

## Isabella Valancy Crawford (1853 – 1887)

Isabella's family was cultured and well-educated but suffered through much hardship. Her father was a doctor who struggled to make a living for his wife and twelve children, nine of whom died by the time they moved to Lakefield. In Peterborough, they lived in a house on Brock Street and in a tenement where Peterborough Square now stands. Isabella's father was also an alcoholic and a convicted embezzler of public funds. After he died, Isabella moved to Toronto with her mother where they lived in two rooms over a grocer's. Her poetry, published in local papers, was well received but not reimbursed. It did, however, start to bring her some attention. She won a \$400 award for her writing in a local contest. Unfortunately, the company supplying the award money went out of business before she could collect any money. Another time she sent a beautiful piece of embroidery which she had worked on for a year to the Chicago Exhibition only to have it lost in the mail. She died of heart disease at age 34 in 1887 and is buried here. In 1900 her friends and admirers erected a monument featuring a seven-foot Celtic cross.

## The Barnardo Monuments (1880 – 1922)

Thomas Barnardo, a Methodist preacher living in England, recognized the plight of huge numbers of homeless British children and initiated a plan to place 370,000 children around the world in family homes and farms. Over 10,000 girls and boys came to Peterborough to work as domestic servants and farm labourers. The children buried here died while living at Hazelbrae and were mostly between the ages of 9-21. The original headstone resides at Trent Valley Archives (where it is protected from the elements).

## Camperdown Elm Tree

In and around 1840, the Earl of Camperdown's head forester, David Taylor, discovered a mutant contorted branch growing along the ground in the forest at Camperdown House, in Dundee, Scotland. The earl's gardener produced the first Camperdown Elm by grafting it to the trunk of a Wych Elm (*Ulmus glabra*). Every Camperdown Elm in the world is from a cutting

taken from that original cutting and is usually grafted on a Wych elm trunk. Camperdown Elms are used in stately landscaping throughout the Commonwealth, often as memorials in private gardens, or on university campuses. Given its unique heritage, the grounds keepers continue to nurture this increasingly fragile tree.



Camperdown Elm on a winter's morn.

## Sheriff James Hall

Although worn by age, this limestone monument identifies the resting place of Sheriff James Hall (1802 -1882). Born in Scotland, James was one of the founders of Little Lake Cemetery and assisted in drafting the legislation that would allow for the establishment of Little Lake Cemetery as a private trust. A civil engineer, successful businessman, local sheriff, twice mayor and a Member of Parliament, James Hall had the first brick house in Peterborough, and established the village's first tannery at Aylmer and Brock St. His obituary read,

*“no one in Peterborough lived more universally beloved, or died more universally regretted”.*

## The Little Lake Chapel

*(originally 1878, restored 1999)*

The chapel was originally envisioned by Passmore as a neo-Gothic, carpenter style, buff brick building with a corner tower, within the 1850 survey and plans. In 1877, following a very profitable year for the cemetery, the time seemed right to proceed with its construction and Alfred Belcher, brother of one of Peterborough's best known architects John Belcher, was hired to design this mortuary chapel. Some wrongly believed that this broke with the non-denominational character of the cemetery.

However, the Directors knew these criticisms were unreasonable, and that the chapel was primarily a decorative landmark and a convenience during inclement weather, with the basement to be used for winter interments. The chapel was restored in 1999 and won a Peterborough Historical Society's Heritage Award. This outstanding landmark is currently used for special events.



TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES

Little Lake Cemetery Company thanks Trent Valley Archives for their generous support and research on the heritage of our Cemetery and Company. Much of this brochure is taken from the book, "Little Lake Cemetery A Public Trust is a Beautiful Thing" written by Elwood H. Jones to mark the 160th anniversary of Little Lake Cemetery Co. To purchase a copy of this full colour book, or to find out about guided cemetery tours and special heritage events, visit [www.trentvalleyarchives.com](http://www.trentvalleyarchives.com).

## LITTLE LAKE CEMETERY CO. OPERATES:

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LITTLE LAKE  
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**A Self Guided Tour of  
Historic Little Lake Cemetery  
since 1850**

*As you tour the cemetery, sign posts identify a number of marked monuments and sites of significance. We hope you will enjoy your tour, and embrace over 160 years of regional history, architecture, landscaping and local stories.*

## AN INTRODUCTION TO LITTLE LAKE CEMETERY CO.

Little Lake Cemetery was founded in 1850 and was the first community non-profit cemetery in Canada West (it pre-dates the confederation of Canada); it was incorporated as a private trust cemetery with a public mandate. Since its original land purchase of 33 acres from the Crown, the cemetery has expanded and diversified to meet the needs of the community. The volunteer board of directors, drawn from the local business community, are elected by the plot owners to guide the development of this remarkable, historic and landscaped cemetery.

While many prominent people are buried here, the cemetery has always represented the wider community, with the remains of people of diverse backgrounds, status and religions.

### The Shape, Geography and Design

Under the direction of the original Board of Trustees, F. F. Passmore, an accomplished surveyor, with assistance from a young Sandford Fleming, provided the base for all Little Lake Cemetery development plans. By incorporating curved lanes for horse and carriages, plot placements and landscaping that complemented the natural contours of the drumlin, and a vision for a chapel of character to reflect its Victorian heritage, Passmore's objective to create a park-like setting was successful, and remains a guiding principle of the cemetery.



Aerial view of Little Lake Cemetery

### W. G Morrow Mausoleum

The Morrow family mausoleum was built in the mid 1930's at the request of the W. G. Morrow, a former president of Little Lake Cemetery Co. and financier (Victoria & Grey Bank). At the time of construction, the mausoleum cost approximately twice as much as a normal house. In addition to the property costs and building costs, the Morrow family paid \$1,900 for the perpetual care of the building and its adjacent flower beds, still held in trust for its ongoing maintenance.

### John James Lundy (1834 – 1918)

This neo-Gothic memorial is the most elaborate marble marker in the cemetery. This "canopy" monument is built on raised earth and fenced. The high-quality marble monument has held up well over the years.

John James Lundy was born in Peterborough in 1834 to Irish parents who operated a general store here. J. J., a distiller, Justice of the Peace and large land-owner, was president of Little Lake Company in 1877 and Mayor of Peterborough from 1880-81. While in office, he had to negotiate through a "Cow scandal". At first, council members ignored the cows running loose in the town and took pity on the "poor man's cow" and ignored the issue, until it was observed that most cow owners were quite prominent.

Counselor Cahill stated, "this cow business is more smoke than fire – I live in the most "cowey" part of town and have only heard of one case of damages in 20 yrs." Council passed a bylaw stating that cows could not run at large from 8 pm - 6 am.

### Captain Charles Rubidge (1787 – 1873)

Captain Charles Rubidge, a veteran of the Napoleonic wars, was a naval officer, settler and emigration agent. Born in 1787, he assisted Peter Robinson with the settlement of new citizens. During his life, he claimed to have assisted over 4,000 emigrants.

### Robert and Charlotte Nicholls

This is the gravesite of Robert and Charlotte Nicholls. Robert Nicholls, one of Peterborough's most successful general merchants from the 1840s to the 1870s, knew his 2,600 customers by their first name. He was also the first agent for the Bank of Montreal.

His partner, William Hall, and his wife, Charlotte Nicholls, were the town's most notable philanthropists. Charlotte's estate supported the local Protestant churches, the Peterborough Protestant Home and the YMCA, and also led to the creation of a system of large parks now known as Jackson's Park, Nicholls Oval, and Inverlea Park.

Note the veiled urn on the marble stone, a Victorian symbol of mourning. Romans used to take the cremated remains, place them in an urn and cover them with a shroud. As with several prominent families, the cemetery plot is enclosed with distinctive fencing.

Marble also comes in a wide range of quality, some are proving to be quite permanent, some not. Acid rain has caused severe damage to the poorer grades of marble, causing them to sugar. Marble monuments would have come from areas such as Vermont, Belleville and Arnprior. It was used as early as 1820 replacing sandstone and limestone. Because of the water issues, and the problems associated with marble, limestone and sandstone, Little Lake Cemetery recommends monuments with granite and bronze.

### Daniel Macdonald "The Strong Man" (1838 – 1871)

One of the most famous gravestones in Little Lake Cemetery is that of Daniel Macdonald, a weightlifter who took one challenge too many. His family had the following inscription placed on his stone.

*"Ye weak beware, here lies the strong,  
A victim of his strength,  
He lifted sixteen hundred pounds,  
and here he lies at length."*

### Lt. Col. Frederick William Haultain

In 1862, Lt. Col. Haultain raised Peterborough's first artillery unit at a time when armed conflict with the United States seemed a possibility. At that time the American Civil War was raging and there were rumours that many Americans were looking at a possible invasion of Canada depending on the outcome of the war. As a result, orders quickly went out to strengthen the militia in Peterborough.

The son of Major General Francis Haultain, Haultain came from a long military heritage. His father, brother, uncles and grandfathers served in the British army, primarily in India. Born at Brussels, Belgium in 1821, Frederick was educated at the Royal Military Academy in Woolwich, England. In 1839 he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery and his postings included several years in Canada. He retired as a Lieutenant-Colonel in May 1860 and settled in Peterborough in September of that year where he almost immediately became involved in politics. He was first elected to the Legislature in 1861 after narrowly defeating W. S. Conger.

The call for a new artillery battery consisting of 70 men and 56 horses first went out on January 7, 1862 with Lt. Col. Haultain as Captain. The ranks were filled in just two weeks. Training began in September and drill was held in the old Bank of Toronto building which later became the Town Council Chamber. Lt. Col. Haultain personally gave sword training to this unit, a point which apparently he was ribbed about in the Legislature.

### John MacDonald and the Black Angel

This "Black Angel", made of bronze which blackens with age, is the monument in memory of John MacDonald. The statue was crafted in Albany NY where MacDonald was working for Mossom Boyd when he contracted a cold that ultimately caused his death 6 weeks later. MacDonald was only 44 years old, and described in his obituary as

*"a man of magnificent physique, as fine a type of physical man as one would wish to meet".*

### Moe's Point (Prior to 1850)

Much of the history of Trent-Severn Waterway occurred here at Little Lake as it narrows into Otonabee River. In the late 17th century, battle parties of Mohawks and Mississauga fought here. Settlers from Cobourg passed by Moe's Point (see map) towards Spaulding's Bay (Peterborough Harbour), and timber rafts passed here en route to Quebec and British seaports.