



CAMERON STREET LOOKING EAST

CANNINGTON, ONT.

History

Originally part of the original Brock Township,[2] Cannington was first settled in 1833. It was originally known as McCaskill's Mills after a local mill-owning family. In 1849, a post office was opened, at which point the settlement was renamed Cannington after former British foreign secretary and Prime Minister George Canning (1770–1827). Cannington separated from Brock Township in 1878 when it was incorporated as a Village.

When Durham Region was created in 1974, Cannington was amalgamated with the original Brock Township, Thorah Township and the Village of Beaverton to create the newly expanded Township of Brock. In 1987 there was a fire that destroyed dozens of homes through the town.

Cannington, Ontario, home to approximately 2,000 residents, is nestled on the shores of the Beaver River. With numerous restaurants and a variety of specialty and general stores downtown, Cannington offers both residents and visitors alike an enticing getaway and appealing shopping experience. Local volunteers and service groups organize many exciting events throughout the year including the Cannington Dog Sled Races and Canada Day celebrations.

Settlement of the area that surrounds Cannington began to occur throughout the 1820's and 1830's with a store and saw mill being opened in the 1830's. As other mills and buildings were constructed to support local agriculture and industry the settlement of Cannington began to emerge in the 1840's. The completion of the Toronto Nipissing Railroad to Cannington by November 1871 caused the area to boom. Residents and visitors can continue to travel along the repurposed railroad bed that is now the Beaver River Wetlands Trail.

When it comes to outdoor pursuits and recreation, Cannington has a lot to offer. MacLeod Park, located on the southeast side of the village, is a recreation lover's dream with over 16 hectares of parkland. Home to tennis courts, lawn bowling, a museum operated by the Cannington Historical Society, gazebos, two baseball diamonds, playgrounds, the fifth largest skateboard park in Ontario, basketball courts, arena & community centre, curling club, and a nature walking trail, MacLeod Park has something to offer everyone.

ROBERT HOLMES 1861-1930

Robert Holmes spent a lifetime drawing and painting Canadian wildflowers, depicting many varieties in water-colours. Holmes was born in Cannington and is buried here. After studying at the Ontario School of Art and the Royal College of Art, his teaching career at Upper Canada College, the Central Ontario School of Art and Design, and its successor, the Ontario College of Art, spanned forty years. Holmes was a president of the Ontario Society of Artists, a founding member of important Toronto art organizations and an academician of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts. The collections of the National Gallery of Canada and the Art Gallery of Ontario include notable wildflower water-colours by Holmes.