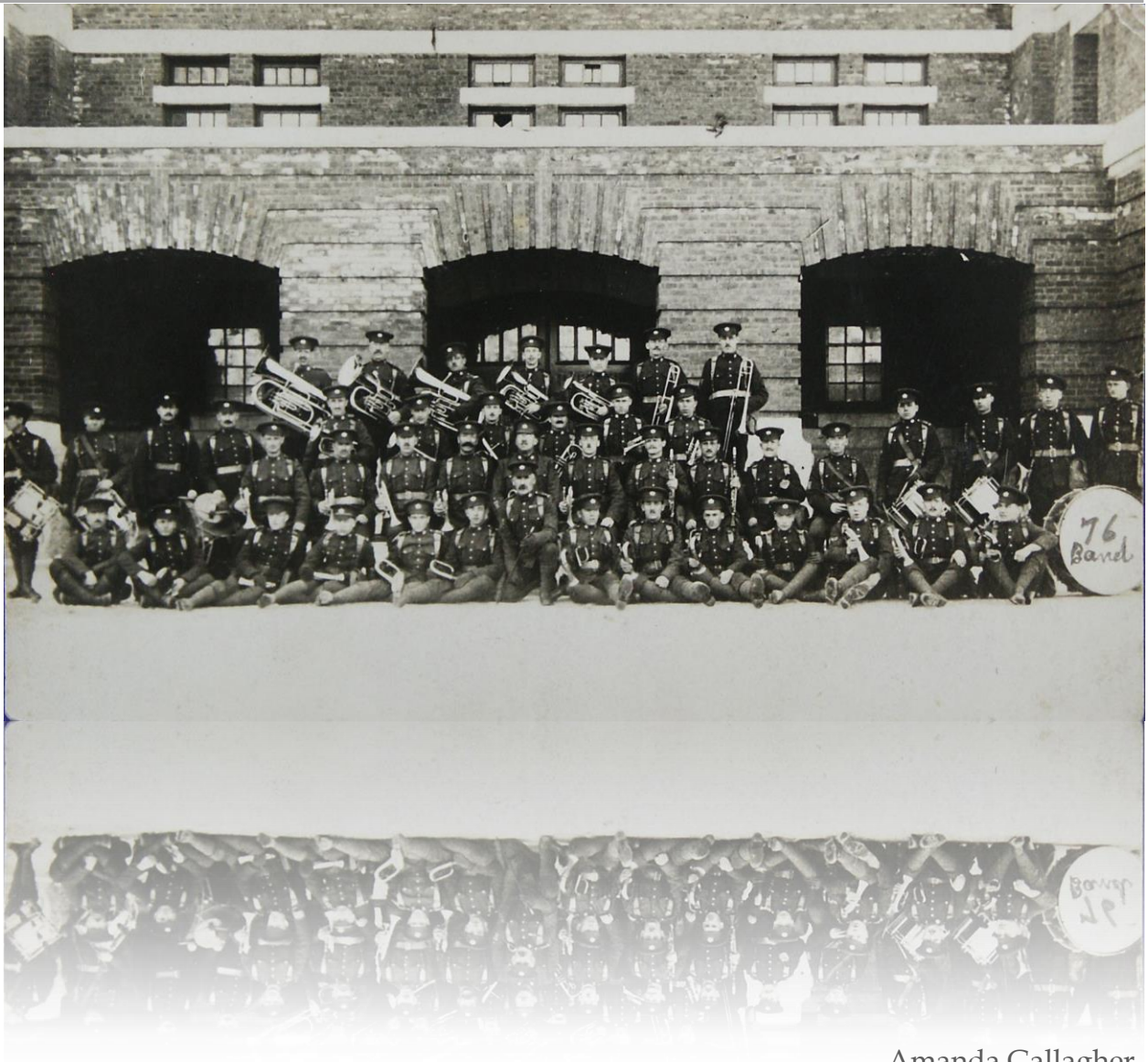




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BRADFORD VETERANS' STREET NAMES



Amanda Gallagher

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● ADAMS STREET

This street is so named in honour of John Adams, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I. It was approved June 5, 2001.

John Charles Adams was born January 22, 1897 to Charles and Emily (Johnson) Adams of Bradford, Ontario. He worked as a farmer in Toronto and he enlisted with the army on December 6, 1915. John was 19 years old when he joined the 123rd Battalion. He was later



transferred to the 3rd Battalion, also known as the Toronto Regiment, where he was sent to the front. John fought for a year in this battalion and was part of the Battle of Passchendaele. He died in this offensive on November 10, 1917 from wounds received in action. John Charles Adams is buried in Belgium at the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery.

Source: “Adams, John,” *Service Files of the First World War, 1914-1918, Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF)*, RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 31-48, Item 1676, (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario); “Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury - Proposed Street Name Waiting List Index,” June 2001, Bradford Street Names Folder: p1.

ADAMS CHILDREN: DAVID, JOHN, AND SISTERS BERTHA, EMILY AND LILLY

● AELICK COURT

This street is named in honour of Walter Aelick, a World War II soldier of Supreme Sacrifice. It was approved in 2013 as part of the National Homes subdivision.

Walter Raymond Aelick was born April 8, 1907 on Manitoulin Island to parents Ira Adam and Agnes Ingram (Coventry) Aelick. He was the second youngest of seven children, and the family later moved to the Algoma area. Walter married Audrey Isabel on November 7, 1929, and together they had one son, Arthur Donald Raymond (born in 1931). The family lived in Tottenham for years before Walter signed up for service in November, 1942 in the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. He was never posted overseas. Walter died in Chorley Park

Hospital in Toronto from acute shock as many illnesses attacked him at once on March 16, 1943. He was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, the Memorial Cross, and the War Medal posthumously.

Source: “Aelick, Walter Raymond,” *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead 1939-1947*, RG 24, Vol. 25307, Item 165, (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario); Geoff McKnight, “Request for Street Names – National Homes (Bradford) Inc.,” 13 March 2013, Report PDS-2013-12, Bradford Street Names Folder.

AISHFORD ROAD

This street is named in honour of Henry Aishford, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I. The street name was approved on June 5, 2001.

Henry Phillip Aishford was born on November 23, 1889 in London, England and after coming to Canada he lived in Swansea, Ontario with his wife, Susan. Henry had already served in the military with the 10th Royal Grenadiers Active Militia and volunteered to fight for Canada when the need for soldiers was dire. He signed up for duty on September 7, 1915 in Toronto, and was placed in the 2nd Canadian Pioneer Battalion on November 11, 1915, days before his 26th birthday. Henry was promoted to Corporal because of his experience and he arrived in England on December 14, 1915. After a small period of training, Henry’s unit was deployed to France in March, 1916. He died in Belgium from wounds received in battle (possibly at St. Eloi) on April 23, 1916. Henry is buried in Belgium. His mother was given his Memorial Cross Medal.

Source: “Aishford, Henry Phillip,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 59-21, Item 3072; Geoff McKnight, “Street Names for FNB Developments,” 6 November 2007, Bradford Street Names Folder.

ANDREWS DRIVE

This street is named in honour of Walter Henry Andrews, a veteran of World War I. Walter was the son of William and Annie (Cairns) Andrews who settled in King Township after arriving from Lincolnshire, England. He was born on January 10, 1896 and he was drafted into the First World War on June 26, 1918. He came home from the war after serving in the 8th Reserve Battalion in England in 1919. Walter married Eva Jessop in 1924 and settled in Bradford to raise his family.

Source: “Andrews, Walter Henry,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 184-34, Item 10390.

● ARCHER AVENUE

This street is named in honour of Matthew Archer, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I.

Matthew Humphrey Archer was born December 24, 1896 in Bradford. He was the son of Thomas and Jennie May Archer who bought part of the McKay farmstead in Bradford and stayed in the area for decades. Matthew lived in Toronto at the time of his enlistment in the 201st Battalion and joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force on May 8, 1916. When his unit was disbanded Matthew was transferred to the 170th Battalion within the year, and then to the 75th Battalion under the 4th Canadian Division. Soldier transfers were very common in order to put men where they were most needed. In Matthew's case, his battalion was needed at the Battle of Vimy Ridge in 1917. In April 1917, Matthew received a Military Medal for his bravery during this battle because he continued to fire his Lewis gun for 48 hours to provide cover for the injured soldiers in his company. Sergeant Matthew Archer was killed on August 17, 1917 in Lens, France due to a direct hit from a shell. He is buried in the nearby Pas-de-Calais Cemetery.



MATTHEW ARCHER

Source: *Governor Simcoe Slept Here*, p476-7; Mark Collin Reid, *Canada's Great War Album: Our Memories of the First World War*, (Toronto, Ontario: HarperCollins Publishers Ltd., 2014): p39; "Archer, Matthew Humphrey," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 210-7, Item 11900.

● AVERILL COURT

This street is named in honour of Leonard Averill, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I. Son of Adam and Elizabeth Averill, Leonard was born July 16, 1887 into a life of farming alongside his four siblings. On September 23, 1915 at the age of 28, Leonard enlisted in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force under the 41st Field Artillery Battery. He was a Driver for the horses pulling artillery needed in France; his farm skills served him well in this assignment. Leonard was eventually transferred to the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade when his previous unit disbanded. This unit was indispensable in the Second Battle of Passchendaele.

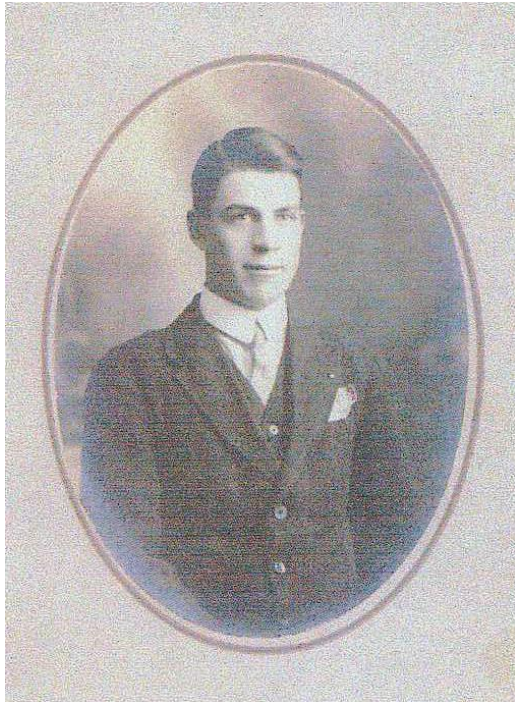
Leonard's contribution ended when he died in the field on November 13, 1917. He is buried in the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery near the Belgium – France border.

Source: "Averill, Leonard," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 313-44, Item 17906.

● BELFRY DRIVE

This street name was approved in November, 2007 for use by the Dreamfields subdivision. It is representative of many veterans' names. This street in particular is named after Elwood and George Belfry. Elwood and George Belfry were cousins through their fathers, James and William, the sons of Prince Sherman Belfry and Mary Robinson of Bradford. The Belfrys were one of the first families to settle in the Bradford area. Elwood and George's paternal grandfather settled on Lot 16 of Concession 8 on November 28, 1827.

George Wellington was born on January 22, 1894 in Bradford to William and Julia (Cole) Belfry. He was a farming prior to his enlistment on February 8, 1916 at the age of 22. He was drafted into the 76th Battalion and he immediately was transferred the 18th Battalion which normally recruited from Western Ontario. George was discharged from duty in early September due to illness. He quickly returned to the front, and was shot on September 15, though once again



he recovered quickly. The second time he was wounded, on October 1, proved to be fatal. George died on November 8, 1916 and is buried in France.

Elwood James was born in Bradford on June 7, 1884 to James and Mary (Ellsworth) Belfry. His family soon relocated to Tay Township and eventually to Orillia. Elwood lived in Toronto with his wife, Amelia, and their daughter, Florence, before following his cousin into the Canadian Expeditionary Force and enlisted on October 2, 1916 with the 239th Battalion. He arrived in England on December 28, and then was posted to France for service on March 27, 1917. Elwood was killed as result of a fight with unknown soldiers while off-duty near Pont Riquel. He died as result of his wounds on October 22, 1917.

GEORGE W BELFRY

Source: "Belfry, Elwood James," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 604-12, Item 35369, and "Belfry, George Wellington," Box 604-15, Item 35372; "Belfry," WEGWHIST Family Files; "Street Names for FNB Developments."

BOOTH STREET

This street is part of the Brookfield Homes subdivision, and the name was approved by the Town Council in March, 2006. Church Street in Bond Head was to be renamed Booth Street in 1994, but this event never officially occurred. Bond Head residents felt this renaming would be a loss of Bond Head's history, and that there were enough Bond Head veteran names to choose from.

Today, Booth Street is named in honour of Flight Officer James Mitchell Booth of the Royal Canadian Air Force. James enlisted in the Canadian Army on July 11, 1940, and was selected by the 77th Squadron of the Royal Air Force. In one operation, James and his crew were left stranded for four hours in Patricia Bay in a dingy after the aircraft was shot down. This event enabled James to join the 'Gold Fish Club', an unofficial term for aircrew who were left at sea for a long period. After the war, James left the forces in October, 1945 and moved to Bradford 11 years later. He worked here with the Provincial Government until 1977.

Source: *Bradford West Gwillimbury Times*, 8 June 1994, p19, "New Street Names Honor Veterans"; *Governor Simcoe Slept Here*, p501; Tami Kitay, "Recommendation Report – Street Naming – Brookfield Homes (Ontario) Limited," 14 March 2006, Bradford Street Names Folder.

BREEZE DRIVE

This street is named in honour of Gunner John Douglas Breeze of the Royal Canadian Artillery. The name was approved in March, 2006 as part of the Brookfield Homes subdivision. Breeze was a veteran of World War II who received medals for his distinguished service and bravery. Although Turner Road's name in West Gwillimbury was meant to be changed to Breeze Drive in honour of Bradford West Gwillimbury's veterans in June, 1994 for the 50th D-Day Anniversary, the change did not occur.

John Breeze was born in Durham, England on March 30, 1912, and he moved to Canada later to become a farmer. Breeze enlisted on the first day of the Second World War (September 4, 1939). He trained in Ottawa until he was posted to England before the New Year. John was sent to Sicily on July 10, 1943 as part of the Canadian offensive from the south. He joined the 1st Canadian Anti-Tank Regiment posted there. John was wounded twice in the face by shrapnel, although he continued to do his duties.

In the *Supplement to the London Gazette* (July 5, 1945), he was given a mention for being awarded the Military Medal for his service in Italy. This medal was received on June 23, 1945. The medal is given to non-officer ranks for their bravery within battle and is usually for Commonwealth soldiers. John received his medal because of his firm resolution in battle. On one occasion, he ordered his crew to take cover when they were under heavy shell fire. He then went into the field alone to find a better vantage point to attack the enemy. Once the group reached their targeted point, John's accuracy set one tank ablaze immediately and caused another to

retreat. John held his detachment there until the threat was over, breaking up an enemy counter-attack in the Canale Naviglio on December 13, 1944. In his citation for the Military Medal, it was mentioned that “[h]is action on this occasion and throughout this period are worthy of the highest praise.” John continued to live in Bradford after the war and worked as a labourer.

Source: *Bradford West Gwillimbury Times*, 8 June 1994, p19, “New Street Names Honor Veterans”; *Supplement to the London Gazette*, 5 July 1945, issue 37162, supplement 3496 (London, England: The Gazette Official Public record), accessed June 2016.

● BRIAN COLLIER WAY

This newer street runs between the Leisure Centre and the Public Library in Bradford. It is named in honour of Brian Collier who died while on duty in Afghanistan. Brian was born July 6, 1986 in Toronto to parents James Edward and Carol L. Collier. The family was from Bradford, and Brian and his siblings were raised there. On December 7, 2007, Brian enlisted in Ottawa and was soon sent overseas to Afghanistan. While on a foot patrol on July 20, 2010, Brian was killed by an improved explosive device (IED) close to Kandahar City. Brian’s body was brought back to Trenton Base in Ontario. After its journey down the Highway of Heroes (Highway 401), Bradford hosted his funeral at the Holy Martyrs of Japan Catholic Church. Brian is buried in the Holy Martyrs Cemetery in Bradford.

SAPPER BRIAN COLLIER



Source: *Barrie Examiner*, 21 July 2010, digital article, “Brian Collier loved being a soldier.”

● CARTER STREET

Approved for the Brookfield – Mod-Aire Homes subdivision in August, 2010, this street is named after veterans Robert Everett “Bob” and Sergeant Frederick Carter.

Bob Carter was born February 28, 1894 to William and Elizabeth Carter in Bradford. He lived as a farmer before enlisting with the 157th Battalion on February 8, 1916 at the age of 20. Bob arrived in England on May 5, first transferring to the 76th Battalion, and then to the 20th Battalion on June 29. He stayed in this battalion until his death on September 30, 1916 as part of the Battle of Thiepval Ridge (a division of the Somme offensive). Bob was killed by an enemy shell exploding above his trench. He is buried at Vimy Memorial Cemetery.

Frederick C.T. Carter was born to Charles and Ada (Locke) Carter on January 27, 1894 in Bristol, England. He enlisted for World War I on January 31, 1916 in Toronto, and was sent to the 54th Depot Battery. He was promoted to Sergeant, fought in the 6th Battery in France, and was awarded a Good Conduct Badge in 1918. Fred was discharged from service at the end of the war in April 1919 and lived briefly in Toronto at this time. He married Mildred Owen in 1920 in Bradford, Ontario. Fred also enlisted for duty in World War II. He return after the war and remained in Bradford until his death in 1964 at the age of 70. He is buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.



Source: *Bradford Witness*, 25 November 1964, p5, “Carter, Frederick Charles Thomas”; “Carter, Frederick C.T.,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 1542-32, Item 90840, and “Carter, Robert Everett,” Box 1549-11, Item 91171; “Recommendation Report – Street Naming – Brookfield Homes (Ontario) Limited.”

BOB CARTER AND BIRDIE WEBB IN 1916

● CASSELS DRIVE

This street is named in honour of James Cassells, a Supreme Sacrifice of World War I. James Edward Cassells, son of Mark and Ellen Agnes (O’Brien) Cassells, was born June 11, 1893 and lived in Bond Head where his father had settled after emigrating from Ireland. According to his attestation papers, James was an auctioneer. He enrolled in the 116th Battalion in Whitby, Ontario on October 31, 1915. James was given the rank of Sergeant while training in Base Borden, but he gave up this rank at his own request after arriving in England. He transferred to the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, in October, 1916. He fell ill but returned to duty after a leave of absence. James was wounded in April, 1917, and once again he persevered and remained on duty. He was part of the final offensive for World War I, known as the Battle of Amiens. James was killed in action on the first day, August 8, 1918. He is buried at Hangard Wood British Cemetery in Somme, France.

Source: “Cassells, James Edward,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 1566-19, Item 92232.

● CERSWELL DRIVE

This street is named in honour of Gordon Lister Cerswell, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I. He was the son of John Edwin/Edward and Agnes Cerswell of Bradford. They were part of the Cerswell lineage that emigrated from Donegal, Ireland in 1819. Gordon was born on January 19, 1895. He was 20 years old when he enlisted with the 74th Battalion on July 21, 1915. He arrived in France in March, 1916 and was transferred to the 1st Battalion. Gordon was killed in action on May 6, 1916 in Zillebeke, Ypres, Belgium, and he is buried in Woods Military Cemetery in Belgium.

Source: “Cerswell,” WEGWHIST Family Files; “Cerswell, Gordon,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 1592-31, Item 93770.

● COLLIS DRIVE

This street is named in honour of John A. Collis, a soldier during World War II and one who paid the Supreme Sacrifice.

John Albert Collis was born on October 14, 1915 in Lowville, Ontario to parents George and Florence May Collis. He later married Dorothy Ruby in Bradford, Ontario, and they had a daughter, Joan Yvonne Collis, and a son, John Neill Collis. John was a truck driver before he enlisted in the army near the start of the war on September 8, 1939. John trained extensively in Brockville, Kingston, and Niagara-on-the-Lake as a parachutist and was promoted to rank of Sergeant before he was shipped overseas on December 2, 1943. John was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp for his commitment to the war effort, and was finally placed in the field on March 14, 1944 with the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, 11th Battalion. He was killed in action on July 25, 1944 in Caen, France. John is buried in Bretteville-Sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery in Calvados, France.

JOHN A. COLLIS



Source: “Request for Street Names – National Homes (Bradford) Inc.”; “Collis, John Albert,” *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, Vol. 25620, Item 6886.

● COUSINS COURT

The name Cousins Court was approved on November 6, 2007. A separate street named Cousins Way was approved on December 12, 2006. The latter was quickly changed to Vipond Way after the separate developers realized the duplication.

Both streets were named in honour of Ernest Cousins, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I. Ernest Cousins was born to James and Hannah Cousins of Unionville, Ontario on May 23, 1894. His family lived in Bradford but Ernest moved to Mount Albert to work as a farmer until he served in the 12th York Rangers Active Militia. He was 22 years old when he enlisted on June 10, 1916 with the 134th Canadian Infantry Battalion (48th Highlanders). Ernest landed in England in May, 1917 where his unit became the 15th Battalion and fought as reinforcements in the field. His unit fought in the Battle of Amiens, a huge victory for the Allies' advancement. Ernest was killed in action on August 8, 1918 during an attack east of Gentelles. He is buried in Demuin British Cemetery in Somme, France.

Source: Canadian Great War Project, "15th Canadian Infantry Battalion," August 1918, *War Diaries of the First World War*, (Ottawa, Ontario: Library and Archives Canada): p4; "Cousins, Ernest," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 2056-26, Item 120896; Geoff McKnight, "Recommendation Report – Street Naming Emery Estates Development," 12 December 2006, Bradford Street Names, *Local History Collection*; "Street Names for FNB Developments."

● DALE CRESCENT

WILLIAM DALE

This street is named in honour of William Dale, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I. The street was approved by the Town on July 21, 1999.

John William Dale was born on December 29, 1890 to parents J. Henry and Annie R. (Hyslop) Dale from Toronto, Ontario. Henry later worked on Pleasant View Farms in Gilford, Ontario. William moved away from home to work as a Teamster. When war was declared, William enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force on June 9, 1915 and arrived in France at the beginning of the new year. He was at first part of the 35th Battalion, and he was later transferred to the 20th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry Regiment where he fought in St. Eloi, a disastrous battle for Canadians. William Dale was killed in action at the age of 25 on May 10, 1916, after just over two months of service. He is buried in Ridge Wood Military Cemetery in Belgium.



Source: "Bradford Street Names," circa 2001, Bradford Street Names Folder; "Dale, John William," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 2267-17, Item 345830.



• DAVIS ROAD

DAN DAVIS

This street is named in honour of Dan Davis, a soldier who paid the Supreme Sacrifice in World War II.

Daniel George Davis was born to Norman and Isabella (Wilson) Davis on March 21, 1917 in Belle Ewart, Ontario. The family owned a farm near Fennell's Corners where Dan grew up and began working around the area at various other farms when work was available. He was interested in model aircrafts growing up, and had recorded this hobby as one of his skills upon enlistment.

Dan enlisted in April, 1942 with the Royal Canadian Air Force, but was not needed for service at that time. He re-enlisted in August of the same year. He was taken into flight duty training until he embarked for England on July 24, 1943 as an air gunner. Dan was with the 514 Squadron of the Royal Air Force. He was awarded a Canadian Volunteer Medal and Maple Leaf on February 20, 1944. Promoted to Flight Sergeant in April 1944, he acted as the aircraft gunner during his duties. Dan and a crew of seven took off for Valenciennes on the night of June 15, 1944, though their aircraft crashed in the early hours of June 16 and all crew members perished near Iwuy, France. Daniel George is buried here alongside his crew. Operational Wings were given to his parents in his honour for his service.

Source: "Davis, Daniel," *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RG24, Vol. 25173, Item 8448.

• DIMOCK COURT

HEDLEY G. DIMOCK

This street is named in honour of Hedley Gilbert Dimock, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in the Second World War. The street is located in the Bradford East Developments subdivision.

Hedley Dimock was born April 22, 1922 in Eston, Saskatchewan to Charles Albert and Minnie Dimock. His parents moved to Bradford, Ontario in 1932. His father worked as a garage operator, and Hedley followed that career path as a mechanic. He joined the Royal Canadian



Air Force on June 25, 1940 and trained as a flight engineer. He embarked for France in 1942, and by the end of 1943, he was serving in the east of Africa. By March, 1944 he was stationed in India as part of the 212 Squadron. On a night convoy escort mission on June 26, 1944, his crew went missing. He was confirmed dead in July, 1944 when his plane was found; it had crashed into buildings upon take-off and was destroyed while in Ernakulam Town. Hedley held the rank of Flight Sergeant/Engineer at the time of his death.

Source: “Dimock, Hedley Gilbert,” *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, R112, Vol. 30635, Item 39909; Leigh Ann Penner, “Request for Street Names – Bradford East Developments Inc.,” 3 May 2016, Report DES-2016-26, Bradford Street Names Folder.

● ELDRIDGE STREET

This street name was proposed by the Great Gulf – Summerlyn Homes in 2007. It is named in honour of World War I soldiers of Supreme Sacrifice and brothers, Anthony Frank and William Eldridge.

In St. Leonard-on-sea, Sussex, England, William George was born on October 4, 1893 while Anthony Frank was born on January 8, 1897. Their parents, John and Emily Eldridge, stayed in England while the brothers immigrated to Canada. Frank was 16 and William was 20 when they were employed as farmers; William worked in Newmarket and Frank worked in Bradford. William was the first of the two to enlist in Niagara on August 4, 1915, and Frank followed his brother into service in Bradford on February 3, 1916. Both were assigned to the 74th Overseas Battalion.

William was inducted into the 28th Battalion in June, 1916. He quickly progressed up the ranks. He was first appointed Lieutenant-Corporal, then Corporal, and finally William became Sergeant of his company in April, 1917. He had a brief stay at the field ambulance station on June 8, 1917, and rejoined his unit a day after his sickness passed. William was killed in action on November 7, 1917 during a major offensive in the Battle of Passchendaele near Hill 37. He received a Distinguished Conduct Medal, British War Medal, and the Victory Medal posthumously. William is memorialized on the Menin Gate Memorial in Belgium. His body was never recovered.

After landing in France in June, 1916, Frank joined the 15th Battalion. After only two months of service, he was killed in action on August 4, 1916 in Zillebeke, Ypres, Belgium during a night skirmish. Frank was one of six men killed that day, and he is buried in Zillebeke at the Railway Dugouts Burial Ground.

Source: Canadian Great War Project, “15th Canadian Infantry Battalion,” August 1916, p7, and “28th Canadian Infantry Battalion,” November 1917, p36-39; “Eldridge, Anthony Frank,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 2858-26, Item 376068, and “Eldridge, William George,” Box 2859-22, Item 375343; Mark Bryan, “Street Names for Great Gulf Homes (Summerlyn),” 15 January 2008, Bradford Street Names Folder.

● FARIS STREET

This street name was proposed as part of the Brookfield Homes subdivision, and was approved March 14, 2006. It was chosen to honour of World War II soldier of Supreme Sacrifice, Lt. Keith D. Faris. The Faris family has been part of the Scotch Settlement and Bradford history since its beginnings. It was one of the first settler families in the area.

Keith Donnell Faris was born on Maple Farm in the Scotch Settlement of West Gwillimbury to parents William G. and Bertha (Strong) Faris on October 15, 1912. After completing school in Bradford, Keith went to the University of Toronto and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Classics, graduating with first-class honours. He later won the Lieutenant-Governor Award for highest standing from the Ontario College of Education. Keith was teaching at Rockcliffe Park School in



LT. KEITH D. FARIS

Ottawa when he enlisted in the army in early 1941. Soon he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and was attached to the 71st Battery of the 8th Canadian Field Regiment upon completing training. He left for England in October of 1941 and switched battalions until he joined the 25th Field Battalion of the 1st Field Brigade. Keith was killed in the battle of Pontecarvo by shell fire while attempting to save wounded troops on May 24, 1944. Upon his death, Lt. Keith was awarded the 1939-45 Star, the Italy Star, the Defense Medal, the War Medal, and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp. These awards were all given to his brother Gordon.

Source: “Faris, Keith Donnell,” *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, R112, Vol. 30815, Item 41002; *Bradford Witness*, 7 June 1944, p1, “Lieut. Keith D. Faris Killed in Action”; “Recommendation Report – Street Naming – Brookfield Homes (Ontario) Limited.”

• GEDDES STREET

This street name was approved November 6, 2007 as part of the FNB – Dreamfields subdivision north of Line 8 and east of Sideroad 10. It was chosen to honour Jack Geddes, a World War II soldier of Supreme Sacrifice.

Jack Geddes, son of George and Julia Ethel (Robinson) Geddes, was born on May 13, 1917 in Bradford, Ontario. He worked as a Sub-Foreman for a Barrie construction company prior to marrying Mabel Elizabeth Copeland in May, 1940. They had a daughter, Gwendoline Elizabeth. Jack enlisted on November 27, 1942 specifically to join the Royal Canadian Air Force. Jack earned the rank of Sergeant in October, 1943 and was an Air Gunner for the R.C.A.F. Jack landed overseas on December 1, 1943 where he trained until joining the 619th Squadron. Throughout his service, Jack received the 1939-45 Star, the French and German Star, the Defence Medal, the War Medal, and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp.

In mid-July, 1944, he and his flight crew did not return from their mission to Revigny, France, and were presumed dead. Their bodies were found and registered through the Imperial War Graves Commission at Auger St. Vincent Cemetery in Oise, France. He officially died July 19, 1944, and his wife received his Operational Wings in recognition of his service.

His sister predeceased him in 1934, and his brother George was also fighting overseas in the Royal Canadian Air Force, though he lived through the war.



JACK GEDDES

Source: *Cemetery Inscriptions*, p235; “Geddes, Jack,” *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 27578, Item 12750; “Street Names for FNB Developments.”

• GOSNELL CIRCLE

This circle and its name were approved November 6, 2007 as part of the FNB – Dreamfields subdivision north of Line 8 and east of Sideroad 10. It was chosen to honour George Dalton Gosnell, a World War I soldier of Supreme Sacrifice.

George Dalton Gosnell was born on August 1, 1888 to parents George and Eva Gosnell

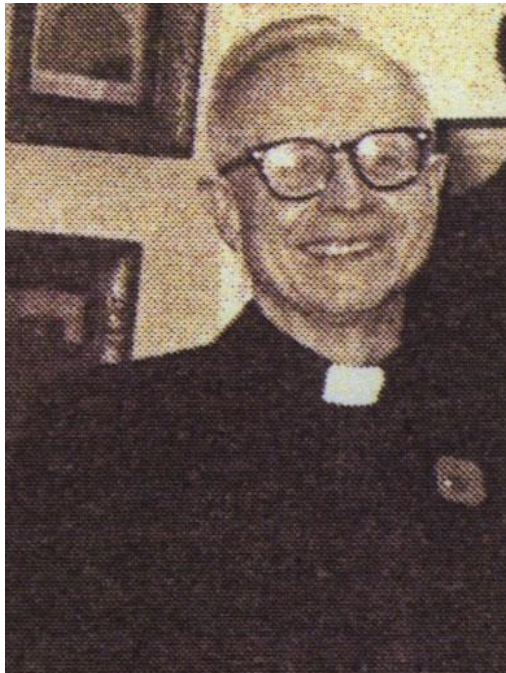
of Duntroon, Simcoe County. Dalton became a farmer in Bradford, and later married Margarite Gladys Sampson on October 27, 1915. He signed up for service on April 17, 1916 in Bradford and was taken into the 177th Overseas Battalion. Dalton left Halifax on May 1, 1917, and was immediately transferred to the 19th Battalion. Wounded on four separate occasions, he died from the last gunshot wound to his left leg on August 10, 1918. Dalton is buried in the St. Sever Cemetery and Extension (Rouen) in Seine-Maritime, France.

Source: “Gosnell, George Dalton,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 3663-20, Item 426102; “Street Names for FNB Developments.”

● HOPKINS CRESCENT

This street is named after Brigadier-General Padre Ormand A. Hopkins, former rector of the Anglican Parish in Bradford. Originally, Simcoe Street in Bond Head was to be renamed Hopkins Road at the time of 50th D-Day anniversary in honour of veterans. That plan never officially occurred, and the name of Hopkins lies on a nearby crescent instead.

Ormand Hopkins was born August 18, 1925 in Perth, Ontario. He studied religion at Perth Collegiate and Bishops University, was ordained a deacon in 1949, and then was priested in 1950. Hopkins enlisted in the Royal Canadian Army Chaplain Corps in 1953 and served in Korea. He also served with the First Canadian Contingent as part of the UN Emergency Force in 1956 in Egypt. Upon returning to Canada, he was Chaplain at Sunnybrook Veterans’ Hospital in Toronto. After this posting, he moved across the country, from British Columbia to Prince



Edward Island, wherever his services were needed. Hopkins was promoted to Major at Camp Borden in 1963 and to Lieutenant-Colonel in 1970.

Hopkins was a Colonel for the Canadian Forces Europe (West Germany), and finally he was promoted to Brigadier-General and Chaplain General for the National Defense Headquarters in Ottawa. Upon retiring from duty, Hopkins was appointed to the Bradford Anglican Parish in 1984. He was awarded many medals for his years in service, including the Merit of Canada, the Order of Military Merit by the Governor General of Canada, the Korea Medal, the UN Korea Medal, the UN Operation Medal, and the Canadian Decoration & Bar.

PADRE HOPKINS

Source: *Bradford West Gwillimbury Times*, 8 June 1994, p19, “New Street Names Honor Veterans”; Tami Kitay, “Request for Street Names – Bearsfield Developments Inc. and Triple-R-Ranch Co. Ltd.,” 5 April 2011, Report PDS-11-12, Bradford Street Names Folder.

● KIDD STREET

This street is named in honour of John Henry Kidd, a Supreme Sacrifice of World War I. It is part of the FNB – Dreamfields development which was approved in 2007.

John Henry Kidd was born in Wroxham, Norfolk, England on November 1, 1892. He came to Bradford, Ontario in 1910 when he was 19, and went into the farming trade under the employ of William and Henrietta Wood. John married Agnes while in Bradford, and then enlisted for the Canadian Expeditionary Force on March 2, 1916. He was transferred to the 58th Battalion in July. John was fighting in the trenches at Courcellette in the Battle of the Somme, France when he was killed in action on October 5, 1916. His final resting place is unknown, though he is memorialized on the Vimy Memorial in France. Agnes received a Memorial Cross for his service.

Source: “Kidd, John Henry,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 5137-8, Item 496615; “Street Names for FNB Developments.”

● KNEESHAW PLACE

This street is named in honour of Flying Officer Arthur Kneeshaw of the Royal Canadian Air Force. It was named to honour his commitment to the community after his service. Originally, Simcoe Place was to be renamed Kneeshaw Place in 1994 as part of the 50th D-Day anniversary. This proposal was never officially passed by the Town Council because of residents’ backlash over Bradford’s influence in the Bond Head community.

The Kneeshaw Family settled in the mid-1800’s in West Gwillimbury, and has been a large part of the community ever since. Arthur attended school in West Gwillimbury. Prior to enlisting for overseas service, he taught elementary school. In World War II, Arthur was an observer and wireless navigator whose duties included escorting vessels, patrols, and anti-sub operations. He was part of Air Sea Rescues, and was awarded war medals for his service.

When he returned to life in Bradford after 1945, Arthur was employed at Kneeshaw Insurance. He also held the offices of Justice of the Peace (in the Registry Office and Registrars), as well as being the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of West Gwillimbury for 6 years. He retired in 1983.

Arthur was a leader in building community recreation facilities, such as the community center, the curling club, and the library. He had an active role in coaching sports and organizing community programs. Arthur was given the Bradford Citizen of the Year Award in 1974, and the Melvin Jones Award (a Community service recognition award) with Lionism.

ART KNEESHAW



He was a Member of the Committee of Adjustment, a Member of the Simcoe County Legal Aid Committee, and Past President and District Officer of the Bradford Lions Club where he was member for over 40 years. Arthur died on November 12, 2003 and he is buried in the Coulson's Hill Cemetery with his wife, Ruth Wood.

Source: Bradford Lions Club, letter to Clerk Administrator Juanita Dempster-Evans, 4 January 1994, Bradford Street Names Folder; *Bradford West Gwillimbury Times*, "New Street Names Honor Veterans," 8 June 1994, p19; Coulson's Hill Cemetery.

Source: Bradford Lions Club, letter to Clerk Administrator Juanita Dempster-Evans, 4 January 1994, Bradford Street Names Folder; *Bradford West Gwillimbury Times*, "New Street Names Honor Veterans," 8 June 1994, p19; Coulson's Hill Cemetery.

● LEITH DRIVE

This street is named in honour of William Leith, a World War II soldier of Supreme Sacrifice. It was approved in December, 2006 as part of the Emery – Fernbrook subdivision.



I.W. LEITH'S HEADSTONE IN SICILY

Irvine William Leith was born August 7, 1909 in Aberdeen, Scotland. He moved to Canada in May, 1926 at the age of 16 with his mother, Jessie Morrison Leith, sister Jessie, and brother John. They lived in Bradford with Miss S. MacDonald. William was a clerk at the time of his immigration, but he was listed as a cobbler upon his enlistment in the army. He was married on December 7, 1940 to Joan Hanlyn (who remarried after William's death) in Southampton, UK, while on leave from Base Borden. The couple relocated to Southampton in 1940 so William could see Joan on his army leaves. William was in the 48th Highlanders after long years training in Toronto and Base Borden. He was awarded the Good Conduct Badge in February, 1942. He left for the front in Sicily, Italy in June, 1943, though soon William died of his wounds in action on July 24, 1943. He was awarded the 1939-45 Star, the Italy Star, the Defence Medal, the War Medal 1939-45, and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp. William is buried in the Canadian Military Cemetery in Agira, Sicily

Source: "Leith, Irvine William," *Service Files of the Second World War – War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 26347,

● LONG STREET

This street name was approved April 5, 2011 as part of the Mod-Aire – Westbrook subdivision. It was chosen to honour of Arthur Long, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I.

Arthur Given Long was born on February 6, 1893 to parents Rev. James and Mary Ann (Given) Long in Singhampton, Ontario. As his father was a reverend of the Methodist faith, the family moved around the Simcoe and Grey counties, which included a brief stop in Bond Head and Bradford in 1901-1905. Arthur settled in Toronto and became an accountant in the Weston district. He joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force on June 10, 1915 and he was attached to the 36th Battalion. He eventually was moved to the 18th Battalion and fought in Ypres, Belgium. On March 26, 1916 while on the front lines near Ploegsteert with his company, Arthur was wounded in the leg with shrapnel and he died of his wounds and shell shock before he reached a dressing station. He is buried in Ridge Wood Cemetery in Ypres, Belgium.

Source: *Governor Simcoe Slept Here*, p69, 71; “Long, Arthur,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 5724-35, Item 535715; “Request for Street Names – Bearsfield Developments Inc. and Triple-R-Ranch Co. Ltd.”

● MCCANN CRESCENT

This street was named in honour of Wallace McCann, a Supreme Sacrifice of World War I. It is part of the Emery – Fernbrook subdivision, and the name was approved in December, 2006.

Clarke Wallace McCann was born May 14, 1894 in Toronto, Ontario. He was the son of Samuel Henry and Ellen (Huff) McCann. Samuel was born in Gilford and spent most of his life in the area until he moved with Ellen to Toronto to be closer to their daughter Sarah (Sadie). Wallace stayed in Bradford after his parents’ move, and was a school teacher at the time of his enlistment with the 76th Battalion on September 24, 1915. During his service, Wallace was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and transferred to the 24th Battalion, a Quebec-based regiment. He died on the front near Marcelcave from a gunshot wound on August 8, 1918 in the Battle of Amiens. This position was captured by his unit afterwards and the German front was pushed back 13km. Wallace’s name is immortalized on the Vimy Memorial in France, and his place of burial is unknown.

Source: “McCann, Clarke Wallace,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 6613-1, Item 140755; “Recommendation Report – Street Naming Emery Estates Development.”

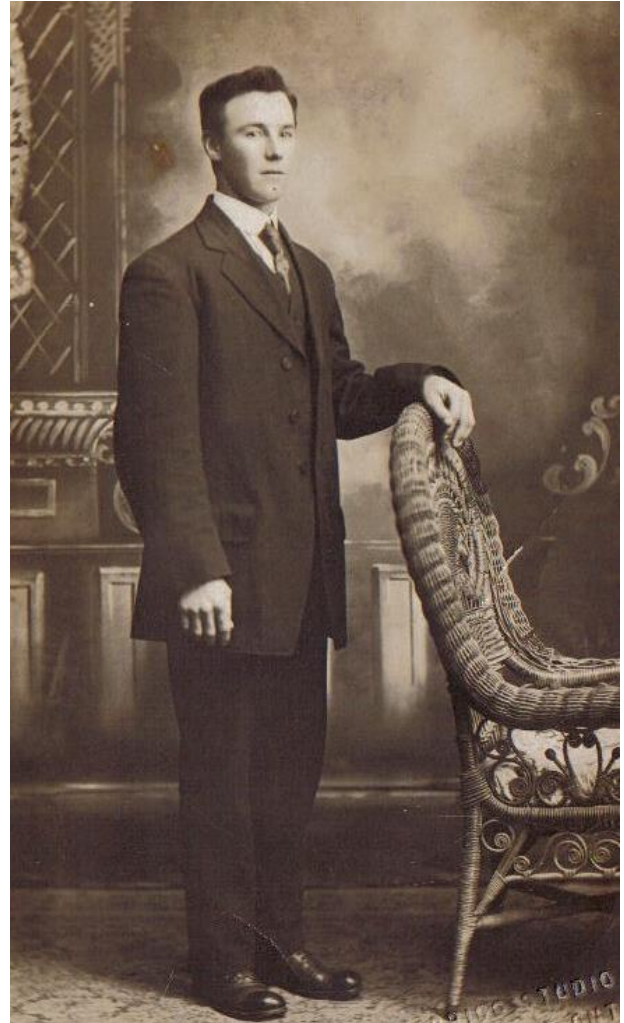
● MCDONALD LANE

This street is named in honour of James McDonald, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice during World War I. The McDonald family had lived on this laneway, which was located between Frederick Street and what was known as the William Strong farm at that time.

James Gavan McDonald was born on September 25, 1892 to parents John and Maria (Barry) McDonald. John was the son of Irish immigrants George and Sarah McDonnell, and was said to have changed his name to “McDonald” to get rid of the constant confusion around the McDonnell spelling. James enlisted on April 12, 1915, and he was sent overseas a few months later. James was in the 3rd Battalion when he was reported wounded and missing. By October 8, 1916, his body had been found and he was officially listed as killed in action. James is on the Vimy Memorial, and his body is buried nearby.

JAMES G. MCDONALD

Source: “McDonald, James Gavan,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 6733-56, Item 146913.



● MCDONNELL CRESCENT

This street is named after Arthur Sydney George McDonnell, a World War II soldier of Supreme Sacrifice. Arthur was the son of George and Edith Rose McDonnell, who were married in Bradford in 1919. George was the son of George McDonnell and Sarah Benderman/Benson, immigrants of Scotland who became prominent in the Bradford community [*See McDonald Lane*]. Arthur was born April 16, 1920 in Bradford and worked as a farmer. He enlisted on June 23, 1941, after his mother died in January of the same year.

Arthur trained in Toronto and Base Borden before heading overseas on April 19, 1942 to join the Queen’s Own Rifles of Canada Regiment. He was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp in January, 1944. Arthur was wounded in action on June 2nd in France, and died of his wounds days later on June 12, 1944 in the Royal Navy Hospital in England. He was buried at Brookwood Military Cemetery in Woking, England. He was awarded the 1939-45 Star, the France-German Star, the Defence Medal, and the War Medal (1939-45). He held the

rank of Rifleman.

Source: *Governor Simcoe Slept Here*, p690; “McDonnell, Arthur Sidney George,” *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 26452, Item 23433; “Request for Street Names – National Homes (Bradford) Inc.”

● MCKINSTRY ROAD

At the time of the 50th anniversary of D-Day, Town Council looked to rename certain roads to honour Bradford’s veterans. McKinstry Road used to be a service road off Highway 88. Now, it bears the name of James George McKinstry of the 123rd Canadian Pioneer Branch, a soldier of Supreme Sacrifice in World War I.

James George McKinstry was born in Bradford on December 4, 1884 to parents James and Maria (Webb) McKinstry. The McKinstrys were earlier settlers in West Gwillimbury, establishing themselves here in the mid-1800s. George married Marjory Morgan on August 11, 1906, and the couple lived and raised their family in Mimico, Ontario. George was a tinsmith and had previously served as a Corporal in the 10th Battalion Royal Grenadiers in the South African War. George enlisted on December 11, 1915 with the 123rd Pioneer Branch and he worked as an instructor and Corporal in England at the start of his service. While returning from the front line with his platoon, George was struck by shrapnel and killed in the Ypres trenches on



October 21, 1917. He was posthumously awarded for Lionism, distinguished service, and he also was granted the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The road is also named in recognition of Jack McKinstry. He also served in World War I, survived, and immigrated to Dearborn, Michigan. Jack was born in Bradford in 1899, attended Bradford public and high schools where he established an enviable reputation in athletics as a runner. Jack enlisted and went overseas in the First Great War with Major Stoddart. He returned from war to Bradford and later moved to Detroit where he worked at the Ford Motor Company. He was in poor health for about two months before his death on January 7, 1955. Jack was predeceased by his wife, and is survived by a son and daughter in Dearborn, Michigan.

GEORGE MCKINSTRY

Source: *Bradford West Gwillimbury Times*, 8 June 1994, p19, “New Street Names Honor Veterans”; “McKinstry, James George,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 7010-2, Item 166619.

● MELBOURNE DRIVE

This street is an extension of Professor Day Drive located to the south of Holland Street. It was named Melbourne Drive in honour of Laurie Melbourne, a soldier in the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II who paid the Supreme Sacrifice.

Wilfred Laurier “Laurie” Melbourne was born March 13, 1916 in Bond Head to Charles and Kennetta (Ogilvie) Melbourne. His parents and two brothers stayed in Bradford while Laurie and his eldest brother, Daniel, moved to Toronto to further their careers. He earned a degree in Mining Engineering at University of Toronto before he changed paths and went to Normal School for a teacher’s certificate. He was later teaching in St. Catharines. Laurie was married to Orma Irene on June 24, 1942 and the two lived in Toronto at the time of his enlistment on June 30, 1942. Laurie had joined the Royal Canadian Air Force previously, but was discharged from duty in 1941 because of a severe ear infection.

After re-enlisting, he became a Sergeant, and later Pilot Officer, during his training and was given the Navigation Badge in August, 1943. Laurie embarked for the front on September 13, 1943 and was assigned as a navigator for the 433 Squadron, ‘Y’ Depot because of his high marks in mathematics, sciences, and navigation training. He was qualified to be a pilot, but he preferred to take the navigation position. Laurie was killed in action on February 4, 1945 when his aircraft collided with another over Courtil, Belgium. He is buried at Hotton British Cemetery in Belgium. Laurie received Operational Wings and a Certificate “in recognition of his gallant service” to the R.C.A.F.



Laurie Melbourne

Source: “Melbourne, Wilfred Laurier,” *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 28226, Item 24635.

● MILLIGAN STREET

This street is named in honour of John Milligan, an early casualty of World War I. The street is part of the Brookfield Homes subdivision. The Town Council granted approval in March, 2006.

John Milligan was born in Bradford to Thomas and Sarah Milligan on May 30, 1893. He trained and worked as a miller, and belonged to the 36th Militia Regiment. John enlisted in Valcartier, Quebec on September 22, 1914 and he was sent into the 4th Battalion of the Canadian

Infantry. John was killed in action on October 3, 1915 in the trenches at Ploegsteert Wood, Belgium. He was buried nearby at the Ploegsteert Wood Military Cemetery.

Source: “Milligan, John,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box6205A-57, Item 186090; “Recommendation Report – Street Naming – Brookfield Homes (Ontario) Limited.”

● MOONEY STREET

This street is named after Frederick Dalton Mooney, a Supreme Sacrifice in World War I. Fred was born March 18, 1896 in Bradford, and lived with his family on John Street. He became a farmer in the area, and enlisted with the 208th Battalion on December 16, 1916. He was transferred to the 4th Battalion Canadian Infantry in France where he was wounded by machine gun fire near Foulies, France. Fred died of his wounds at the No. 48 Clearing Station on August 10 1918. He was originally buried in the Hospital Military Cemetery, but was reinterred in Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery near Somme, France.

Source: “Mooney, Frederick Dalton,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 6314-6, Item 181707; “Recommendation Report – Street Naming – Brookfield Homes (Ontario) Limited.”

● MORRIS ROAD

This street is named in honour of Job Morris, a veteran of World War I. Morris Road previously ran only south of Back Street, but in the 1990s, it incorporated the old section of Anne Street. Morris Road runs to the Holland Marsh, close to the residences of Job’s twin brothers, Max and Merle Morris. There are headstones in the Belfry Cemetery on Line 8 which have the names Job and Ann Morris, grandparents of Pvt. Job and his numerous siblings.

Job Morris was born on March 22, 1897 in Bradford, ON to Thomas R. and Kate (McRae) Morris. He worked as a gardener like his father. On July 14, 1915, Job joined the 75th Battalion in World War I. He returned home and married Jeanne Olton on October 16, 1919. Thereafter, the family lived in Bradford until Jeanne’s death caused by stomach cancer on March 8, 1931. Job remarried to Anne Adelle Crate, and his son Wilfred Morris (son of Jeanne) soon became a Sergeant in World War II. Job died October 5, 1944 at the Christie Street Hospital, Toronto. He is buried in the Prospect Cemetery in Toronto. His headstone reveals that he served in the 3rd Battalion of the C.E.F. The cemetery confirmed that Jeanne is buried in the same plot.

Source: *Bradford Witness*, 11 October 1944, p5, “Morris Job”; *Cemetery Inscriptions*, p163-4; “Morris, Job,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 6390-58, Item 177624; *Registrations of Marriages, 1869-1928*, Series MS932, Reel 479, Item 686115; *Registration of Deaths, 1869-1938*, MS935, Reel 425, Record 030230; Saint and Jackson, p46, 48-9, 66.

● NEILLY TERRANCE

This street is named in honour of the Neilly family's sacrifices as soldiers in the World Wars. William and Earl Neilly died in World War I, and Scott Neilly died in a training accident while enlisted in World War II. This street name was approved for usage in the FNB Developments subdivision in November, 2007.

All of these Neillys descend from James and Catherine Neilly who emigrated from Ireland. William was the grandson of this initial family. Earl was a great-grandson of James and Catherine through another of their children. Albert Scott was Earl's first cousin. Two other Neillys fought in the World Wars and returned to West Gwillimbury: John D. fought in World War I, and Louis G. was a pilot in World War II.

William Wesley Neilly was born to James and Esther Neilly on December 23, 1881. He was born in Gilford, though he moved to Waubaushene after his marriage to Florence in 1907. William was a labourer when he enlisted in the 157th Overseas Battalion on September 22, 1915. He was transferred to the 4th Battalion and soon was wounded in action. He was sent to the South Midland Clearing Station where he died from his wounds on September 21, 1916, almost one year after enlisting. William is buried in Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery in Somme, France.

Victor Earl Neilly was born to John D. and Sarah A. Neilly on June 21, 1897 in West Gwillimbury. His family lived in Cookstown where he worked as a salesman. Earl enlisted on April 1, 1916 in Cookstown and trained at Camp Borden. He was in the 157th Battalion, the same initial unit as his second cousin, and was not deployed until October, 1916. He was reported missing in action on May 8, 1917, and he was presumed dead because his body was never found. Earl's name is on the Vimy Memorial in France.



SGT. A. SCOTT NEILLY

LOUIS G. NEILLY, WWII PILOT



Albert Scott Neilly was born December 25, 1915 to Louis A. and Florence Neilly in Gilford, Ontario. Scott had actively participated in the church choir and in the Sunday School program. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force on May 5, 1941 and graduated from Camp Borden on January 16, 1942. He went to the Trenton Base in order to take an instructors course. Scott was then transferred to Chatham, New Brunswick three weeks prior to his accident. His plane crashed into another plane while on the runway near Chatham, and he and the plane were badly damaged. Scott died on May 28, 1942. He was buried at home in St. John's Cemetery in

Coulson's Hill. One of his pallbearers was Dan Davis, another Supreme Sacrifice of World War II.

Source: *Governor Simcoe Slept Here*, p699-704; "Neilly, Victor Earl," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 7257-11, Item 557875, and "Neilly, William Wesley," Box 7257-13, Item 557877; "Neilly, Albert Scott," *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RB 24, Vol. 28325, Item 26476; "Street Names for FNB Developments."

● NOBLE DRIVE

From the 50th anniversary D-Day memorials, Centre Street's name was to be changed to Noble Street in honour of Keith Noble, a World War II veteran and active community member. This change never officially took place. Noble Drive was later created as part of the north-end growth in the late-1980s.

John Keith Noble was born in Newton Robinson, West Gwillimbury on August 27, 1924 to parents Samuel George and Mary Ida Noble. This branch of the Noble family came from County Tyrone, Ireland and at first settled in Mulmur Township. It was Keith's father who came to Cookstown with dairy farming in mind. Their farmhouse burned down soon after moving in, and a new residence was built with the help of the generous townspeople.

Keith served in the army during World War II, enlisting right after his Bradford High School graduation in 1943. He went to McMaster University to study Engineering in 1944 as part of the 2nd Canadian Army training. Keith was sent to Germany in the winter of 1944. He returned to Canada by 1946, and soon graduated from Queen's University. Keith married Elizabeth Spence in Bradford in 1946, and was part of the third generation of townspeople to own and operate Spence Lumber in Bradford through this marriage. He was Past President of the Bradford Lions Club and was a member for over 30 years. He also served on the Community Centre Board and the Committee of Adjustment. Keith died on September 11, 1993 at York County Hospital in Newmarket. He is interred in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Bradford.

Source: Bradford Lions Club, letter to Clerk Administrator Juanita Dempster-Evans, 4 January 1994, Bradford Street Names Folder; *Bradford West Gwillimbury Times*, "New Street Names Honor Veterans," 8 June 1994, p18; Leigh Ann Wiseman, "Revised Street Names for Lormel Homes," 12 May 2009, Report PDS-09-12, Bradford Street Names Folder.

● ORVILLE HAND COURT

This street is named in honour of war veteran Orville Hand. Orville Hilliard Hand was born December 24, 1918 to parents Norman and Elizabeth Hand. He married Helen Noble and lived in Bradford his entire life. After working for the Fleet Aircraft Centre in Fort Erie, Orville enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force on October 3, 1941, becoming an ambulance driver

in Topcliffe, England. He returned to Canada and became part of the new Royal Canadian Legion 521 Branch in Bradford; this branch now bears his name as Orville was an early active member. The Orville Hand Branch 521 started in December 1950 with sponsorship from the Newmarket branch. The ten original members, Orville included, met in various homes or halls until their own hall was built in 1964 using proceeds from the Ladies Auxiliary's fundraisers. The Royal Legion Orville Hand Branch 521 has been very active in veterans' roles in Bradford; it suggested the idea that street names be used to honour veterans, and it also suggested the placement of poppies on the street signs.



Orville Hand: 1918-2009

Orville was part of Bradford's Volunteer Fire Department for forty years. He also owned Hand's Garage on Church Street. It supplied the town with its gasoline and towing service for 19 years. He died on November 8, 2009, at the age of 90, on the day after a Remembrance Day dinner at the Legion Hall.

Source: *Bradford Witness*, 8 October 1975, p1, "Bradford Legion is 25 years old"; *Bradford Topic*, 12 May 2009, digital article, "Bradford legend served town with Legion, firefighters"; Ina and Stewart McKenzie, p40, 100; Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, "Proposed Street Names Index," Bradford Street Names Folder.

● PORTER STREET

Porter Street is named in honour of Arthur Porter, a Supreme Sacrifice of World War I. Arthur Porter was born in London, England on August 25, 1896 to parents Charles and Bertha Porter. The family, along with Arthur's three younger siblings, moved to Canada in 1907. Arthur grew up in Canada and was working as a labourer in Bradford at the time of his enlistment. He joined the war effort on July 21, 1915 in Toronto and was part of the 1st Battalion of the Canadian Infantry (Western Ontario Regiment). Arthur was present at the battle of St. Eloi and was killed in action here while defending the Bluff, a tree mound on the Ypres-Comines Canal which was highly desired in the crater wasteland of the battle. Arthur died on April 9, 1916, and was buried nearby at the Chester Farm Cemetery in Ypres, Belgium.

Source: "Porter, Arthur," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 7907-51, Item 580629.

● PRINCE DRIVE

This street name honours the service of Thomas James Prince, a veteran of World War I, and Roy Campbell Prince, a Supreme Sacrifice of World War II.

Thomas was born in East Gwillimbury to James and Annie (Slight) Prince on January 20, 1882. The family later moved to Bond Head. Thomas was listed as a stationary engineer on his attestation papers, and on his marriage certificate it was further noted that he was a thresher in Bond Head. Thomas was first rejected for duty with the 177th Overseas Battalion because of his rheumatism, though he was determined as fit for duty in a second enlistment on April 2, 1917. He enlisted with the Forestry Draft where he worked cutting down trees in the UK and French forests for use on the front lines. He returned to Bradford at the end of the war and married Annie Campbell of Bradford on July 6, 1918. He later worked as a farmer in Tecumseth with his family. Thomas died in 1961 and is buried in the Presbyterian Church Cemetery in the Scotch Settlement.

Thomas and Annie's son, Roy Campbell Porter, served in World War II. He was born on October 21, 1921. He applied to join the Royal Canadian Air Force in June 1940, and reapplied and enlisted in December of the same year. Campbell received a Flying Badge after his training in Toronto and Windsor, and then embarked for the front in January, 1942. He received the Africa Star, the Defence Medal, the General Service Medal, and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp. Campbell went missing on August 3, 1942, and was presumed dead on April 3, 1943. His parents received a Memorial Cross and Operational Wings and certificate "for his gallant service". He is memorialized on the Alamein Memorial in Egypt and on his parents' gravestone in the Scotch Settlement churchyard.

Source: "Prince, Thomas James," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 7988-2, Item 589124; "Prince, Roy Campbell," *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 28458, Item 29100.

● RICHARDSON CRESCENT

As part of the Mod-Aire Westbrook subdivision, the name Richardson Crescent was approved in April, 2011. It honours war veteran Lloyd Richardson who served in World War II.

Lloyd George Richardson was born on March 15, 1922 in Weston, Ontario. He enlisted in 1937 at the age of 15, lying about his age to get into the army. He served with the Royal Canadian Artillery from 1937-1939. When World War II broke out, Lloyd transferred to the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps in 1940, and then to the 48th Highlanders from 1944 onwards. He was honourably discharged in October, 1945. Because he still wanted to serve, in 1950, Lloyd enlisted with the Royal Canadian Regiment and served in Korea from 1951-1952. He was then in Germany from 1958-1960, and finally in Egypt from 1962-1963 with the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps.

Lloyd was honourably released from duty in January, 1971. He continued to live in Bond Head with his wife Daveda Andrews. Lloyd was a member of the United Church where he taught Sunday school and participated in the choir. His daughter Peggy Lotto described her father as a military man: “he was always there on November 11th to do his duty to lay the wreath, and sell poppies.” Lloyd George Richardson died at home on April 10, 1992. He is interred in Bond Head Cemetery.

Source: Peggy Lotto, letter to Juanita Dempster-Evans, 10 August 1994, Bradford Street Names Folder; *Joe Saint Collection*, vol. 4, 2020-18-06 for Richardson obituary; “Request for Street Names – Bearsfield Developments Inc. and Triple-R-Ranch Co. Ltd.”

• RUTHERFORD ROAD

This road is named after Ross Rutherford, soldier of Supreme Sacrifice during World War II. Ross Samuel Rutherford was born on January 18, 1914 in Schomberg, Ontario to parents Herbert and Eva Rutherford. Most of his brothers and sisters relocated to Tottenham or Beeton before he left for overseas. One sister, Phyllis Cerswell, had married into the Sutherland family of Bradford.

Ross enlisted in the Canadian Army on August 4, 1942, and was soon training in Guelph as a driver. He was sent to England in early 1943 for additional training and was promoted to Lance Corporal. Ross was sent to France on June 16, 1944 as part of the 3rd Canadian Division. He died as result of a gun accident on August 3, 1945 after his transfer to the 8th Canadian Infantry Battalion. Ross was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp, the Good Conduct Badge, the 1939-45 Star, the France & Germany Star, the Defence Medal, and the War Medal. He was finally reburied at Holten Canadian Military Cemetery in Holland.

Source: “Recommendation Report – Street Naming – Brookfield Homes (Ontario) Limited”; “Rutherford, Samuel Ross,” *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 26957, Item 31208.

• SAINT AVENUE

This avenue is named in honour of Kenneth Harvey Saint who was more commonly known as Joe Saint. Joe was an instrumental member of the Bradford historical community, and as a War Veteran he was a member of the Royal Legion and a good source of military knowledge. Joe was born July 6, 1916 to Leonard and Eva May (McMain) Saint. He was a great-grandson of the original Saint settlers, William and Sarah Saint. William, Sarah, and their family of seven arrived in West Gwillimbury in 1871. Most of these children remained in Bradford, and the fourth eldest son, Frank Saint, was a well-known Clydesdale breeder.

Joe served with the Royal Canadian Air Force when his brother and uncle served in the same war. Upon returning home, Joe married Evelyn Petrie on September 11, 1954. The couple had no children, though Joe was well-known in the building trade in town. The majority of the Saint family was handy as builders and Joe was no exception. He was involved in numerous buildings and restorative practices in Bradford until his retirement in 1985.

Joe had been a collector of local history for years, and part of his collection is now located in the *Joe Saint Fonds* at the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library. Joe was the ‘expert’ for local history inquiries because of his large wealth of knowledge on anything in Bradford’s history. Joe died on June 6, 2010 in his 94th year and is buried in the Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Bradford. A plaque honouring his service to his historical research of Bradford exists in the Public Library.

Source: “Saint,” WEGWHIST Family Files.

● SLACK STREET

K. EARL SLACK

This street is named in honour of Kenneth Earl Clifford Slack, a Supreme Sacrifice of World War II. The name was adopted as part of the Mod-Aire – Westbrook subdivision in April, 2011.

Earl Slack was born August 4, 1923 in Schomberg, Ontario. He enjoyed sports, playing on baseball, soccer, and rugby teams in his youth. His parents were William Slack of Tecumseth and Lottie “Ida” Whiteside of Cookstown who had met in Newton Robinson. Earl and his family moved to Toronto so that he could find work as a machinist. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in August, 1941. By the time he was 20, Earl was a Leading Aircraftsman out of training, and soon to be an



Air Gunner in Germany. He was known as a bit of a rebel who broke officer rules quite a few times in his service, though he was also noted for his good character.

After his promotion to Flight Sergeant, Earl left for the United Kingdom in April, 1944. He was taken as a prisoner of war in November while on mission in Germany. In his detention, he drowned while trying to save a German soldier on May 9, 1945. Earl was awarded the 1939-45 Star, the France & Germany Star, the Defence Medal, the War Medal, and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp. He is recognized in Surrey, England on the Runnymede Memorial. His body was not found.

Source: *Registrations of Ontario Overseas Deaths, 1939-1947*, Series MS944, Reel 11 (Archives of Ontario: Toronto, Ontario, Canada); "Request for Street Names – Bearsfield Developments Inc. and Triple-R-Ranch Co. Ltd."; "Slack, Kenneth Earl Clifford," *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 28659, Item 32779.

● SMITH STREET

In honour of his Supreme Sacrifice in World War I, this street bears the surname of H. Smith. This soldier is believed to be Henry Harvey Smith, Regimental Number 195695 of the 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles. He lived from May 20, 1875 to October 14, 1916. Henry was born in Napanee, Ontario to Henry and Amelia Simpson Smith, and he was a triplet with brothers Herbert and Hector. As a labourer, he moved around throughout his life. Henry met Susan Jane Robinson in Toronto, and the couple lived in Bradford for a few years until the birth of their third child, Orval Lewis, in 1905. In 1906, they moved to Peterborough, Ontario where Henry continued to work.

He enlisted twice for duty for the Canadian Forces. The first attempt was in August, 1915 but he was discharged at Camp Barriefield on September 25, 1915 as "medically unfit." A second enlistment in January, 1916 proved to be more successful because he was taken to France in July with the 93rd Battalion, 57th Regiment, Peterborough Rangers. He was placed on duty on October 2, 1916 near Courcellette in the Battle of the Somme. Henry was wounded by shrapnel on October 12th, and died two days later from the wounds. He is buried in the Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery in Somme, France. His wife, Susan, was given a Memorial Cross in his honour.



HENRY H. SMITH

Henry's story was hidden from historical researchers for many years because his stay in Bradford was so brief. His identity was only discovered later through a small article in Barrie's *Northern Advance* on December 28, 1916. This article noted that "Pte. Henry Smith, a resident of Bradford nine years ago, has been killed in action. He enlisted at Peterboro." From this brief paragraph, the people of Bradford now are privy to the discovery of his story.

Source: Canadian Virtual War Memorial, *First World War Book of Remembrance*, p164; *Northern Advance*, 28 December 1916, p6; "Smith, Henry Harvey," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 9056-19, Item 237840.

● SPENCE LANE

This lane is dedicated in the honour of William Spence, a war veteran and Supreme Sacrifice of World War I. William George was born in Bradford on May 24, 1893. He was the son of James and Annie Spence. He worked as a bank clerk in Bradford and enlisted on November 15, 1916. He soon joined the 38th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry as a Corporal. William was killed in action on September 27, 1918 when his battalion was tasked with capturing the railway near Bournonville, France. He is buried in the Quarry Wood British Cemetery in Sains-lès-Marquion, close to Cambrai, France.

A second dedication lends itself to Jackie Spence who fought and was wounded in World War II. The lane's sign contains the Remembrance poppy (from the Royal Canadian Legion) to recognize the contributions of both Jackie and William Spence.

Source: *Bradford Witness & South Simcoe News*, 13 November 1918, p2; Richard Dawson, letter to Mayor and Members of Council, 22 April 1997, Bradford Street Names Folder; "Spence, William," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 9186-22, Item 243775.

● STEVENS GATE

This street is named in honour of two Bradford men who served in the World Wars. Stevens Gate uses the more common spelling of the Steven/Stephens name, but it still is meant to honour Edgar Stephens, a Supreme Sacrifice of World War I, and Keith Stevens, a veteran of the Second World War.

Edgar was born July 25, 1895 to John and Matilda (Ginty) Stephens of Concession 5. The family owned a plot of farming land, and Edgar became a farmer. He was almost 21 at the time of his enlistment with the 157th Overseas Battalion. Edgar was eventually transferred to the 19th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry (Central Ontario Regiment) where he fought in the Battle of Amiens. He was killed in action on the first day of major progress for the Canadians in this battle; his division was part of the 13km-invasion of the German defences on August 8, 1918. Edgar is buried in the Crucifix Corner Cemetery in Villers-Bretonneux, Somme, France.

The street is also named in memory of Keith Stevens. Keith was born November 3, 1921, to Charles and Annie Stevens of Barrie. Charles had served in the final year of the war World War I, and returned home to North Bay to marry Annie in 1920. Keith was born soon after when the family moved to Barrie. As a young man he enlisted in the Army prior to the Second World War. Keith served for six and a half years before he was wounded in action. He returned to his home in Dufferin County and served as Postmaster for Bradford for 25 years. He also operated a business with his brother. Keith was a member of the Public Utilities Commission, and was married to Eileen M. Ward. She died on November 10, 1985 and Keith followed ten years later on March 28, 1995. They are buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in West Gwillimbury.

Source: Canadian Great War Project, “19th Canadian Infantry Battalion,” August 1918, p2-3; Joe Saint Collection, vol. 4, 2020-18-09; “Request for Street Names – Bradford East Developments Inc.”; “Stephens, Edgar,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 9272-4, Item 249993; “Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury - Proposed Street Name Waiting List Index,” (June 2001): p10.

● STEVENSON CRESCENT

This crescent, planned but yet to be created at the time of writing, is part of the National Homes Inc. subdivision which extends north on West Park Avenue. Along with the other streets in this subdivision, it is named after fallen veterans from the Bradford West Gwillimbury area. Stevenson Crescent honours two fallen soldiers in World War I – Ralph Stevenson and Armiger Stevenson, unrelated men who died within days of each other in the same battle.

Armiger’s surname on Bradford’s Roll of Honour was originally published as ‘Stephenson’, though he spelled his name as ‘Stevenson’ on his enlistment. Armiger was the son of Dr. Frederick C. Stevenson and Helen Hubbard, born on January 21, 1889. He was a bookkeeper by trade, and enlisted in the army in August, 1915 with the Royal Canadian Regiment. Armiger was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal and stayed with this regiment until the Battle of Flers-Courcelette in the Somme. He was killed in action on September 16, 1916, and was laid to rest in the Courcelette British Cemetery in Somme, France.

The street is also named in honour of Ralph Edwin Law Stevenson, who was born on April 22, 1896 to Robert Edwin and Eliza Stevenson of Bradford. Ralph and family lived on Queen Street where he worked as a carpenter prior to his enlistment on February 8, 1916. Ralph was nearly twenty when he joined the 76th Overseas Battalion in Bradford. He was transferred to the 2nd Battalion of the Canadian Infantry (Eastern Ontario Regiment) which was advancing in the Somme Offensive and acting as a reserve army for the British around the town of Courcelette. The offensive for the Canadian Infantry began on September 15, and Ralph was soon killed in action on September 21, 1916. He was buried in the 2nd Canadian Cemetery on the Contalmaison-Pozières Road, Somme, France. Ralph is also memorialized in Mount Pleasant Cemetery on a gravestone marking his family’s deaths (Robert in 1933, Eliza in 1929, his infant brother Frederick in 1904, and his sister Ethel in 1937).

Source: *Cemetery Inscriptions*, p223; “Request for Street Names – National Homes (Bradford) Inc.”; “Stevenson, Armiger,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 9291-47, Item 251185, and “Stevenson, Ralph,” Box 9297-2, Item 251492.

● SUTHERLAND AVENUE

The Sutherlands are one of the oldest families in West Gwillimbury. Robert and Isabella (Bannerman) Sutherland arrived with the Selkirk settlers in 1814. Robert's brother, William, arrived from Scotland a year later. Other lines of the Sutherlands include Haman of the Red River Colony, Adam of Caithness, Scotland, Thomas of Ireland, John and Mary Jane of Scotland, Elizabeth and son Angus of the Red River Colony, and John and Catherine of the Red River Colony. They are many others. Although they were some of the earliest pioneers in the Scotch Settlement and West Gwillimbury, this avenue actually honours John "Jack" Sutherland and Corporal John Cameron Sutherland, both Supreme Sacrifices of World War I. The street name also honours the numerous Bradford-bred Sutherlands who are war veterans, including the families of Jack and John Cameron.



**HOUSE OF CPT. JACK SUTHERLAND OF
THE 1837 REBELLION**

John "Jack" Sutherland's grand-father was the first in his family to come to Canada. Scottish immigrant Hector, and his wife Ann McLellan, lived around Coulson's Hill. Hector worked as a blacksmith, and his son Alexander (Jack's father) worked as a baker in Bradford. Jack was born John Alexander on October 4, 1886. His mother, Elizabeth Sutherland, was from another Sutherland family. Jack went out west to work on the Canadian Pacific Railway as a 'checker' or inspector. He then enlisted in Winnipeg, Manitoba with the 200th Battalion; this



Battalion never served in World War I, but only recruited men from the Manitoba area. The Battalion sailed for the United Kingdom in May 1917 and was immediately absorbed into the 11th Reserve Battalion at Shorncliffe Army Camp near Kent, United Kingdom. Jack's information shows that he was never part of the 11th Reserve but died as part of the 200th in Shorncliffe. His death soon after arrival was caused by an enemy air raid on the camp on May 25, 1917. Jack was one of six men in his battalion to die from the air raid, and one of nine in total. He is buried at the Shorncliffe Military Cemetery in Kent, UK.

John Cameron Sutherland (pictured left) was born August 28, 1890 to Alexander and Catherine (Clunas) Sutherland in Bradford. This Alexander was born in Helmsdale, Scotland to Donald and Barbara Sutherland, and married Catherine Clunas in October of 1873 in Toronto. John became a

clerk at the Chiclet Chewing Gum Company Ltd. in Toronto. John enlisted in July, 1915. After joining the 74th Battalion, he was shipped overseas the next March. By June, John was in the front lines. He was wounded by shrapnel from a nearby shell burst in September in the Battle of the Somme; in letters home to his family dated December 1, however, he said he was “all right”. John became Corporal of the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles. He was killed in action near St. Eloi on December 15, 1916. A letter home announcing his death was sent on the 21st as deaths in the field usually took a few days to be verified. Cpl. John Cameron Sutherland was buried at the Écoivres Military Cemetery at the base of Mont St. Eloi, France.

Source: The Commonwealth War Graves Commission website: www.cwgc.org; “Sutherland, John ‘Jack’,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 9435-50, Item 259371, and “Sutherland, John Cameron,” Box 9436-6, Item 259452.

● TAYLOR COURT

FROM RHEINBURG MILITARY CEMETERY, SENT TO MRS. M. TAYLOR

There are quite a few notable Taylors within Bradford and West Gwillimbury, including Dr. Franklin Taylor (who later moved to Pennsylvania), and veteran of World War II, Flight Sergeant Herb Taylor. This court, however, was named in memory of Pilot Officer Arthur Edward Taylor, son of greengrocer Edward and Maud (Larkin) Taylor.

Arthur was born on August 8, 1908 in Dufford, England before coming to Bradford at the age of 5. He attended schools in Newton Robinson. After the death of his father in 1917, the family moved to the boundary of King Township and West Gwillimbury near Amsterdam. Arthur graduated from Bradford High and Normal Schools and went into a career of teaching. In 1939, he began training as a cadet in Kingston, and the next year he graduated from Queens University. Immediately after graduation, Arthur enlisted. Arthur requested permission to join the Royal Canadian Air Force because he felt he could help the country more in the air than with ground duties. His brother, Herb, also enlisted and became a Flight Sergeant for the Royal Canadian Air Force. He became a Pilot Officer and trained extensively, sending letters home to comment on his achievements. On April 27, 1943, he was sent to Duisberg, Germany with the 158th Royal Airforce Squadron for his first flight into



enemy territory. His plane was downed. It wasn't until October, 1943 that he was officially listed as killed in action, though notice of his disappearance was immediately given. His mother was given Operational Wings and Certificate in recognition of his service after his death, along with the 1939-45 Star, the Defence Medal, the War Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp, and the Aircraft Europe Star. He was reburied in the Rheinburg Military Cemetery in Germany in August, 1946..

Source: The Commonwealth War Graves Commission website: www.cwgc.org; *Registrations of Deaths, 1869-1938*, MS935, Reel 238, "Arthur Taylor"; "Taylor, Arthur Edward," *Service Files of the Second World War – War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 28777, Item 34947.

● TURNER COURT

Turner Court was originally named in honour of Victor Turner, former Reeve, Councillor, and Deputy Reeve of Bradford. Victor came to West Gwillimbury from Essex, England at the age of 16 in 1907 to work on the Pulford family farm (12th Line). He moved around Canada before coming back to West Gwillimbury where he married Esther Brown in 1918. Esther, unfortunately, died soon after in 1919. Victor married Elizabeth Reilly in 1921 and farmed on the 5th Line. A section of the Holland Marsh canal was built through his land in the 1930s, and Victor profited greatly from the Marsh cultivation as he sold fertilizer to the marsh farmers. He also taught a lot of the foreign farmers enough English to communicate in Bradford. He became a Councillor (1931-1944) and was focused on improving roads and Marsh access. He soon became Reeve (1946-1948). Victor was appointed to the Public Utility Commission in 1951. His proudest moment was to open Simcoe Road to the Marsh for commercial access to the farmlands. His wife Elizabeth died in 1962. Victor married Irene Brown in 1963, a marriage that lasted until his death in 1975.

Turner Court was rededicated to Victor's son, Arthur, for his contributions to the community when he returned home. Arthur was born in 1923. When he was old enough to enlist, Arthur joined his older brother Bruce (1922-2012) and younger brother Douglas (1927-2007) the Second World War. Arthur served in the First Canadian Parachute Battalion. Once home, he became a Life and Charter Member of the Orville Hand Branch 521, Royal Canadian Legion. Arthur married Irene Noble in 1946 and sold ice in town. He followed in his father's footsteps and became a Bradford Councillor, soon becoming the Reeve of Bradford. Arthur died in 1999 and was interred in Mount Pleasant Cemetery with his parents.

The former Turner Road in Bond Head no longer exists. In June 1994, the road's name was meant to be changed to Breeze Drive in honour of Bradford West Gwillimbury's veterans. This change did not occur, and a Breeze Drive now exists in the Brookfield Homes subdivision in 2016.

Source: *Bradford West Gwillimbury Times*, 8 June 1994, p18, "New Street Names Honor Veterans"; *Governor Simcoe Slept Here*, p773-4.

● VIPOND WAY

Vipond Way was named in honour of Lt. Milton Cameron Vipond, a soldier who gave his life in peacekeeping service following the Korean War of 1950-1953. The street is under development by FNB Developments – Dreamfields subdivision. Milton Vipond was the son of Joseph Howard Cameron and Laura Margaret (Eastman) Vipond. He was born on April 24, 1924 in Kenora, Ontario. Milton's elder brother, Dalton, served in the Second World War as a Pilot Officer and was killed in action in 1942 while part of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Milton enlisted for service in World War II alongside his brother. He was part of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve. He received the 1939-1945 Star, the War Medal 1939-45, and Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp for his role in World War II. Milton attended Bishop's College following demobilization to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree, and he entered his first year of study for a degree in medicine. His military career continued as he was commissioned with the Reserve Force in Cornwall, Ontario, and soon served in the 27th Canadian Infantry Brigade in Germany. In 1951, Milton married Helen Brown, R.N. (the only daughter of Deputy-Reeve Thomas Brown of West Gwillimbury). Helen visited Milton in Germany, and soon after the couple lived in Grand Bend where Milton was stationed. He was called away to serve for a year in Korea and was unable to see the birth of his daughter, Helen Lorraine, on September 20, 1954. His family was preparing for his homecoming in April when they received the news of his death on March 18, 1955 in Busan, South Korea. He is buried in the United Nations Cemetery in Busan, Korea. Milton was posthumously awarded the Korean Medal and the United Nations Defence Medal.



MRS. HELEN VIPOND IN BUSAN, SOUTH KOREA

In 2010, Helen and Lorraine Vipond were chosen to represent Canada to mark the 60th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice in Seoul, South Korea. Helen struck the gong in the museum three times, a South Korean tradition; it is struck in the hopes that the resonating sound will reunite the two Koreas. She was also given the honour

of placing the wreath on behalf of all the nations attending the United Nations Memorial Ceremony at the UN Memorial Cemetery in Busan, Korea. A stained glass window depicting 'The Dove of Peace' was placed in memory of Lieutenant Milton Cameron Vipond in the Trinity Anglican Church in Bradford.

Source: *Bradford Witness*, 23 March 1955, p1, "Lieut. Milton C. Vipond"; Canadian Virtual War Memorial website: www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial.

WALKER AVENUE

In honour of veterans for the 50th D-Day anniversary, this avenue was so named to honour war veteran Squadron Commander Brad Walker of the Royal Canadian Army Chaplain Corps. Located in Bond Head, it was previously known as Simcoe Street.

Born on December 1, 1917, Brad served as a Spitfire pilot in World War II, after enlisting in May, 1940 with the 403 Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force. His duties while in the R.C.A.F. included escorting bombers and ships, conducting fighter sweeps, and preserving the closures of enemy runways. Because of his work, and in recognition of his leadership in air combat situations, Brad received the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1942. He was also awarded the American Air medal from the US government.

Brad came to Bradford in 1951 and ran Brad Walker Ford Mercury Sales Ltd. here and in Newmarket from 1956 to 1981. He was a charter member and past president of the Bradford Rotary Club. Brad was committed to recreation in the community, so he acted as Vice-Chair of the Arena Board during its construction. He was also instrumental in starting the Figure Skating Club of Bradford. A sponsor of Minor Hockey Program and 2 all Ontario Intermediate Hockey Championship Teams, Brad died on December 19, 2001 in Newmarket.

Source: *Bradford Witness*, 8 June 1994, p19, "Sq. Commander Brad Walker, RCAF," and 22 December 2001, p18, "Walker, Bradley Reardon."

WILKIE TRAIL

This street is part of the National Homes subdivision. Wilkie Trail honours the memory of Fred Wilkie, a war veteran of World War I. He was originally from the Bond Head area.

Not much information is known about this particular soldier. He is listed on the Bond Head Honour Roll for service in World War I, and on the Bradford Cenotaph for his service in World War I. What is uncertain is whether or not he is the Alfred James Wilkes, Service #178183, who died on July 9, 1916 in Belgium and was born April 17th 1888 in England. This information is recorded in the Bradford Book of Remembrance.

● WILSON DRIVE

As part of the Tiberian Investments subdivision, this street is named in honour of Bond Head World War II soldier of Supreme Sacrifice, Pilot Officer Harold Kenneth Wilson. The name also reflects the memory of Alonzo Wilson, who fought and died in World War I, and of Cpl. Reginald A.C. Wilson, who acted as Corporal of Bradford's OPP unit and is distinguished for his role in the Boyd Gang Robbery that took place in Bradford.



Harold Wilson was born on December 15, 1922, to Daniel and Hester Neta (Hill) Wilson of Nobleton. The family eventually moved to Bond Head where Harold was raised with his two brothers and two sisters. His father was a farmer, and until he was 17, Harold worked with his father on the family farm. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1942 at the age of 19, hoping to become a pilot. At the time he was engaged to Anne Wooley of Weston, Ontario. He was an aircraft assembler at Massey Harris of Weston, Ontario. Upon enlistment, he was examined and thought to have the potential to "make a good pilot". He trained in Ontario and Quebec, and was promoted to Sergeant, then Pilot

Officer. Harold left for England on October 8, 1943. He was serving with the 424 Squadron of the R.C.A.F. when he was listed as missing on the night of May 24, 1944. Nothing was heard from his flight crew after they departed for Aachen, Germany, near the Belgium border. He was presumed dead by the end of the week. The site of Harold's plane wreck was investigated in July, 1949 but no positive identification could be made on any of the crews' remains. After the investigation, the air crew members were buried together in a mass grave in Rheinberg British Cemetery in Germany. Harold received the 1939-45 Star, the Europe Aircraft Star, the Defence Medal, the War Medal, and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & Clasp. He is memorialized on the Runnymede Memorial in Surrey, England, a memorial for British and Commonwealth Air Force casualties.

Alonzo Brash Wilson was born in Bradford to parents David and Jane "Jennie" Gwindon Wilson on September 22, 1894. His middle name stems from grandmother's maiden name, Isabella Brash. Both of his Wilson grandparents emigrated from Scotland. David worked as a labourer in town, and Alonzo followed him into the trades. David died in 1910 of meningitis, following his mother's death from a long-lasting tuberculosis illness in 1906. Alonzo's older

sister moved to Brampton to become Mrs. Isabella Adams. His other sister Alzina married in 1919. Alonzo enlisted on August 11, 1915 in Toronto with the 84th Battalion. He soon was transferred to the 75th Battalion where he fought in the Battle of the Somme. From November 18-20, 1916, his battalion engaged in an attack on Desire Trench south of Grandcourt, France during the final assault of the Somme. He was shot in the left arm, but he returned to duties on the front line in June, 1917. Alonzo was promoted to Sergeant within this time. On the morning of April 3, 1918, during the defense of Vimy Ridge, Alonzo was killed in action, and his body was never recovered. He is memorialized on the Vimy Memorial in Calais, France.

Corporal Reginald A.C. Wilson came to Bradford in 1948 as part of the Bradford Ontario Provincial Police detachment. He was highly regarded by the citizens of Bradford. Wilson was serving when the Boyd Gang Robbery at the CIBC bank took place on Holland Street in the summer of 1951. The robbery was in broad day light, and as an off-duty Constable (at the time) Wilson noticed the bank robbery before it even began. He exchanged fire with the robbers, with four shots hitting his car, and later identified the men upon their capture. Corporal Wilson was transferred to Stayner in 1957 after a tearful goodbye from his fellow officers and friends.

Source: *Bradford Witness*, 1 May 1957 p1, "Cpl. Reg. A.C. Wilson Assumes Duties At Stayner Next Week,"; Canadian Great War Project, "75th Canadian Infantry Battalion," November 1916, p7, 10, and "75th Canadian Infantry Battalion," April 1918, p5; "Wilson, Alonzo," *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 10433-16, Item 316327; "Wilson, Harold Kenneth," *Service Files of the Second World War - War Dead*, RG 24, Vol. 28958, Item 38280.

WOOD CRESCENT

Wood Crescent reflects the history of many members of the Bradford and West Gwillimbury community. It is named after the celebrated principal of the Bradford District High School, Joe Wood, as well as for war veterans Myra from World War I, and Albert and Bill Wood from World War II. It also honours the memory of William James and Bert Wood, both of whom lost their lives in World War I.

William James Marcel Wood was born on January 22, 1896 to Joseph and Margaret (Goodwin) Wood of West Gwillimbury. Upon his enlistment, he noted his birthdate as June 22. His parents owned a farm within the Bond Head boundaries of Concession 7 (now known as Highway 88). This farm was at first part of the Armson farm and was later acquired by William's older brother, Robert; it remained in the Wood family until the late 1960s. William went out to Saskatchewan to find work, and in January, 1916 he enlisted with the 128th Battalion in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. During his service, William was transferred to the 78th Battalion before briefly heading to the 50th Battalion of the Manitoba Regiment. His transfer papers were not able to be registered by the time he was killed in action on April 8, 1917 in Souchez, France. His death occurred that day when the 50th Battalion, who had just completed special training, launched their attack at night on the front line of the Vimy Ridge offensive. The 78th Battalion was already stationed in the vicinity to take part in the same battle. William was buried in

Sucrerie Cemetery in Ablain St.-Nazaire, Pas de Calais, France at the age of 20, just over a year after enlisting.

Bertram Thomas Wood, known as Bert, was the son of Thomas and Maria “Birdie” Wood. Thomas was the son of early settlers Robert (1821-1904) and Susanna Fennell Wood (1830-1869). Robert first bought the land on Concession 10, Lot 15 for his farm ‘Lornewood.’ Thomas took over the farm and Bert was born there on January 16, 1897. He enlisted in Toronto on April 7, 1916 to the 208th Battalion. A few months after Bert’s enlistment, Thomas died at home because of a stomach ulcer. Bert’s mother Maria moved to Midland and Lornewood went to his uncle, Clarence Herbert. Bert was part of the “C” Company of the 58th Battalion (Central Ontario Regiment) when he was killed in action on August 8, 1918. On that day, his Company was meant to push through the enemy and take the town of Drouin, France, but they encountered a heavy mist which slowed the progress of their covering Company. Bert was one of fifteen men in that Battalion to die during the operations on August 8th. He is memorialized on his sister Beryl’s gravestone in Coulson’s Hill Cemetery (close to his father) and is buried in Hourges Orchard Cemetery in Domart-sur-Luce, France.

Myra Wood was from another branch of the Wood family from Lancashire, England. Myra’s grandparents James and Sarah (Smith) Wood arrived in Canada in 1837 and bought land on Concession 10 and Highway 11, between Coulson’s Hill and Deerhurst. Myra was born June 28, 1887 to Robert and Jane (Baynes) Wood. She had trained as a teacher before enrolling in Toronto General Hospital as a nursing sister in World War I. These women were known as ‘Bluebirds’ because of their uniform, or as ‘Angels of Mercy’ because of their assistance to wounded soldiers. There were 3141 sisters who had enlisted for service by the end of the First World War, strengthening the 105 who initially enlisted in 1914. Myra served in Greece, England, and Malta, and she received numerous medals (the British Star, the Victory Star, and 1914-15 Star) for her service, dedication, and efforts to save lives on the front lines. Myra returned to West Gwillimbury after the war where she stayed until her death on March 20, 1960. She is buried with her siblings: Winnifred Ruth (1885-1954), Leonard (1883-1954), Edna (1891-1964), and Harold (1876-1968) in the St. Paul’s Anglican Coulson’s Hill Cemetery.

Source: *Cemetery Inscriptions*, p284, 285, 287; Canadian Great War Project, “78th Canadian Infantry Battalion,” April 1917, p3-4 and “58th Battalion,” August 1918, p5-6; *Governor Simcoe Slept Here*, p799-803; *Town of West Gwillimbury Land Records*, Lot no. 5 in the 7th Concession; “Wood, William James,” *Service Files of the First World War*, Box 10545-23, Item 328434.