

Auld Kirk welcomes Historical Society, annual Outdoor Service

Pictured in this 1920s photo is the Auld Kirk, located on the 6th Line of West Gwillimbury, 1 Km west of 10 Sideroad – the first Presbyterian Church of Scotland in the area. This early photo was preserved by Ruth Booth.

The original log building, built in 1822, served as both the first school and first church in Simcoe County. Church and cemetery were founded by the families of the Selkirk Settlers, who came to West Gwillimbury by way of Hudson's Bay and the Red River Colony (Winnipeg), 1814-19. This brick structure, which replaced the log church, was built in 1869.

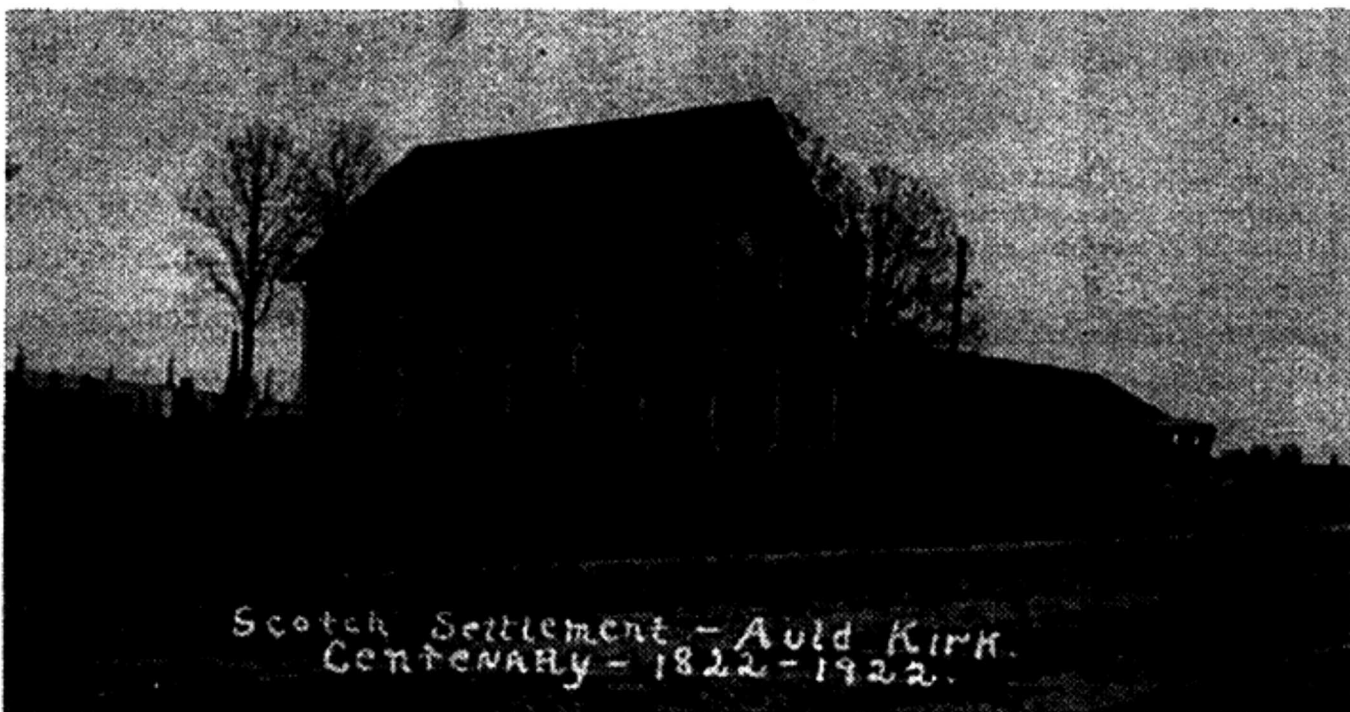
The church is marked with a provincial historical plaque in recognition of the role of the 140 men, women and children who were the first to settle this portion of

West Gwillimbury.

Two events are planned at the Auld Kirk grounds this summer. The first is the summer meeting of the Scotch Settlement Historical Society, on Saturday, July 28, 2 p.m. Bring a lawn chair, and an item for a Show & Tell session.

On Sunday, August 12th at 2 p.m., come to an Outdoor Worship at the Auld Kirk, celebrating the 180th year of its founding. Speaker will be John Goodfellow of London, Ontario, a great-great-grandson of founding member John Goodfellow.

Bring a lawn chair. In case of rain, the service will be moved to the Bond Head United Church, on County Road 88 in Bond Head. For information, call Vera Stoddart, President of the Scotch Settlement Historical Society, at 905-775-3600.



The Auld Kirk, first church and first school in Simcoe County. Original building ca. 1822 was made of logs. Photo, story courtesy of George Jackson.