

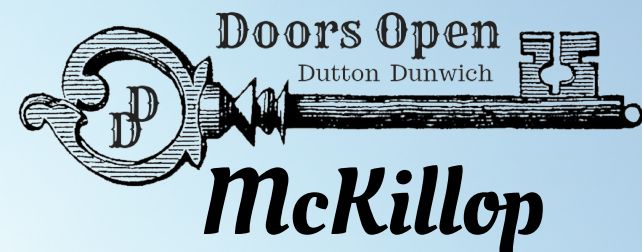


A mile east of Wallacetown on the north side of Talbot Line is located a small cemetery next to the former Particular Covenanted Baptist Church. This land was donated by Duncan and Mary McKillop for \$1.00 to trustees John McKillop, John McMillan, and succeeding trustees. Angus Campbell witnessed the signing of the deed. This well-kept cemetery is still in use and maintained by the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich while the church property is privately owned.



The Particular Covenanted Baptist Church sect originated in Scotland and was discouraged in some areas by the Church of Scotland. Many emigrants, like those buried here, came to Canada so they could follow their religion in freedom. Early members first met in a log building just west of Wallacetown, then later on the site of the present church.

The prominent McKillop family were among the first group of Scottish immigrants who arrived in 1819. They went on to succeed in business, agricultural, and political spheres for generations and many descendants still reside in the community today.



McKillop Cemetery

30490 Talbot Line,
Wallacetown



Municipality of
Dutton Dunwich

MUNICIPAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE

1



Bird on a Cross Stone

This interesting stone is a bit tough to read, but is nonetheless a unique example of an early detailed carving. In Christianity, the dove almost always represents the Holy Spirit and is referred to in the story of the baptism of Christ. In this case, the dove appears to be weeping or mourning on a cross made of rough logs. The rustic cross style of grave memorials was most popular in the 1920s and 30s, but this stone is much earlier than that.

2



Blue

This red granite stone commemorates John and Margaret Blue and their baby, all of whom passed at very young ages between 1877 and 1881. The cylindrical shape atop the stone is called a bolster, and the style was most common during the early 20th century. Thought to resemble pillows, bolster stones appeared to offer comfort in the afterlife. In the case of this young family the bolster seems to provide a soft place to rest after a short and tragic time on earth.

3



Church

75 year-old William Church died in April 1903 after suffering from stomach cancer for 3 years. The *Dutton Advance* reported after his death that he'd been born in Suffolk, England, came to Canada in 1856, and had lived in Dunwich for 26 years. He was a Liberal, an Old School Baptist, and possessed "the high respect of the entire community." It was a large funeral with service at his home. 'Old School Baptists' are conservative Baptists adhering to a degree of Calvinist beliefs who broke away from the Baptist church in the 19th C.

4



Alex McWilliam

The stone commemorating Alex, wife Nancy, and baby John McWilliam is topped by a draped urn carved from granite. A common symbol in all local cemeteries, the urn is an image closely associated with death. The shroud-draped urn is believed by some to mean that the soul has departed the shrouded body for its trip to heaven. Others say that the drape signifies the last partition between life and death.

5



Nancy McKillop

The British occupation of Egypt in 1882 renewed interest in Egyptian imagery in North America, including the obelisk, tall thin four-sided columns that tapered upward and then end in a pyramid at the top. They are said to represent a single ray of sunlight, petrified into stone. It was thought that the Egyptian sung god Ra lived within the obelisks. These towering monuments were often placed flanking the entrance to temples.

6



Graham

This uniquely carved stone marks the resting place of the Graham family. One side commemorates Duncan P. and his infant son George. Duncan's sudden death in April 1887 was a shock to the community. The *Dutton Advance* reported that he was a well-respected former teacher at Eagle and later a farmer, and while he'd been unwell and complaining of heart trouble none thought the 35 year-old would perish. He left behind a wife and 3 young children.