

S.S. #1 FAIRFIELD SCHOOL

The first school in Stephen Township was built on Lot 15-Concession 1 in 1843. SS #1 Stephen was then relocated to Lot 5-Concession II in 1853 to the hamlet of Fairfield. In 1867, a brick school was constructed on Lot 7-Concession II. A more substantial building was erected in 1930 at the same site- complete with hydro and running water-and was described as “the finest in rural Ontario”. With an enrollment of only eleven students in 1962, the decision was made, with regret, to close S.S. #1 Fairfield. The building still stands and is a private residence.

101 words, including title.

440 MAIN STREET

This imposing 3-storied building nicknamed “Old Reliable House” was built by James Pickard in the 1860s and was just one of his many varied business interests.

Shoppers could find a wide variety of merchandise to satisfy their daily needs. During its busiest years, forty-six employees assisted customers with hardware, groceries, dry goods, clothing and any other purchases that needed to be made.

In 1889 Mr. Pickard suffered a “reversal of fortune”, and was forced to sell his many properties.

Total word count including title: 87

