







List of Cairns, Plaques, Monuments, Cemeteries and Churches in the Township of Oro-Medonte


Cairns



	Cairn	Description	Location	Photo
1	East Oro drill shed cairn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records the interesting tradition of maintaining a militia in each community, prepared to defend against invasion or insurrection. Huronian historic sites association 	On the Township road allowance in front of 801 Line 11 North	
2	Oro African Church cairn	<p>Erected by the County of Simcoe and the Township of Oro in memory of the following families who worshipped and are buried there.</p> <p>The stone cairn is listed as a heritage attribute in the designating By-law (2018-101) for the church.</p>	1645 Line 3 North	
3	Clowes cairn	In memory of Clowes Primitive Methodist Church 1867-1958	2191 Line 2 North (south west corner)	



	Cairn	Description	Location	Photo
4	E. C. Drury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To commemorate and recognize the services of Honourable E.C. Drury. • Born in the Township of Oro in 1878. • Instrumental in establishing Simcoe County Forest. • Served as Premier of Ontario from 1919-1923. 	Old Barrie Road East, north side, on the curve between Line 7 N and Line 8 N (On the County Road allowance) (West of 316 Old Barrie Road East)	
5	Bayview Memorial Park	Donated in 1944 to the Township of Oro by George Kirkpatrick in Honour of Those from the Township who served in our armed forces in the war 1939 to 1945.	687 Lakeshore Road East (Bayview Memorial Park)	


	Cairn	Description	Location	Photo
6	Stone Cairn at the Flanagan Site	<p>Site of Teanaostaye and Martyrdom St. Anthony Daniel S.J. 4 July 1648</p> <p>Homestead of Flanagan Family 1832-1949 Mentioned by Fr. Martin S.J. in Jesuit relations 1855</p> <p>In memory of Flanagan ancestors by grand children Michael & John Murphy, Anne Kunkel Kay Doherty Fr. Ted Fournier July 1996</p>	4311 Line 3 North	




Plaques

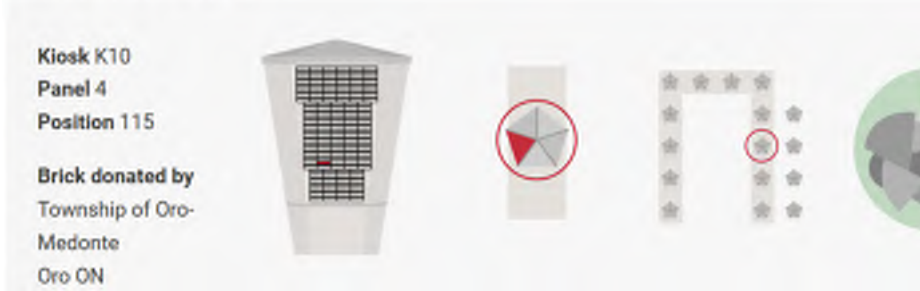
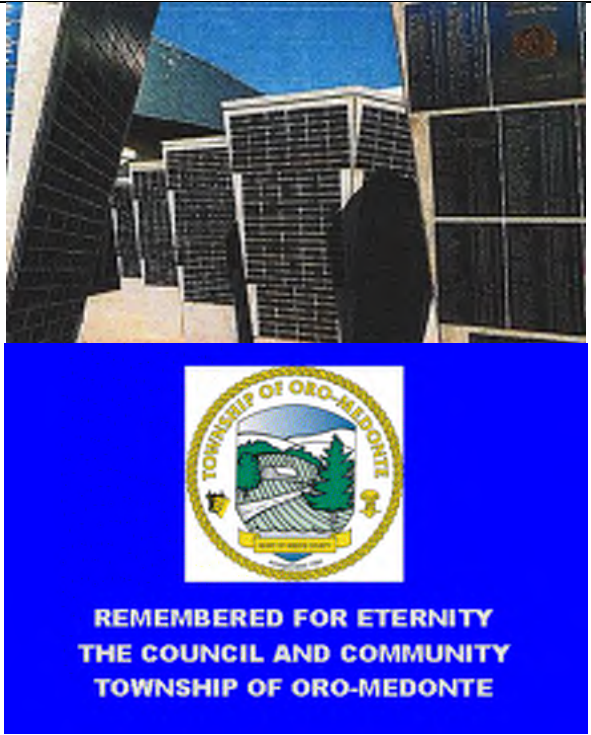
	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
1	Oro African Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National historic site • Simcoe County historic site • Acknowledges the contribution Blacks made to the development of the area, and the unique situation that brought them here. 	1645 Line 3 North	



	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
2	St. Thomas Church plaque	<p><i>St. Thomas Anglican Church</i> is a significant central settlement structure for the Shanty Bay area. The church's construction was completed in 1842 and is settled amidst towering spruce, a cemetery including the local O'Brien family and mausoleum dating from 1913. The unusual craftsmanship of the structure is evident in the interior wood elements (pews, lectern, pulpit, plan flooring, wainscoting, ceiling beams and reredos and interior paneling with adze marks). The structure is built on a land grant provided to and then donated by Lt. Col. Edward O'Brien, a half-pay British officer who influenced the design and direction of the construction.</p>	28 Church Street	
3	Langman Homestead plaque	<p>Langman Homestead (1832-1992) Settled by Nicholas Langman from South Petherwin, Cornwall, England. Married Mary Baskerville (1833) of Leigh's Corners, Oro Township and raised their family of 12 children.</p>	2400 Bass Lake Sideroad East	



	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
4	Marian Keith plaque	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1873-1961 • Mrs. Esther MacGregor – nee Miller • Beloved author, who in her many books, portrayed affectionately the live of the people and early time of this part of Oro as well as Ontario. Representative of her writings are novels 'Duncan Polite' and 'Silver Maple' area 1920. • "Teacher and novelist whose characters and fictional situations reflected what she saw in her community" (Township's website). • Simcoe County historic site 	1911 Old Barrie Road East (Rugby)	
5	E.C. Drury plaque	<p>Hon. Ernest Charles Drury A descendant of one of this area's pioneer families. Drury was born on this farm in 1878. His father, the Hon. Charles Drury, had served (1888-1890) as Ontario's first minister of agriculture. A graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College. E.C. Drury was appointed secretary of the Canadian Council of Agriculture in 1909 and became first president of the United Farmers Of Ontario in 1914. The U.F.O. formed a political party in 1918 and with support from labour won the general election of 1919. Returned as member for Halton, Drury became Ontario's eight prime minister. Following his party's defeat in 1923 he retired from provincial politics but later held various public offices in Simcoe County.</p>	669 Penetanguishene Road (just north of Highway 11)	



	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
6	Black Settlement plaque	<p>Black Settlement in Oro Township</p> <p>The only government-sponsored Black settlement in Upper Canada, the Oro community was established in 1819 to help secure the defence of the province's northern frontier. Black veterans of the War of 1812 who could be enlisted to meet hostile forces advancing from Georgian Bay were offered land grants here. By 1831 nine had taken up residence along this road, called Wilberforce Street after the renowned British abolitionist. Bolstered by other Black settlers who had been attracted to the area, the community soon numbered about 100. The settlement eventually declined, however, as farmers discouraged by the poor soil and harsh climate gradually drifted away. Today only the African Episcopal Church erected near Edgar in 1849 remains as a testament to this early Black community.</p>	Line 1 South at the Rail Trail Parking Lot	

	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
7	Ed Sutherland plaque	Ed was born in New Brunswick where he obtained a Bachelor of Science in forestry in 1968. After joining the department of Lands and Forest in Ontario his career took him to Chapleau, Lindsay and finally Midhurst area where he began working in the Simcoe County Forests in 1973. After retiring from the province in 1996, Ed became the Forester for the County of Simcoe, a position he held until 2005. The Ed Sutherland tract has been established in the memory of Ed and has more than 30 years of management.	Bass Lake Side Road just east of Line 5 North (Simcoe County Forest – Sutherland Tract)	 
8	Historic Hawkestone (Hodges' Landing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledges the interesting history of a community established to receive settlers. Township historic site 	Between the Fire Hall (375 Line 11 South) and the Rail Trail	


	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
9	Juno Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commemorative brick on the Juno Beach Centre’s Memorial Kiosks. • “Remembered for Eternity, The Council and Community, Township of Oro-Medonte”. <p>BRICK LOCATION</p>  <p>Kiosk K10 Panel 4 Position 115</p> <p>Brick donated by Township of Oro- Medonte Oro ON</p>	<p>Juno Beach, Normandy, France</p> <p>Brick location: Kiosk: K10 Panel: 4 Position: 115</p>	



	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
10	Private George Robert McNutt Plaque	Private McNutt left the home farm in May 1942 for active service in the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish Regiment of The Canadian Infantry Corps leaving his widowed mother & brother home on the farm. On October 4 th , 1944 while serving in the Perth Regiment, he was killed in action in Italy at the young age of 26 years.	3525 McNutt Road	
11	Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society	<p>Donated by the Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society in memory of the dedicated service to our society and the community of Past Presidents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ellwood McLaughlin (1923-2016) • Jean Crawford (1925-2017) • Marjorie Bell (1937-2018) 	687 Lakeshore Road East (Bayview Memorial Park)	

	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
12	Bayview Memorial Park Plaque	Dedicated to the people of Oro – past, present and future generations. It is through their efforts that this Township first settled in 1819 was, is and shall continue to be a fine place to live and grow	687 Lakeshore Road East (Bayview Memorial Park)	
13	Private Kevin Thomas 'Mickey' McKay	In memory of Pte. Kevin Thomas 'Mickey' McKay (1986-2010). Kevin grew up in Horseshoe Valley. He was deployed to Afghanistan in the autumn of 2009. Sadly, Kevin was killed by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) while on his very last night patrol, just two days before the end of his tour of duty. He was buried with full military honours in the National Military Cemetery, Ottawa.	3375 Line 4 North	


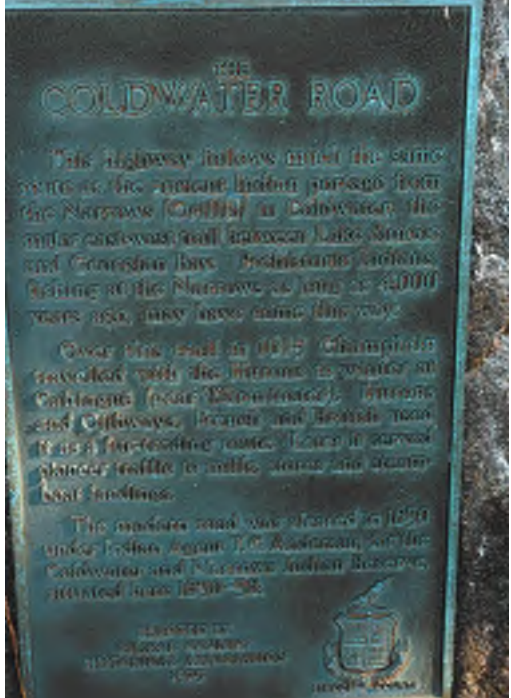
	Plaque	Description	Location	Photo
14	Ian Arthur Beard Community Complex	Dedicated on October 20, 2002 In memory of The late Ian Arthur Beard “Are we having fun yet” Mayor of the Township of Oro-Medonte December 1, 1994 – March 1, 2002	3375 Line 4 North	
15	The Tim Crooks Trails	The Tim Crooks Trails of the Church Woods Nature Reserve Tim (1939-2017) grew up in these woods, enjoying and cherishing his natural surroundings. As a child he would play for hours with friends and relatives, exploring and learning about the trees, water, wildflowers and wildlife. As an adult, he ceaselessly championed for the protection of these woods and for all the waters that flow into Lake Simcoe. The Couchiching Conservancy land trust dedicates these woodland trails to the memory of Tim Crooks. He would ask that you learn to love and respect them as he once did.	Bay Street	

Monuments



	Monument	Description	Location	Photo
1	Sir Sam Steele monument	<p>Sir Samuel Benfield Steele KCMG CB MVO Born January 5, 1848 at Purbrook Son of Capt. Elmes Steele and his wife Anne. 35th Regiment Simcoe Militia – 1866 A battery royal Canadian artillery – 1871 North West Mounted Police – 1873 March West in 1874 Kootenay expedition and Fort Steele Yukon – the cold rush – 1898 Raised Strathcona's horse – 1900 Commanded in South Africa 1900-1901 Aglo-Boer War South African constabulary – 1901 Promoted Major General – 1914 Knighted KCMG – 1918 Died January 30, 1919 at Putney, England Buried at Winnipeg, Manitoba</p>	North of 4632 Line 11 North (on the curve of the road)	



	Monument	Description	Location	Photo
2	Old Town Hall Cenotaph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Township monument records the names of those who fought in the two world wars. • Township historic site 	833 Line 7 North	
3	Four-Township War Memorial (Tiny, Tay, Flos and Oro-Medonte)	<p>The monument was originally erected in 1920 to honour the men lost in the Great War, from the four surrounding townships of Medonte, Tiny, Tay and Flos. Waverly is at the crossroads of these four townships.</p> <p>After the Second World War, four steles were added to the grounds, once again one for each of the four townships, each with a list of names of those lost in the war.</p> <p>A marble statue of a WWI soldier stands on top of the original monument. The entire park is surrounded by a black metal fence with a gate at the front of the grounds. This is a very attractive memorial, well kept and treasured by the local citizens. The names of their ancestors forever carved in the stones.</p>	223 Darby Road (Intersection of County Roads 27 & 93 in Waverly)	

Historic Sites

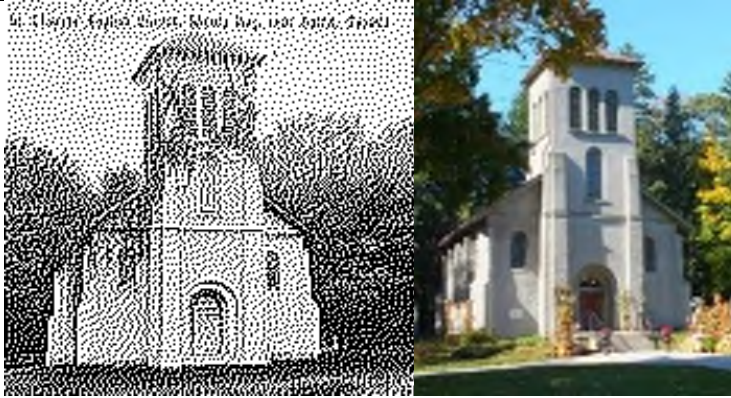

	Historic Site	Description	Location	Photo
1	Site of Cahiague Native Village		14 Cahiague Road	 <p data-bbox="1857 602 2368 667">Unveiling An Historic Plaque at Cahiague (The plaque has now been removed.) Left to Right: Norman Emerson, Prof. U. of T., Dalton, Jimmy, Revere of Meville, George McLean, Mayor of Orillia, Thomas McIlwraith, Prof. U.R.C., Harold Hale, Parker and Towner, Bert Rumbak, Fern Russell, Lake Simcoe, Orillia Historical Society, Leslie Frost, Premier of Ontario.</p> <p data-bbox="1884 672 2341 699">The Plaque has been removed.</p>
2	Old Coldwater Road	<p data-bbox="486 708 1311 889">This highway follows much the same route as the ancient Indian portage from the Narrows (Orillia) to Coldwater, the major east-west trail between Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay. Prehistoric Indians, fishing at the Narrows as long as 4,000 years ago, may have come this way.</p> <p data-bbox="486 927 1311 1109">Over this trail in 1615 Champlain travelled with the Hurons to winter at Cahiague (near Warminster). Hurons and Ojibways, French and British used it as a fur-trading route. Later it served pioneer traffic to mills, stores and steamboat landings.</p> <p data-bbox="486 1146 1311 1252">The modern road was cleared in 1830 under Indian Agent T.G. Anderson, for the Coldwater and Narrows Indian Reserve, situated here 1830-38.</p>	<p data-bbox="1327 708 1744 813">_____ Highway 12 (East side of Highway 12, just south of Warminster)</p>	



Cemeteries

	Cemeteries	Description	Location	Photo
1	Leigh's Corner Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Township took over the cemetery in 2014 • Dedicated to the memory of John Leigh Family 	540 Line 12 North	
2	Abandoned Cemetery		To the east of 610 Old Barrie Road West	
3	Moon Private Cemetery		Lot 15, Concession 9 (Medonte)	




	Cemeteries	Description	Location	Photo
4	African Methodist Episcopal Church Cemetery		1645 Line 3 North	
5	Rugby Cemetery		1933 Old Barrie Road East	




Churches



	Church	Description	Location	Photo
1	St. Thomas Church	<p><i>St. Thomas Anglican Church</i> is a significant central settlement structure for the Shanty Bay area. The church's construction was completed in 1842 and is settled amidst towering spruce, a cemetery including the local O'Brien family and mausoleum dating from 1913. The unusual craftsmanship of the structure is evident in the interior wood elements (pews, lectern, pulpit, plan flooring, wainscoting, ceiling beams and reredos and interior paneling with adze marks). The structure is built on a land grant provided to and then donated by Lt. Col. Edward O'Brien, a half-pay British officer who influenced the design and direction of the construction.</p>	28 Church Street	
2	Oro African Church	<p><i>Oro African Methodist Episcopal Church</i> is located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Line 3 North and Old Barrie Road West. This modest church, constructed of hand-hew logs, and is the last built remnant of a community of early African Canadians settlers in Simcoe County. The British government granted 25 plots to Black settlers in Oro Township from 1819-1826. By 1831, thirty more families joined the settlement and the church construction was completed by 1849. The Church was active until 1900 when the community faded away and was declared abandoned in 1916. It was designated a National Historic Site in 2000. An unmarked cemetery is also located on the property. A stone cairn displays plaques commemorating the history of the former church, including the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque and a stone tablet engraved with the names of the families buried in the cemetery.</p>	1645 Line 3 North	

	Church	Description	Location	Photo
3	Bethesda Congregational Church	Bethesda Congregational Church 1859-1899	1562 Old Barrie Road West	
4	Coulson Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	343 Horseshoe Valley Road West	

	Church	Description	Location	Photo
5	Knox Presbyterian Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	1604 Old Barrie Road East	
6	Willis Presbyterian Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	3353 Line 10 North	
7	Esson Presbyterian Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	1430 Old Barrie Road East	

	Church	Description	Location	Photo
8	Central Presbyterian Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	80 15/16 Sideroad East Oro-Medonte	
9	Oro Station Presbyterian Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	697 Line 7 South/703 Line 7 South	
10	Guthrie Presbyterian Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	14 Line 4 North	

	Church	Description	Location	Photo
11	Guthrie United Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	59 Line 4 North	
12	Hobart Memorial Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	4590 Line 6 North	
13	West Oro Baptist Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	1058 Bass Lake Sideroad West	

	Church	Description	Location	Photo
14	St. Luke's Anglican Church, Price's Corners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	9160 Highway 12	
15	Mount St. Louis Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	4784 Line 4 North	
16	Sacred Heart Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in the Township's Register 	1804 Warminster Sideroad	