

**HISTORIC SITE #3**  
**Maple Lake Station/Swords**

In 1895, when the Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway passed through the area, a flag stop named Maple Lake Station was born.



Because of the railway, the Maple Lake area opened up to lumbering interests and as a result, a village began to emerge.



The Sword family opened the Maple Lake Hotel and a general store. Due to confusion with another hamlet of the same name, in 1925 the area became known as Swords.



**HISTORIC SITE #4**  
**Village of Ashdown**



Located at the corner of the Nipissing and Parry Sound Colonization Roads, Ashdown Corners, named for James Ashdown, was the first settlement to emerge on the northern shores of Lake Rosseau in 1868. By 1870, the population of the hamlet had grown to over 50 people and was the largest community for many miles.

Among the businesses were a general store, hotel, post office, sawmill, blacksmith and carriage shop, planing mill, cheese factory, window and door factory as well as a school.

When the railway came through missing Ashdown Corners, road traffic began to lessen. The village of Helmsley (Rosseau) had come into being and by the beginning of the 1900's Ashdown Corners became a ghost town.



**HISTORIC SITE #5**  
**Humphrey Museum**

Situated on beautifully landscaped grounds, the Humphrey School House Museum was built out of hand hewn logs in the early 1870s. Originally a Church, the building later became a rural, one room school where many received their early education. Closed in 1956, students were relocated to Humphrey School at Sandy Plains. The school sat empty until 1973, when 6 students under a provincial grant program rebuilt the museum.

The focus of the Seguin/Humphrey Museum is to portray the life and times of yesteryear while paying tribute to the pioneer families who settled in this area.

The Museum is a true community effort with most items donated by local families in aid of preserving our history.

**Open from July to Labour Day weekend .**  
**Come and visit us!**



*The Natural Place To Be*  
**Seguin**  
**Historical Tour**

*Go take a drive!*



*Contact Us*

(705) 732-4300  
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## HISTORIC SITE #1 ROSSEAU ROAD STATION/ DEYETT'S STORE

The earliest history of the community shows that a lumber mill operated by James Irwin Clarke and George and Tom Horne was responsible for its beginnings.

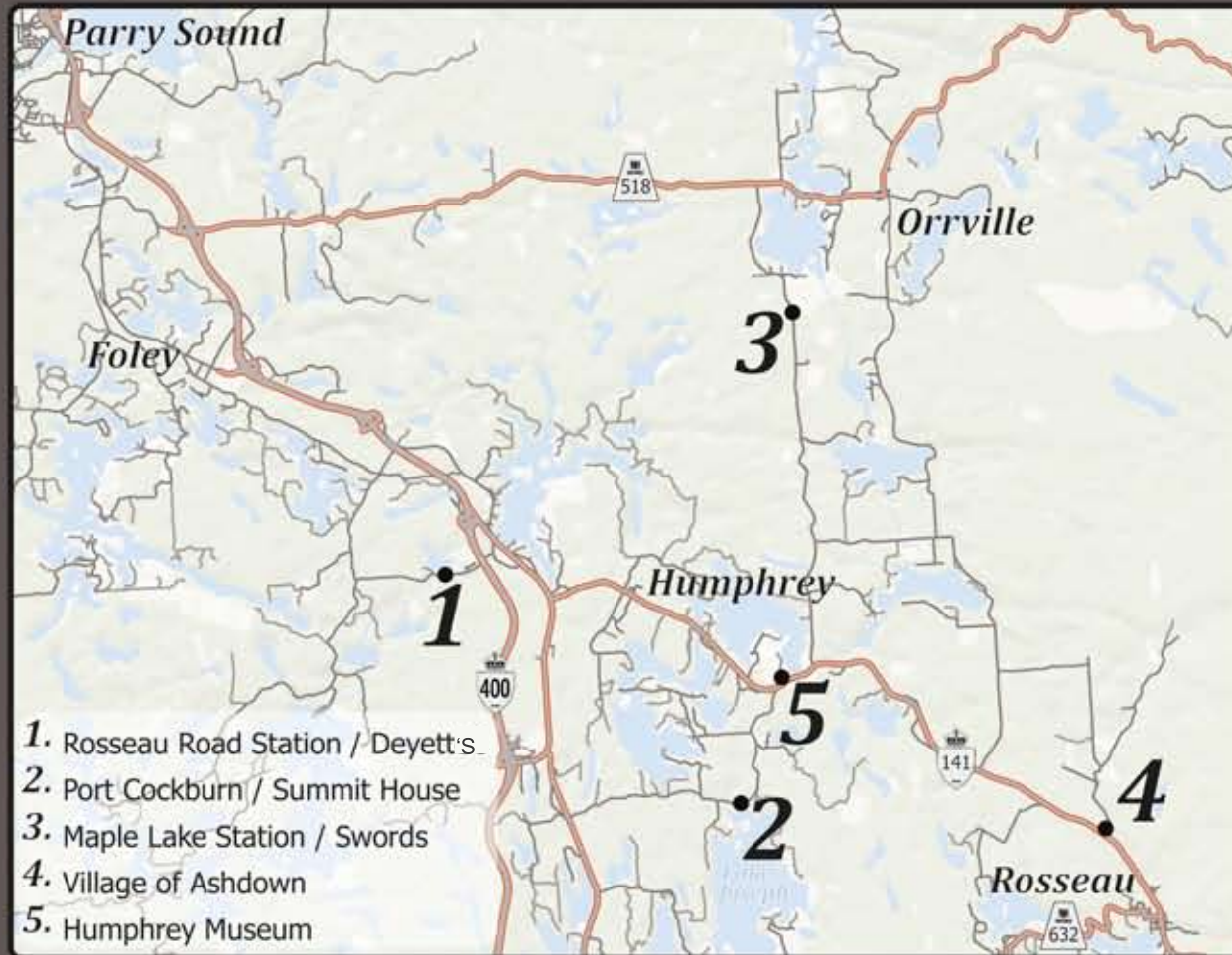
With the benefit of a \$200 government grant, the trio built a road into this tiny community. It was during this same time period that both the CNR and CPR railways built stations at Rosseau Road, each bearing the name of Rosseau Road.

John and Sarah Helmkay built a home next to the CNR station in which he operated a stage coach mail, freight and passenger delivery service to both the Humphrey and Rosseau Post Offices.

In May of 1928, Henry Deyett, together with his wife Edith, and children Francis and Dorothy opened Deyett's General Store.

Over the next 63 years until its closure in December 1991, the store became legendary. As a true General Store, it carried everything. Under Francis' operation, groceries were delivered house to house and immediate payment from people in financial difficulty was never asked for.

The Deyett family also operated the post office for Rosseau Road from their store.



1. Rosseau Road Station / Deyett's
2. Port Cockburn / Summit House
3. Maple Lake Station / Swords
4. Village of Ashdown
5. Humphrey Museum

## SEGUIN HISTORICAL TOUR

Enjoy a leisurely, scenic tour of some of the most historic landmarks in Seguin Township!

- 1 **Rosseau Road Station/Deyett's** is located at First Lake Beach . From Parry Sound take Lake Joseph Road to Blackstone/Crane Lake Road. Turn right. Keep right at the fork and follow to First Lake Beach.
- 2 **Port Cockburn/Summit House** is located at Lake Joseph Centennial Beach. From Site #1, return to Lake Joseph Road, turn left onto Hwy 141, then right onto Clear Lake Road. Follow signs to Lake Joseph Centennial Beach.
- 3 **Maple Lake Station/Swords** is located near the Seguin Trail on Tally-Ho/Swords Road. From Site #2, return from Clear Lake Road, turn right onto Hwy 141, then left on Tally-Ho/Swords Road. Follow until you reach the Seguin Trail. Marker will be on the left.
- 4 **Village of Ashdown** is located on Nipissing Road near Brent's Quarry. From Site #3, return from Tally-Ho/Swords Road then turn left onto Hwy 141. Follow until Nipissing Rd. Turn left. Marker is on the left at the entrance onto Nipissing Road.
- 5 **Humphrey Museum** is located right on Hwy 141. From Site #4, turn right onto Hwy 141 and follow until you reach the Museum on the right. This is the final stop on the Historical Tour!

## HISTORIC SITE #2 PORT COCKBURN/ SUMMIT HOUSE

Port Cockburn was named for A.P. Cockburn (1837-1905), the owner/operator of the Muskoka Lakes Navigation Company. Port Cockburn was the site of the first Post Office on Lake Joseph and by the early 1870's, the gateway to Parry Sound and Georgian Bay.



Being at the northwestern extremity of the Muskoka Lakes, Port Cockburn was the terminal point for stage coach service to Rosseau Road, Parry Sound, Maple Lake Station, Ashdown Corners and Rosseau.

The Summit House, one of Muskoka's grand hotels was built and operated by Hamilton Fraser, opening its doors in 1872, at the Port Cockburn site. It became internationally known and was often referred to as the prettiest spot in Muskoka.

The hotel ceased operations after a second devastating fire destroyed the main building in 1915.

