Electric Reduction Company. The "Chemical" now has only about 300 employees as compared with a high of almost 700 during the war.

¹⁹² DBS, Eighth Census of Canada, 1941, Vol. II, Table 32, pp. 386 - 387.

¹⁹³ DBS, Census of Canada, 1961. Population, Vol. I, Part 1, Table 5.

¹⁹⁴ DBS, Census of Canada, 1966. Population, Vol. I, Table 9.

During this period Buckingham experienced its greatest prosperity and most rapid growth and development since the "Golden Era". Besides the general improvement in economic conditions in Canada as a whole, the area's industries have until recently provided the settlement with a stable economy. On this economic base the town flourished, as is reflected in the number of fine structures erected and large population gains made in the 1940's and 1950's. Since about 1961, however, the settlement's population has declined sharply.

CHAPTER IX

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

As early as 1799 attempts had been made to attract settlers to Buckingham Township. However, all efforts met with little success in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. By 1822 only a few families had taken up residence in the southern part of the township bordering the Ottawa River.

The township's first settlement, Buckingham Mills, arose when nearby New Englanders arrived in the Lièvre Valley to exploit its virgin timbers and water power. Saw mills, to produce squared timbers for Britain, were built at Dufferin Falls in 1824 and 1826. The erection of these mills was followed by an influx of pioneers to the site, and resulted in the founding of the settlement by 1827. After 1830, however, Buckingham Mills showed little evidence of further growth until about 1850. Buckingham's pattern of development during this pioneer stage was not unique, as many settlements in the Ottawa and its tributary valleys have a like genesis.

At mid-century the timber industry began to be replaced by the more lucrative sawn lumber trade. As a result, Buckingham Mills' lumber concerns were rejuvenated in the early 1850's. This expansion in the settlement's industry

was followed by a building boom and a rapid population growth for more than two decades. At the same time Buckingham began to take the form it exhibits today, being incorporated as a village in 1855. Again, the evolution of the settlement in this period (1851 - 1879) was typical of several Ottawa Valley settlements.

The commencement of phosphate mining in the Lièvre Valley ushered Buckingham into its "Golden Era". The prosperity brought to the settlement by the mining operations, in addition to the lumber trade, was reflected in a large population increment and the construction of many fine buildings between 1880 and 1900. In this era the town, incorporated in 1890, became the most important centre between Hull and Montreal. This stage in the town's development appears to have been atypical of Ottawa Valley settlements, as many of the latter group probably experienced an extension of the previous period until the turn of the century.

As the twentieth century dawned, the last of the phosphate mines were closed but much of the void they left was filled by the emergence of pulp manufacturing and a chemical works by 1902. These new industries, along with the traditional lumber trade, assured the town of prosperity for more than a decade. The net effects of the first world war, however, contributed to a slight decrease in the settlement's population by 1919. Buckingham's pattern of development, with the exception of its chemical industry which was unique in Canada, was closely paralleled by several Ottawa Valley

towns during this period of transition.

After the war there were signs of progress once again in the town, as its major industrial enterprises began to expand their facilities. After a temporary setback in 1921, due to depressed conditions in Canada, the settlement's trade improved yearly so that the town enjoyed a short period of prosperity in the mid-twenties. Capitalizing on this economic resurgence, the Maclaren company began a series of projects along the Rivière du Lièvre in 1928, which culminated in the erection of a paper mill at Masson. The construction associated with these projects had the immediate effect of delaying depressed conditions in Buckingham until 1932. After two years of severe depression, the settlement began to recuperate by 1934 as witnessed by the increased production at local plants. This trend continued throughout the remainder of the thirties, although some of the effects of the "depression" were still apparent in the 1941 census.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of this period (1919 - 1939) was Maclaren's decision to locate their newsprint mill at Masson, which is a more favourable location in relation to transportation facilities than Buckingham (Fig. 1). This move, permitted by the development of long-range transmission of electric energy, signalled the passing of the "fall line" site as a factor in the location of industries using hydro-electric power. However, as Masson is only three miles distant, the town's growth does not seem to have been adversely affected by the Maclaren decision.

Buckingham people, employed at the paper mill, have apparently preferred to reside in their home town and commute to work each day since that time.

The outbreak of the second world war, through its dramatic effects on world markets, stimulated the growth and development of the area's industrial concerns. This industrial expansion was followed by the erection of a series of fine structures and resulted in a large population increment by 1961. Since then, however, there has been a sharp decrease in the town's population. Here, the obvious question arises as to why this decline occurred at a time when most settlements in the Ottawa Valley, including Masson,¹⁹⁵ were enjoying relative prosperity. The answer seems to be bound up in the settlement's site and situation.

One may recall that the townsite's obsolescence had been indicated three decades earlier when the Maclaren company built its paper mill at Masson. Further evidence of the passing value of the "fall line" site was revealed when the same company transferred its pulp mill to Masson in 1959. These moves also pointed to the fact that Buckingham's "spur line" location is not ideal with regard to transportation facilities. This means that given the choice to move elsewhere, due to the mobility of electric energy, industries will tend not to choose Buckingham as a place to locate.

¹⁹⁵ Masson's population increased from 1,933 in 1961 to 2,249 in 1966. DBS, 1966 Census of Canada. Population, Vol. I, Table 9.

Only when the Electric Reduction Company, for reasons similar to those of the Maclaren company, began to transfer elements of its production to Varennes, Quebec, Port Maitland, Ontario, and Vancouver, British Columbia, did the citizens of the town suffer, however. Maclaren's actions had not induced large numbers of Buckingham people to migrate to Masson because the latter settlement is only three miles distant. But the "Chemical's" new plants are all far removed from the area. Thus, as employment declines at the Electric Reduction Company, (501 in 1951 to 300 in 1967), those involved must move to one of the new sites or seek employment outside the Buckingham area. Therefore, it is not surprising that the town has begun to decline.

It is difficult to predict the future of the "fall line" town, but if present trends continue it will probably suffer a further loss of population in the next few years. Buckingham will not disappear because it is still a fairly important service center¹⁹⁶ due to its location in the Lièvre Valley and because it has a number of good stores, schools, churches and other service facilities, built when the town was a flourishing industrial centre. Its future as an industrial town, however, seems doubtful as few industries will find its "spur line" or "fall line" location any incentive to locate in the settlement.

¹⁹⁶Further research is required to determine its present role and future possibilities as a service center.

APPENDIX

TABLE 1 - SOME EARLY SETTLERS (1823 - 1830)¹

Name	Arrived	Lot	Range
Justus Smith	1823	11	4
Mr. Mathews	1823		
Clement Eaton	1823		
Daniel Dale	1823		
Samuel Lough	1823		
Baxter Bowman	1823		
Patrick McFaul	1823		
Mr. Hall	1823		
Levi Bigelow	1824 ²	10	3
Amos Donnelly	C.1824	12	5
Isaac Kendall	1825	8	3
Major Corning	1825	8	3
James Smith and sons	1826	13,14,15	6
Robert Donnelly	1826	14	5
John Mar	C.1826	13	5
Robert Ackert	1826	14	5
James Stewart	C.1826	20	5
John Cameron	C.1826	16	5
John Price and Mr. Page	C.1826	21,22,23	5
Soloman Cole	C.1826	16,17	7
Elisha Newton	C.1826	13	8
Marcus Childs	1825 or 26	12	4
Simedore Noyes	1826	12	4
Narren Noyes	1826	12	4
Adam Devenny	1826		
Thomas Burke	1827		
Onisimus Larwill	1827	17	2
Mr. Jamson and sons	C.1827	4,5,6,	5,7
Samuel Lough	1829	7	6
Lewis Dunning	1829	8	6
Constantine O'Neill	C.1830	8	4

¹Most of this information was derived from Justus Smith's great grand-daughter's essay in the Buckingham Post, 1899. The majority of these settlers were accompanied by their families.

²Also owned other lots.

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