

Monck Rd. and Bobcaygeon Rd. Junction

Bobcaygeon Road was an important artery of transportation for the early settler population and speculators. Monck Road, (now City Rd. 45), was created primarily as a military route between Lake Couchiching and Ottawa to provide alternative transportation to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence system should Canada come under attack by the Americans. The junction of these two important early roads helped propel the growth and prosperity of Kinmount as they provided important means of transportation and communication.



16

Kinmount United Church

Built in 1876, the building initially housed the town's Presbyterian congregation and other denominations who lacked facilities in the early years of settlement. For nearly forty years, the church did not have a bell. It was not until W. T. Craig, co-owner of the Craig and Austin Sawmill, donated a bell that it finally had one. When the United Church of Canada was formed in 1925, the building consequently became the home of the newly formed United Church congregation in Kinmount. The adjacent Manse was built in 1898 and was occupied henceforth by a minister until 1950. The Church building was renovated in 1944 and 1978 and the old manual pump organ is still used today.



17

Orange Lodge

The first Lodge of the Orange Order at Kinmount was opened in 1886 on Main Street. When this building was destroyed by fire in 1890, it was rebuilt at its present location next to the Presbyterian Church. A religious organization with strong political affiliations, the Orange Order flourished in Kinmount in the years prior to the First World War.



18



Kinmount House Bed and Breakfast

This home is recognized as one of the oldest buildings in Kinmount, although the date of its construction is unknown. It was initially occupied by John Hunter, accredited as one of the founders of Kinmount. Fred Dettman, a prominent local businessman, owned the property in 1900 and several additions were made to the home. In 1942, it was sold to Harry Butts who used it as a motel and boarding house. In 1986, it was purchased by its current owner, Patrick Healey, who operates a charming Bed and Breakfast.

19



St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church

The Catholic community of the Kinmount area was first served by visiting priests from outlying communities. Prior to the construction of a church, masses were held in the old log school house, S.S. No. 4, in Galway. The first church, Immaculate Conception, was built in 1882 and located in Galway. In 1910, the red brick church on the hill was built under the new priest, Father Galvin, to service the growing Catholic community in Kinmount. Two years later, a rectory was completed next to the church. Galway's congregation joined Kinmount's congregation when Immaculate Conception church burned down in 1930 on Easter Sunday.

20



Cemeteries

The old Kinmount cemetery was first organized in 1862 when a one-acre lot was purchased by John Hunter. Here, many settlers were laid to rest. When this cemetery had been filled, a new cemetery was opened directly across the road. The Catholic cemetery was first used in 1934 and prior to this date, Catholics were interred in a cemetery located beside the Immaculate Conception Church in Galway.

21

We hope that you enjoyed this walking tour of historic Kinmount.

How to Access the Full Tour

The stories and the map for the historic Kinmount Walking Tour can be accessed at artsandheritagetrail.com. Click on the Kinmount Legends and Lore icon on the opening page to the left of the map.

It is also accessible on the TOUREKA! app, available for both Android and Apple through the App store.

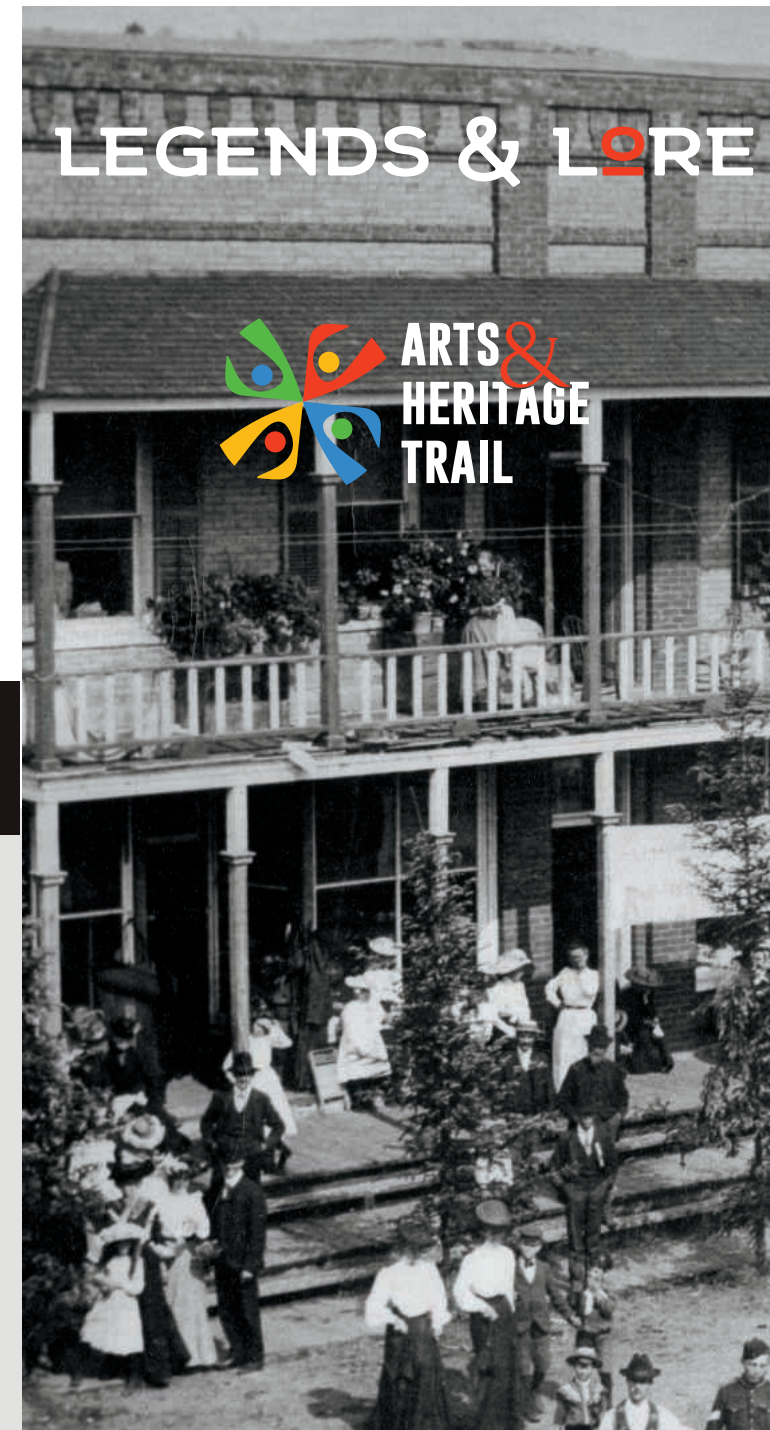
Follow the Walking Tour map on the artsandheritagetrail.com website or TOUREKA! app. Click on the Audio Story button for each story when you reach the destination and are ready to listen.

Travel to the next Legend & Lore location and follow the above instructions to hear the next story as you move along the tour.

An accessible version of the Kinmount Legends & Lore brochure is available on request.



LEGENDS & LORE



A Walking Tour of Historic Kinmount

Explore our heritage... Experience our charm

ARTSANDHERITAGETRAIL.COM

Welcome to this walking tour of historic Kinmount. As you explore the town through this historic lens, we hope that you can envision how various socio-economic factors played a role in the evolution of the village and numerous natural disasters shaped the physical form of the town. In spite of many hardships, Kinmount has retained its gallant spirit and today has redirected its energies to meet with the challenges of the future while remembering the contributions of its past. Listen to the full audio tour to hear more.



Kinmount Railway Station & Heritage Room

The southern half of the Railway Station was constructed in 1876 to coincide with the arrival of the railroad in Kinmount and was built using a blueprint used for other stations in the area. Some additions were made to the building as time wore on, like a baggage area. The building was a hub of the community as the railroad provided an important means of transportation, both of persons and freight, and communication, as mail could be delivered with greater ease and regularity by train. When the rail-line was no longer in use it housed various other community organizations and boasts a model rail-line from Kinmount to Haliburton, as well as the Tourist Information Centre and Heritage Meeting Room.

1



Icelandic Memorial Sculpture

Dedicated in 2000, the sculpture, made by Gudrun Sigursteinsdottir Girgis, was created to commemorate the ill-fated settlement of a group of Icelandic immigrants at Kinmount in 1874. Plaques in English, French, and Icelandic on the base of the sculpture explain the tragic circumstances of the settlers and list the names of those who were among the unfortunate group.

2



Austin Sawmill

The present building was constructed in 1942 on the foundations of a previous sawmill that was destroyed by fire. The first mill established on this site was built in the 1890s and was owned by William T. Craig and John Austin. It burned down in 1908. The building was then replaced by another structure which also burned down in a 1942 fire that destroyed most of downtown. The lands formerly belonging to the Austin Sawmill now constitute the Austin Sawmill Heritage Park, opened in 1995.

3



4 & 5

New and Old Baptist Church

The first services of Baptist worship at Kinmount were held in 1877. One year later, a church was built at the corner of Crego and Dickson Streets with a congregation of 48 members. In 1919, the congregation was dissolved and the church sold to the Masonic Order. In 1933, Rev. Gillian of Bobcaygeon began holding services again in Kinmount and members of the local congregation reorganized to purchase a lot and built a new church which officially opened June 22, 1936. In 1993, the Baptist congregation purchased the former Kinmount Public School, which was renovated and reopened to hold services by September of that year.



6

Kinmount Community Centre

The present building was constructed in 1922 on the site of the old Forrester's Hall following its destruction by fire. In 1950, the Township of Somerville purchased the building and in 1962 added the fire hall (little more than a garage) on the east side of the building. The little fire hall was used until 1979, when the new fire hall was built on the south side of town. The building's basement was also home to the public library until 1999, when it was moved to the former Township of Somerville office building. Now, the Community Center is home to the Kinmount and Area Artisans Guild's marketplace. Insert: Donna Bisschop - Mural (2017) Kinmount celebrates Canada's 150th

Watson-Hopkins House

This stately Victorian-style home was constructed in the 1880s by local businessman Alexander Watson. Another local businessman, A. Y. Hopkins, later purchased the home. The multi-story red-brick structure remains a private residence. The original wrought iron and concrete fencing which surrounded the property in the late 19th century is still visible today.



7

Anglican Church

In 1883, St. James Anglican Church was built of local timber by volunteers who donated their time and money. In August 1884, Archbishop Sweatman consecrated the new church which serves the congregation to the present day. A rectory was purchased in 1906, but during the disastrous fire of 1942, much of the town and rectory was destroyed.



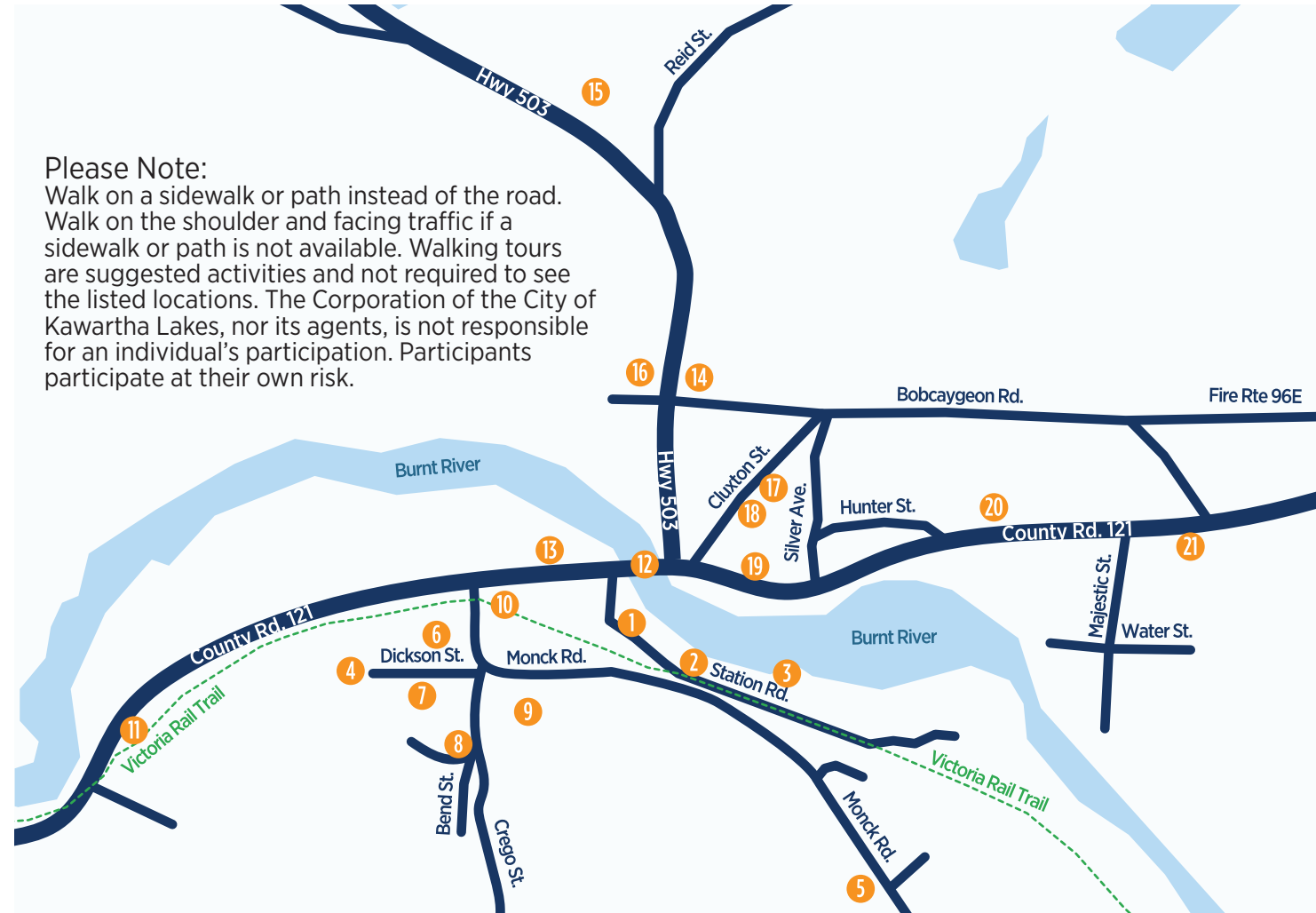
8



9

Somerville Lodge #451, AF & A.M.

The first Masonic Lodge in Kinmount was formed in 1901. Meetings were initially held in the upstairs of the Hopkins Block on the westside of Main Street. Sometime around 1910, the lodge moved to a room in the Bowie Hotel, also located on Main Street. In 1919, the lodge moved to its present location at the corner of Crego and Dickson streets, having purchased the building from the Baptist congregation.



Please Note: Walk on a sidewalk or path instead of the road. Walk on the shoulder and facing traffic if a sidewalk or path is not available. Walking tours are suggested activities and not required to see the listed locations. The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes, nor its agents, is not responsible for an individual's participation. Participants participate at their own risk.

Cenotaph

The cenotaph rests on the site of the house and store of Samuel Henry which burned in 1922 in one of the many fires that has torn through town. The vacant land was later donated to the town for the erection of a cenotaph to memorialize brave residents of Kinmount who perished in the First World War, Second World War, and Korean War.



10

Highlands Cinemas

A unique treasure nestled on the edge of town; the Highlands Cinemas began in 1979 with a single 50-seat theatre. It has since grown to become a 5-theatre complex seating 550 people and showing first-run movies. The complex also boasts a museum which houses the largest collection of movie memorabilia in Canada. The theatres themselves form a special part of this collection, containing elements salvaged from historical theatres across North America.



11



12

Bridge

The first bridge at this location was built in 1858. At least four other bridges of timber and later iron were built at this site to span Burnt River before the current concrete and steel bridge was built in 1956-1957. The bridge was refurbished in 1994.



13

Post Office Mural

The mural on the Post Office was created by Brenda Mulholland in 2009 and sponsored by the Kinmount and District Lions Club. It depicts Main Street in the early 1900s and was painted to commemorate the 150th Anniversary Celebration of the incorporation of the Village in 1859.



14

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 441

Although the population of Kinmount was relatively small, a large number of brave young men and women volunteered their services in the First and Second World Wars. The charter for the Kinmount Legion, John McGrath Branch 441, was granted in November of 1946 in honour of those who served. Legion members purchased property from Walter Butts and volunteers remodelled the building that already stood on the property. One year later, the Legion building was officially opened to serve Legionnaires and the community. In 1957, a new building was constructed on the site and is still in use today.



15

Kinmount Fair Grounds

The first Somerville Agricultural Fair was held in the nearby village of Coboconk in 1872. Ten years later, the Galway Agricultural Society was formed in Kinmount. In 1907, the two Agricultural societies of Somerville and Galway merged and fairs were then held at Kinmount. Around this time, the fair moved to its present location east of town. The fair has grown to enjoy a reputation as one of the best fairs in Ontario, with midway rides, livestock shows, demolition derbies, and a variety of exhibits and performances.