

St. James' Cemetery Tour

Stop 1: Balsam Lake Tragedy

- The Brotherhood of St. Andrew was an evangelical organization active in the Anglican Church in the early 1900s, particularly aimed at the religious education of young men.
- On July 20, 1926, 13 boys and 2 camp councillors (ranging in age from 15 to 31) who were attending the Brotherhood's leader training camp, went out onto Balsam Lake in a large war canoe around 9 p.m.
- Rough weather caused the canoe to overturn and 11 drowned.
- Nine of the dead were from Toronto and 7 of them were buried together in this plot.
- An inquest found that the canoe was overloaded, had no life jackets or lights. Many of the young men could not swim or handle a canoe.
- Following the tragedy, camps across North America beached their war canoes and increased water safety training.
- Note the storm-tossed waves carved into the monument base. The large cross on the top of this monument had fallen and was destroyed. It was replaced by the cemetery this year and a dedication ceremony will take place this summer.



Stop 2: Hon. John P. Robarts (1917 – 1982)

- Premier of Ontario 1961 to 1971. The only Ontario Premier not born in the province.
- Born on 11 January, 1917 in Banff, Alberta. Following the death of his mother, the family moved to Galt, Ontario in 1920, and then to London in 1930. He attended the University of Western Ontario then enrolled at Osgoode Hall Law School in 1939.
- He paused his studies during WWII and served in the Royal Canadian Navy.
- After the war he resumed his studies at Osgoode, graduating in 1947. He returned to London and established a law practice.
- He started his political career in 1950, running for city council in London. He won his seat by a mere 7 votes!
- He first became an MPP in 1951 and was Minister of Education before becoming the Premier.
- He is remembered for his steps to promote and improve education and was responsible for the construction of five new universities including York University. He also established the Ontario Science Centre and Ontario Place, GO Transit and the Ontario Scholar Fund for high school students graduating with an A average.
- Sadly, he committed suicide at the age of 65 following on his son's suicide 5 years earlier and a massive stroke that made him an invalid.



Stop 3.5 Frederic Chase Capreol (1803-1886)

- Born in Hertfordshire, England, settled in Toronto in 1833.
- Ran an auction business for 10 years from 1840.
- Instigated the building of a railway from Collingwood to Toronto, then called the Toronto,

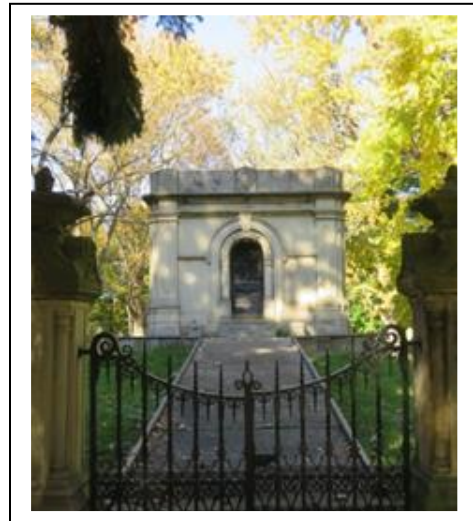
Simcoe & Lake Huron Union Railroad. Went himself to England to secure Royal Assent for the government bill to fund the railroad.

- He was General Manager of the Railway until two days before the first sod was turned in 1851 by Lay Elgin, the wife of the Governor-General. He had been fired over differences with the railway's directors.
- He is famous for his role in the capture of the murderers of his friend Thomas Kinnear. Kinnear was killed at his home in Richmond Hill in 1843. The suspected murders were Grace Marks and James McDermott. They had fled and were crossing Lake Ontario by steamer to escape to the US. Frederic Chase implored the police to track them down, but they were in no rush to do so. Capreol hired a boat and caught up with them in Lewiston, NY where he apprehended them. This is the story behind the book *Alias Grace* by Margaret Atwood.
- He continued his career in business becoming the President of the Metropolitan Gas & Water Company and was a partner in the General Manufacturing Company of Peel. He made several attempts at public office in the Ontario legislature and Toronto city council, but only served as a city councillor for a couple of months after winning a by-election.
- He was commemorated in 1911 by the naming of the town of Capreol (now part of Sudbury).



Stop 5: James Austin (1813 – 1897)

- James Austin arrived in Upper Canada from Ireland in 1829 with his family.
- The 16 year-old was apprenticed to William Lyon Mackenzie to learn the printing trade. He spent over 4 years in Mackenzie's shop and later struck out on his own as a printer.
- After the rebellion of 1837, because of his association with Mackenzie, Austin considered it prudent to leave the province. He went to the US, returning in 1843.
- On his return, he partnered in a successful wholesale and retail grocery business, but following a severe economic depression, Austin liquidated the partnership and invested his proceeds in less risky enterprises, including the Consumers Gas Co.
- In 1871, Austin became president of the Dominion Bank. He suggested that, for convenience, bank branches should be opened in larger urban areas. This innovative practice was copied by other chartered banks.
- He also was involved in successful insurance, mortgage and railway companies.
- The impressive Austin Mausoleum made a statement about the family's status. It is still in use by family members.
- In 1886, Austin purchased Spadina, the house built by William Warren Baldwin above Davenport Road.
- The Baldwin house was demolished and the Austin family built a much grander house on the site. Spadina House (now a museum) was designated a National Historic Site in July 2019.



Stop 8: Sir Edmund Boyd Osler (1845 – 1924)

- These sarcophagi mark the final resting place of Sir Edmund Osler and his wife Anne. Both are topped by a carved cross.
- Osler started his career at the Bank of Upper Canada. The bank's failure in 1866 provided him with a valuable lesson on the price of mismanagement.
- In 1882, Osler established a brokerage firm, Osler and Hammond. He gained a reputation as an enterprising and trustworthy broker.
- In 1869, he joined a group with James Austin to establish the Dominion Bank, of which Osler eventually became a director and then president in 1901.
- Osler pursued interests in western land development, railways and other ventures when the country was expanding westward.
- Success brought calls for Osler to enter politics. He was elected to the House of Commons as a Conservative in 1896 and re-elected 4 times.
- He was well known in Toronto for his civic and philanthropic efforts including fundraising for the fledgling Hospital for Sick Children, the new Toronto General Hospital and the AGO.
- Osler was instrumental in the creation of the Royal Ontario Museum in 1912, the year of his knighthood.
- A major purchaser of art, in 1903 he bought a large collection of works by Paul Kane that the Smithsonian planned to purchase. Instead, they went to ROM.
- He lived at Craighleigh, his 13-acre estate in Rosedale. At his death, the house was demolished and the land was given to the city of Toronto for a public park.
- Sir Edmund left an estate worth almost \$4 million (\$64M in 2023) and a most unusual will. In his final years, he had evidently written letters to friends and acquaintances promising money in recognition of their support during his life, so a special fund was set up from his estate to cover these obligations. All the claimants had to do was present Osler's letter and his promise would be made good.



Stop 12: Gooderham & Worts

James Worts; 1792-1834; Elizabeth Worts; 1796-1834

- James Worts was a mill owner and operator in Suffolk, England.
- He married Elizabeth Gooderham in 1818.
- James and his brother-in-law, William Gooderham, decided to use William's money and James' know-how to build a flour mill at the mouth of the Don River in the town of York.
- In 1831, James arrived in York with his 14 year old son, James Gooderham Worts, to begin construction of the Dutch style mill.
- Tragically, in 1834, Elizabeth died in childbirth and two weeks later, James committed suicide by drowning in a well near the mill. James, Elizabeth and their infant daughter are buried here as are his son James Gooderham Worts, his wife Sarah and several of their children.

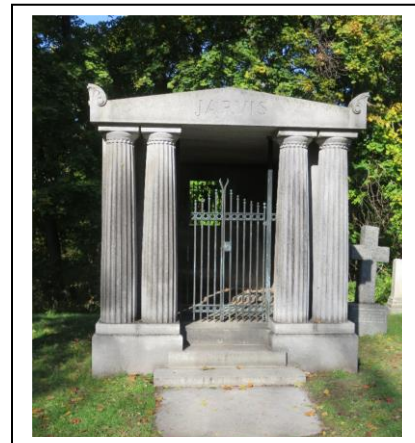


- The Worts monument is topped by a woman and child in mourning. Mourners on monuments are traditionally female. She may represent a widow but is more often a symbolic representation of grief. **William Gooderham; 1790-1881; Harriet Gooderham; 1802-1885**
- William Gooderham was born on a farm in Norfolk, England
- He fought in the Napoleonic Wars but, by the age of 21, had been invalided out of the army having contracted yellow fever.
- In 1832, Gooderham arrived in York, with his wife Harriett (Herring), their 7 children, 45 Gooderham and Worts relatives and servants, plus 11 children orphaned on the boat during the crossing.
- The Gooderhams are said to have adopted the 11 orphans in all but name and Harriett went on to have 6 more children.
- This huge slab of stone is the entrance to the Gooderham and Worts Mausoleum. It's hinged to open like a door, and secured by a large iron lock.
- There was originally an angel on the top of the Gooderham monument.
- Gooderham added a distillery to the mill in 1837.
- Soon afterwards, the company moved entirely to the production of spirits and stopped milling flour.
- In 1845, his nephew, James, joined him as partner, creating Gooderham and Worts.
- The company began to diversify, investing in railways and banks.
- Gooderham became the first president of the Bank of Toronto in 1864.
- He was a leading member of Little Trinity Church and helped to fund the Toronto General Hospital.



Stop 13: Jarvis Family

- The Jarvis Family mausoleum is designed to look like a Greek temple with fluted Doric columns topped by a triangular pediment.
- Many Jarvis family members are interred here, but we will discuss just 3.
- **William Jarvis** (1765 – 1817) was born in Stamford, Conn.
- A loyalist during the Revolutionary War, he fought with John Graves Simcoe's Queen's Rangers in 1777.
- In the 1780s, he travelled to England, secured Simcoe as a patron and was appointed to the post of provincial secretary and registrar for the new province of Upper Canada, arriving in 1792.
- Jarvis had a hot temper, excessive pride and a propensity to live beyond his means (a family trait).
- Inefficient and careless, the paperwork Jarvis issued often contained irregularities.
- He clashed with his peers, even going so far as to challenge four of them to duels – another family trait as we will see.
- The Jarvis family were slave owners (with at least six slaves, according to John Ross Robertson's 1894 book Landmarks of Toronto).
- When Lieutenant Governor Simcoe sought to make slavery illegal in Upper Canada in 1793, Jarvis is thought to have opposed him (along with other slave owning colleagues). Because of that



opposition, Simcoe's law was watered down to a gradual phase out of slavery instead of ending it altogether

- **Samuel Jarvis** (1792 – 1857), the eldest surviving son of William Jarvis, was born in Newark (now Niagara on the Lake).
- He served in the War of 1812 fighting with Sir Isaac Brock at both the capture of Detroit and the battle of Queenston Heights and also fought at both Lundy's Lane and Stoney Creek.
- He was called to the bar in 1815.
- Sam was a chip off the old block, but nastier.
- He shared his father's hot temper and inflated sense of honour and lived beyond his means.
- Throughout his life, he was involved in a succession of scandals including a duel, property destruction and financial malfeasance.
- **Hannah Jarvis** (1763 - 1845) married William Jarvis in London in 1785. They had seven children.
- Without much justification, Hannah had utter confidence in her husband's ability, so much so that she regarded those who criticized or harassed him as bitter enemies.
- She would not have endeared herself to his peers when she remarked that her husband's stalled career was because Simcoe was surrounded by "a lot of Pimps, Sycophants and Lyars."
- Unlike her husband and son, Hannah made attempts to economize but they were not enough to counter the Jarvis extravagances.
- When William died, Hannah was destitute, except for a government pension of \$100 a year, and completely dependent upon her son to whom William had transferred his entire estate.
- In 1819, she left York to spend the rest of her life in lengthy visits with her daughters.
- By the 1830s, she was living most of the time with her daughter Hannah Hamilton in Queenston.
- When Hamilton died in 1839, leaving his pregnant wife and nine children penniless, the household's sole income was Hannah Jarvis' tiny pension.
- While Sam Jarvis fished, hunted and travelled, his sister took in sewing, while his mother, who had once been a gentlewoman, spent her days in drudgery - scrubbing, mending, and cooking.
- According to Edith Firth (librarian and historian), "It was Hannah Jarvis' misfortune that she had more energy and sense of responsibility than any of the men whose duty it was to protect her".

Stop 18: Sir William P. Howland (1811 – 1907)

- The only American-born Father of Confederation. He was born to a Quaker family in Pawling, New York, and later moved with his father to Carleton Island, NY, which sits on the St. Lawrence River near Kingston, Ontario.
- He moved to Upper Canada at the age of 19 and settled in Cooksville.
- He was closely aligned with George Brown's Reform movement throughout the early years of his political career.
- In 1857, he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada as representative for York West.
- In 1861, the Reformers took control of the Assembly, and Howland joined the new government first as finance minister, and later as receiver general. That government collapsed in 1864 and was succeeded by the Great Coalition in June of that year.
- By the time of Confederation, he had drifted closer to John A. Macdonald's Conservatives, and was one of three delegates from Upper Canada at the London conference of 1866–67, which framed the



future British North America Act. On 1 July 1867 became Canada's first minister of Internal Revenue. He retired from politics the following year to accept the appointment as Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.

- After leaving the Lieutenant-Governor's office in 1873, Howland returned to the business community. He eventually held the presidencies of the Confederation Life Association, the Ontario Bank, and the Toronto Board of Trade. He was knighted in 1879.
- His two sons served as Mayors of Toronto.

Stop 28: Edward James Lennox (1854 – 1933)

- Lennox studied architectural drawing at the Mechanics' Institute in Toronto and became one of Canada's pre-eminent interpreters of Richardsonian Romanesque. He was a formidable force in the architectural development of Toronto.
- In 1886 Lennox won the competition to build Toronto City Hall, which is similar in style to H.H. Richardson's Allegheny County Courthouse in Pittsburgh.
- In 1900, he was responsible for the design of the King Edward Hotel and in 1909 designed Casa Loma.
- Other well-known works by Lennox include:
 - Massey Manufacturing Company Office Building, 710 King Street West. (1883)
 - Milburn Building, 47-55 Colborne Street (1886)
 - The Toronto Athletic Club, 147 College Street (1890)
 - Massey Mausoleum, Mount Pleasant Cemetery (1892)
 - Bank of Toronto, 205 Yonge Street (1905)
 - West Wing of Ontario's Legislative Building, Queen's Park (1909)
 - St. Paul's Anglican Church, Bloor Street East (1909-13)
 - Excelsior Life Insurance Company, 36 Toronto Street (1914)



Stop 30: Sir Casimir Gzowski (1813 – 1898)

- Sir Casimir Gzowski is interred in this Egyptian style mausoleum topped by a cornice with a winged sun disc over the entrance and stylized Egyptian columns on each side. In the 19th century, interest in all things Egyptian was sparked by Napoleon's campaigns there.
- Gzowski was born in Saint Petersburg to a noble Polish father.
- After graduation from the Russian Military Engineering School, he was commissioned in the Imperial Russian Engineers.
- After joining Polish revolts against Russian rule in 1830s, Gzowski was exiled to the United States.
- In the US, while he learned English, he gave lessons in music, fencing, and languages.
- After becoming a lawyer, he returned to engineering and helped build the New York and Erie Railway.
- In 1841, Gzowski moved to Canada, building bridges, roads and harbours for Public Works.
- He made his fortune in the 1850s building the Grand Trunk railway and in a number of businesses, including the Toronto Rolling Mills which produced iron rails for railway companies and rerolled damaged iron rails for the Grand Trunk.



- In 1859, he helped create the Queen's Plate, the first organized thoroughbred horse race in North America.
- Gzowski was a personal friend of Sir John A. Macdonald.
- In 1890, he was knighted by Queen Victoria.
- Gzowski's great-great-grandson, CBC Radio personality, Peter Gzowski, is also buried here.

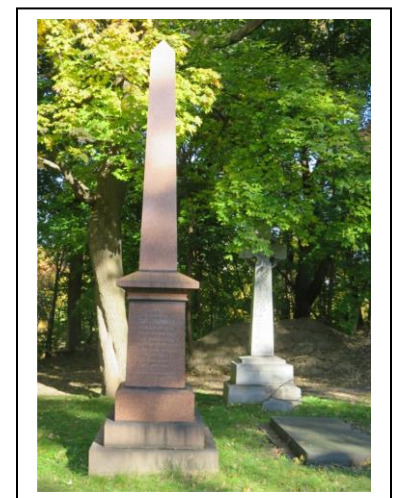
Stop 32: Frederic W. Cumberland (1820 – 1881)

- Cumberland was born in London, England, and grew up Dublin.
- The family returned to London in the mid-1830s, where he studied at King's College School and apprenticed as a civil engineer.
- Starting in 1843, he was employed with the engineering department of the British Admiralty, working on the construction of dry docks and fortifications.
- In 1845, Cumberland married Wilmot Mary Bramley, whose sisters had married prominent men in the city of Toronto, and he came to that city with his wife in 1847. He worked there as a surveyor and as an engineer.
- In partnership with architect Thomas Ridout, he designed the Cathedral Church of St. James in 1853 and St. James-the-Less Chapel in this cemetery.
- Other notable buildings designed by Cumberland include:
 - Toronto Street Post Office
 - Adelaide Street Courthouse
 - Consumers Gas Building
 - University College, U of T
 - Centre portion of Osgoode Hall
- In later years, Cumberland moved from architecture to railway management.
- He entered politics in 1867 and was MLA for Algoma until 1874.



Stop 37: The Honorable Robert Baldwin (1804 – 1858)

- In the 1870s, the remains of 30 members of the Baldwin family were moved from St. Martin's Rood (their private Spadina burial ground) to this location at St. James' Cemetery.
- This red, granite obelisk memorializes reformers William Warren Baldwin and his son Robert.
- It is modelled after the obelisks of the Egyptian pharaohs and symbolizes strength and immortality, resurrection and rebirth.
- Born in York, Robert Baldwin was the eldest son of William Warren Baldwin who came to Upper Canada in 1799. William was a doctor, lawyer, politician, judge and a director of the Bank of Upper Canada. (He owned property on Spadina from Queen St. to Davenport Rd. where he built Spadina House.)
- Robert studied law and was called to the Bar of Upper Canada in 1825. He articulated in his father's law office.



- Despite early family disapproval and after a 2 year enforced separation, in 1827 Robert married his cousin Augusta Elizabeth Sullivan (Eliza) who was only 17 at the time. If their correspondence is an accurate indicator, they attained matrimonial bliss.
- Throughout his life, Robert was in and out of government, always as a highly principled reformer. At various times, he served as a member of the Executive Council of Canada, Solicitor General, and Attorney General.
- In 1842 Baldwin formed a Reform administration with Louis Lafontaine of Canada East (now Quebec), and became Premier of Canada West.
- Responsible government was achieved in 1848 during the second Baldwin/LaFontaine administration and laid the foundations for modern Canada.
- Suffering from poor health and depression, he resigned in 1851.
- The obsession of Baldwin's later years was his lost wife who had died at the age of 25.
- His nostalgic love, grief, and guilt that Eliza had died as a result of childbirth were codified in a bizarre document designed to ensure that he would be reunited with her after death.
- Nine requests included that certain of her possessions and letters be buried with him and their coffins be chained together. Most important, he asked that his body be operated on with an incision to match Eliza's Caesarean section.
- His daughter Maria did not comply with this last request, but his son Willcocks apparently did.

Stop 39: Captain William Arthur Peel Durie (1881 – 1917)

- In 1899 started to work at the Royal Bank.
- Being from a military family – his father was Lt. Col. William Smith Durie – Arthur enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1915.
- Fought at Vimy Ridge, Avion, Passchendaele. In May 1915, he was wounded at Ypres. Once healed, he returned to the front.
- On December 29, 1917, he was killed in combat near Lens in France and was buried in the Corkscrew Cemetery nearby. His body was later moved to the nearby and larger Loos British Cemetery.
- In 1925, his mother Anna was able to smuggle Arthur's remains, in a suitcase, back to Canada, on an ocean liner.
- Captain Arthur Durie was finally buried in St. James Cemetery in May 1925.



Stop 49: Hannah Grier Coome (1837 – 1921)

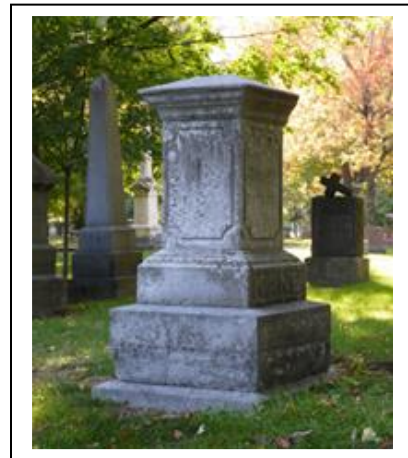
- Hannah was the founder and superior of the Sisters of St. John the Divine.
- She was born in Carrying Place, Upper Canada and educated at home by her father John Grier, an Anglican clergyman.
- In 1859 she married Charles Horace Coome, a civil engineer working on the Grand Trunk Railway.
- In 1862 they moved to Britain, where Hannah was drawn to the mission work of the Anglican Sisters of St Mary.
- In 1876 they moved to Chicago and a year later her husband died.



- She lived with a brother in Chicago, taking a position at the School of Decorative Art and executing embroidery and hangings for churches.
- In 1881 she was visiting her mother in Toronto when she was approached about forming a sisterhood there and organizational meetings were held.
- She entered the noviciate of the Sisters of St. Mary in Peekskill, N.Y. to gain experience in nursing and social work.
- In 1884, Hannah founded the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine in Toronto. She and Amelia Elizabeth Hare converted a residence on Robinson Street that offered meals and clothing for the poor, a dispensary and Bible classes.
- In the spring of 1885, during the North-West rebellion, in answer to a request for volunteer nurses, Hannah worked at a field hospital in Moose Jaw. For her work, Hannah received a service medal from the government.
- On her return, the sisters set up St. John's House on Euclid Avenue, the first surgical hospital for women in Toronto.
- Over the years, they also established a home for the aged, enlarged the hospital, established a convent, and set up a mission in Seaton Village.
- One of her last achievements was the opening in 1915 of a mission in the new east-end parish of All Hallows, where people were so well off, the sister-in-charge reported, "that we have to work persistently and patiently to get them to attend Church."
- In June 1916 Hannah, at age 78, resigned as superior and was succeeded by her niece Dora Lilius Grier. She died in 1921. Today the sisterhood is best known for its rehabilitation hospital and retreat centres.

Stop 50: Paul Kane (1810 – 1871)

- Paul was born in County Cork, Ireland – the sixth of eight children.
- He and his family migrated to York around 1819 where he attended Upper Canada College.
- In the 1830s, Kane worked variously as a sign painter, a furniture decorator and a portrait painter.
- In 1841 and 42, Kane visited Italy to study and copy the old masters and then traveled to England where he met George Catlin, an artist who had painted native Americans in the US old west.
- Kane returned to Canada determined to paint a similar series of paintings in North-West Canada.
- From 1845 to 1848, he travelled across Canada. For safety purposes, he accompanied fur-traders of the Hudson Bay Company. He produced over 700 sketches of western scenery and of members of about 80 different first nation tribes which became the subject matter for his paintings.
- The Kane family plot includes Paul, his father Michael and his wife and daughter, both named Harriet.
- The Kane home on 56 Wellesley Street East still exists.



Stop 51: Richard Tinning (1801 – 1858)

- This was the first monument erected in the cemetery.
- Richard Tinning was born in Cumberland, England and came to Canada In 1832.
- He established a lumberyard at the foot of Bay St. and acquired additional shoreline properties.
- About 1840, he constructed a wharf known as “Tinning’s Wharf.”
- On his death, his business was taken over by his sons Richard and Thomas.
- In 1872 Thomas bought a boat and established a volunteer rescue crew which accomplished heroic work as there were no paid city rescuers.
- The wharf was purchased by CPR in 1886 and demolished.

