



*Preserving, promoting and developing Wellington North's unique cultural resources to build a vibrant community and a prosperous economy.*

## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR APRIL CELEBRATES THE HAMLET OF MONCK

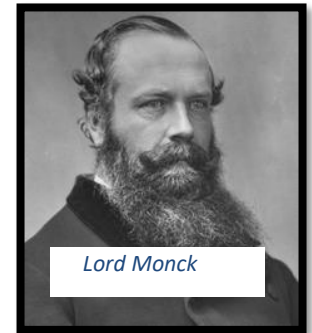


Monck Baptist Church

When thinking of Monck, the Baptist Church usually comes to mind. It's situated on the northeast corner of County Road 16 and the 10<sup>th</sup> Line. It sits on 1/9<sup>th</sup> of an acre of land donated by Robert Grieve and was built by the contractor W. W. Gorvett of Arthur. The church was completed on October 17, 1896. The parsonage and a stable were built in 1901 on land donated by James Blyth. In 1909 more land was obtained from the Grieves to enlarge the shelter for the horses and buggies which was situated to the east of the church. This became inadequate and a closed-in shed was built in 1910 south of the store. The land for this was donated by Ed Segsworth. This building is no longer there.

The hamlet of Monck is named after Lord Charles Stanley Monck who was the first governor-general of Canada after Confederation. (1861–1868.) He was born 1819 in Templemore Ireland.

The first settlers came to West Luther in 1853. By the early 1860's, the area's population had increased enough, and in 1863, 2 post offices were authorized, one at Lot 9, Concession 10 in Monck. Robert Dunlop was the first postmaster. They had 19 postmasters over the 96 years of its existence. The post office was situated at various times from private residences and the store at Monck. The postmaster's salary at Monck in the early 1870's ranged between \$10 and \$15 per year. In 1869, at \$39 per year, mail was transported weekly between Monck and Arthur. The post office closed in 1959.



Lord Monck

David and Agnes McHardy built the Monck store in the early 1900's. It was situated on the southwest corner. A group of farmers formed a Co-Op in 1945 and took over the store from Mabel Blyth. Bert Glover was the first manager. It sold feed, hardware, fertilizer, groceries, and gas. The Co-Op later became a part of the United Co-Op. Today, the store is a private residence.

When driving through the hamlet, the only prominent building remaining is the church.

Submitted by Penny Renken, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable with excerpts from Stephen Thorning's articles, Tweedsmuir Histories and Google.