Finding Barrie: A Guide to Plaques and Markers in the City of Barrie brings historical significance and community spirit together in this listing of 120 plaques and markers. Historic sites, trails, parks, events, the contributions of community groups, and achievements of individuals are permanently commemorated throughout the city. From carved stone cairns and fountains, to benches and handpainted images, this surprising variety of plaques and markers records Barrie’s history and community life.

Heritage Barrie was established in 1977 by a City of Barrie bylaw under Section 28 of the Ontario Heritage Act. Its role is to advise and assist Council in all matters relating to heritage conservation. Members are volunteers appointed by Council, plus a Council representative and liaison from the Planning Services Department. Funds for Heritage Barrie are provided annually as part of the City’s operating budget. Heritage Barrie also publishes self-guided heritage tours of the City of Barrie.

Further information and copies of Finding Barrie: A Guide to Plaques and Markers in the City of Barrie, and Walking Tour brochures are available from Heritage Barrie, c/o Planning Services Department, 9th Floor, Barrie City Hall, 70 Collier Street, P.O. Box 400, Barrie, ON, L4M 4T5, and from the Barrie Public Library.

Finding Barrie was researched and designed in 2005 for Heritage Barrie by Celia Laur of Su Murdoch Historical Consulting, Barrie, Ontario.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marker Name</th>
<th>Marker Location</th>
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*This typeface and colour is used for the actual text on the marker or plaque.*

*This typeface is used for comments about the marker or plaque.*
Churches and Cemeteries

1 Lawrence Cemetery 1844
Penetanguishene Rd. south of Georgian Dr.

Lawrence Cemetery was established in 1844 and contains graves of area settlers.

2 St. George’s Anglican Church
9 Granville St.

St. George’s Millennium Memorial Garden
God Knows Them By Name
Dedicated June 25, 2000
By the Right Reverend J. Taylor Pryce Bishop of York Simcoe

3 St. Margaret’s of Scotland Anglican Church - Bell
161 Hanmer St. W.

A historic bell is located at St. Margaret’s of Scotland Anglican church and school.

4 St. Mary’s Catholic Cemetery
208 Sunnidale Rd.

Historic and interesting plaques and gravestones are located in St. Mary’s Catholic Cemetery.

5 St. Mary’s Catholic Church
65 Amelia St.

A large bell with an inscription in Latin is near the entrance to St. Mary’s church. Also located on the site is a statue of St. Mary that was blessed by Bishop Anthony Meagher on June 20, 1999.

6 Trinity Anglican Church
Plaque and fence at 24 Collier St.

In Memory of Canon W. Reiner
Rector of this Parish 1886 to 1935

7 Union Cemetery
338 Sunnidale Rd.

Interesting markers and gravestones.
Community Groups

8 100 Trees for 100 Years - Rotary Club
North side of Lakeshore Dr. near west side of Minet’s Point Rd.

A Rotary Centennial Project 1905-2005
Barrie Rotary Club, Barrie Huronia Rotary Club, Barrie Kempenfelt Rotary Club

9 Barrie Agricultural Society 1853-1953 (2 plaques)
Gates in front of Barrie Curling Club on Essa Rd. at Hwy. 400

Barrie Agricultural Society 1853-1953
Presented by Ontario Department of Agriculture in recognition of One Hundred Years Service - September 30th 1955
To Honour the pioneers of this community and all those who, during the past 100 years have served the cause of agriculture in Barrie and District

10 Barrie Horticultural Society Past Presidents
At Lakeshore Dr. and Bayfield St.

These trees have been planted by The Barrie Horticultural Society in appreciation of the services rendered by their past presidents:

The plaque lists the names of the presidents from 1874 to 1978.

The trees referred to are on the east side of the plaque, south of Memorial Sq.
Barrie Horticultural Society Past Presidents
Heritage Park (near parking lot) on south side of Lakeshore Dr.

Past Presidents
Barrie Horticultural Society

John T. Smith - 1979
Lionel Brock - 1980-81
Millie Boorman - 1982
Steven Lumb - 1983-84
Nelson Garrett - 1985-88
Sue Ley - 1989-90

Barrie Huronia Rotary Club
Sunnidale Park - In front of Tranquility Garden gates

The following members have exemplified service above self:
Harold Fursman, George Harper, Jim Macdonald, Jim Watton, Bruce Wilton, Doug Viau, Bob Boyd, Bob Clarkson, Doug Miles, Don Harrison

The Rotary Club of Barrie – Huronia

Barrie Huronia Rotary Club Anniversary
Flagpole in Memorial Square

Presented to
The City of Barrie by
The Barrie Huronia Rotary Club
To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Rotary International 1980

Flagpole in Memorial Square, with anniversary plaque
Celebration of Life National Kids Day
Centennial Park Accessible Playground

Dedicated June 3, 2000
The City of Barrie Millennium Celebration of Life National Kids Day and National Access Week

Text continues with more information and a list of committee members.

International Year of Older Persons
Wood Bench in Nelson Square Park, between Blake St. and Nelson Sq. Rd.

Donated to the City of Barrie in honor of the 1999 International Year of Older Persons

Ripple Cove Inn Fire, Ayer’s Cliff, Quebec - 1978
Sunnidale Park Arboretum

Erected by The Barrie Horticultural Society in memory of those who lost their lives in the Ripple Cove Inn Fire, Ayer’s Cliff, Quebec,
October 1, 1978

Mary Gould - Tour Convenor
Mary Cancilla, Elizabeth McGhie, Mary Craig, Elsie Osborne, Cora Dempster, Madge Pearce, Evelyn Middleton, Louise Reading, Jean McDougall, Marion Rose

Spirit Capture Time Vault
Allandale Station Park, near Southshore Community Centre on Lakeshore Dr.

Barrie’s Spirit Capture Time Vault
June 3, 2000 to Barrie’s Bicentennial 2053 and Beyond

City of Barrie
Greater Barrie Homebuilders
Barrie Historical Assoc.
Simcoe Building Center

The plaque is in the centre of a large sundial.
Tornado - 1985
Shear Park, (Holgate, Innisfil, William Sts., and Baldwin Lane)

On Friday the 31st of May 1985, at approximately 4:55 p.m. a tornado touched down in the vicinity of Ardagh Road with winds of more than 400 k.p.h. It cut a path of destruction up to 600 metres in width and five kilometres long through the Allandale and Tollendale sections of Barrie.

Eight lives were lost and 160 people were injured. A total of 609 homes, 46 businesses and industries were damaged or destroyed. The “Spirit of Barrie” came to the fore, as citizens’ response to the massive clean-up was immediate and sustained. Rebuilding began within days and most of the ravaged section of south Barrie were restored within six months.

This plaque commemorates those who died and stands in gratitude to all who assisted in the community rebuilding efforts.

Text continues with a list of organizations who contributed to the rebuilding of the park.

World Summit for Children
Centennial Park near Tiffin Boat Launch

To the children
Our future
There is no greater asset
There is no greater investment

This historical event marked the first time world leaders met to confront the problems of the child.
Appreciation is extended to UNICEF and to The Maycourt Club of Barrie for their assistance with this project.
### Fountains

**20 Bank of Toronto Memorial Drinking Fountain**

Memorial Square

*Presented to the citizens of Barrie and District by The Bank of Toronto June 1891 Refinished Centennial Year 1953*

**21 Circle at the Centre**

City Hall, 70 Collier St. at Mulcaster St.

- Constructed as a Rotary Project in the Fall of 1997 and opened in February 1998. The fountain was first used in the Spring of 1998.

- A list of contributors accompanies this fountain that is converted to a skating rink in the winter.

**22 Rotary Fountain**

Large fountain on shoreline, with plaque on Centennial Beach

*Presented by Rotary Club of Barrie July 1st, 1967*

The plaque is located 15 meters from the shoreline, directly west of the fountain.
Audrey Milligan Park - History
South of Dunlop St. W, west of Innisfil St. on Perry St. at the end of Frances St.

About 1940, Mr. Bert Young purchased the property on the south side of Perry Street. Over the years, he cleaned up the swamp behind his property, removing dead trees and trash, and built a dam to create a wildlife pond. Trees were planted, foot paths established, benches and bridges constructed and the first swans introduced. With the help of neighbour Derek Jones, a dike was built to control silt build-up and beaver dams monitored to control water levels. It was a labour of love. As many birds and animal species and different flora became established, the area became a favourite quiet place for local residents. Mr. Young’s vision of a park had become a reality.

Text continues.

Audrey Milligan Park - Needs Our Help
South of Dunlop St. W, west of Innisfil St. on Perry St. at the end of Frances St.

The remnants of Ontario’s wetland heritage continue to be under threat.

Text continues.

Barrie Centennial Project Committee
Centennial Park near the flagpoles at the end of Victoria St.

Barrie Centennial Project Committee
Jack Garner – Chairman
Robert Bezzant
Fred Churchill
W.M. Janes
Maurice McFadden
Lloyd Partridge
Ozzie Rowe

Barrie Centennial Project Committee, 1967
The Corporation of the City of Barrie gratefully acknowledges the contribution of The Barrie Huronia Rotary Club for the contribution of Materials and Labour to construct, renovate and refinish the three buildings as you face the bay, the buildings are the Food Concession, Lifeguard and Public Washroom Buildings.

Evergreen Display Bed
Sunnidale Park Arboretum

Evergreen Display Bed Planted with the Assistance of the Barrie Huronia Rotary Club 1986

Flora McGregor
Sunnidale Park near Sunnidale Rd.

These steps, ramps and two signs were made possible thanks to a bequest from the estate of this former Barrie Horticultural Society member. 1995

Fitzmaurice MacLaren
Near the pavilion in Sunnidale Park

Barrie’s Garden Club gratefully acknowledges Mr. Fitzmaurice MacLaren. His generous bequest helped us create the Lilac Dell, the Tranquility Garden gates and this pavilion.

Rotary Island
Allandale Station Park Waterfront

An environmental enhancement project of the Rotary Club of Barrie

1998-2000
St. John Vianney Memorial Garden
13 Baldwin Lane

In memory of Paula Bodenham
A Brownie in the 3rd Allandale Pack
1985

Sheppard Park
Corner of Cox Mill and Tollendal Mill Rds.

In Memory of Edna Pearl Sheppard
1892-1965
Who gave this park for the children of Tollendal

Shorelines
Various locations

Shorelines was an ArtCity Project of the MacLaren Art Centre. Artists from around the world came to Barrie and created original environmental artworks that are on display across the city. Information markers are at some of the locations, including one near the wildflower trail on Lakeshore Drive at Minet’s Point Road. More art can be found at Sunnidal Park.

Contact MacLaren Art Centre.

Spirit Catcher (2 plaques)
Waterfront east of Yacht Harbour

“Spirit Catcher”
by Ron Baird

Donated to The Barrie Gallery Project October of 1986 as an inspiration for the Establishment of an Art Gallery in the City of Barrie

In memory of Ken and Helen Peacock
Donated by The Helen McCrea Peacock Foundation

Text continues with information about the artist and MacLaren Art Centre.
Sunnidale Park Information

Sunnidale Park near the pavilion

Information about the history of Sunnidale Park is located on a series of markers that surround the Metals Pavillon.

Sunnidale Park Mission Statement

Sunnidale Park Arboretum

The Barrie Horticultural Society, in partnership with the City of Barrie, will manage the Arboretum: as an ongoing educational project, comprised of many plant communities (ecosystems), reflecting the biodiversity of this region, sustained by environmentally sound horticultural practices, incorporating and recognizing donations, and accessible to all.

Text continues.

Norman E. Synnott - Arboretum Poem

Sunnidale Park Arboretum

This plaque has been placed here by The Barrie Horticultural Society to honour Norman E. Synnott B.S.A.

An outstanding horticulturalist and past president of the Society, whose vision, dedication, and untiring efforts made possible the establishment of this Arboretum.

More information and the Arboretum Poem follows.

Unity Garden

Nelson Square Park at south side Blake at Nelson Square Sts.

Dedicated to the oneness of mankind from the Barrie Bahá’í Community
Holy Year
1992

Willoughby Park

Corner of Little Ave. and Firman Dr.

Ball Diamond and Soccer Field provided by the Rotary Club of Barrie
1993

Southwest corner of Nelson Square Park
Courthouse and Gaol (Jail)

West side of jail, on Mulcaster St.

In 1837 the Simcoe District was established and authority was given for erecting a district court-house and gaol at Barrie. The gaol was begun in 1840, the courthouse a year later, and both were completed in 1842. An important county judicial and administrative centre, the courthouse was enlarged in 1877 and demolished in 1976. The gaol, designed by Thomas Young of Toronto and constructed of Lake Couchiching limestone by Charles Thompson, a builder and steamboat owner, is one of the few in Ontario based on the nineteenth century radial design concept. In 1862 the east wing and outer walls were constructed, and the present roof and lantern replaced a portion of the originally castellated central section. The gaoler’s residence was added in 1902.

Erected by the Ontario Heritage Foundation Ministry of Culture and Recreation

Fairview Brewery

Parking lot at southwest corner Victoria St. and Lakeshore Dr.

On this site in 1860, James Franklin and Joseph T. Anderton established the Fairview Brewery. The “Celebrated Sparkling Pale Ale” and “XXX Porter” were two of the most popular brands in Canada. The Brewery ceased opening 1910 with the death of James William Anderton, one of Barrie’s most prominent industrialists of the era, and the buildings were destroyed by fire in 1916.

The gracious two-story italianate polychrome brick house built adjacent to the Brewery by James Franklin Anderton in 1887 saw the residence of three generations of Andertons. The house was demolished in 1986 to make way for this development.
Edythe E. (Rowe) Ferguson - Bell
Parkview Seniors’ Center Bell (former East Ward School)

In loving memory of Edythe E. (Rowe) Ferguson
First Charter Member Parkview Centre for Seniors
The Family

Fire Bell and Museum
65 Vespra St. (Fire Hall)

Dedicated to the memory of those fire fighters who
answered its call 1874 to 1966

The history of fire fighting in Barrie is demonstrat-
ed in a small but unique display in the fire hall.

Fire Hall
Southwest corner of Collier and Mulcaster sts.

Column of Valour 1844-1998
Monument to Barrie Volunteer Firefighters
This monument is dedicated to the memory of those
volunteer firefighters who sustained the tradition of duty to protect the citizens of this
community from 1844-1998

More information follows. This is the site of an early fire hall.

Fire Hall Window
City Hall Rotunda

Originally part of the fire hall demolished in
1964 [Actual date: 1978] located on the
southwest corner of Collier Street and
Mulcaster Street.

Gaslight about 1877
Inside vestibule at former Armoury, 36 Mulcaster St.

This light fixture was found in this building during restorations and
is one of the original light fixtures.
The fixture, although it appears to be made of Copper is in fact
Brass. When turned on, the metal became hot and began to oxidize
and take on a coppery colour, further use caused the metal to take on
yet another colour through the heating process, which was an almost
“Gun-metal Blue.”

Text continues. Fire hall artifacts can also be found in this
former Armoury, built in 1888.
Kempenfelt Village
North side of Shanty Bay Rd., east of Crestwood Dr.

The Penetanguishene Road, surveyed by Samuel Wilmot, was cut through from Kempenfelt to Georgian Bay during the War of 1812, under supervision of “Tiger” Dunlop. Settlement along this road began in 1819. The Government reserved 300 acres here at its south end for a town. Known as the Village of Kempenfelt, it had a boat landing, log barracks, stores, tavern, brewery and brickyard.

In 1831 a petition was sent to Lieut.-Gov. Sir John Colborne, asking that Kempenfelt be chosen as the County Town. But two years later the Government purchased land at the present site of Barrie which became the County Town in 1837.

Erected by Simcoe County Historical Association 1976

Local History Room
Barrie Public Library at 60 Worsley St.

This room in the Barrie Public Library is a resource of information about people and the history of Barrie. Some historical images are on display.

Market Square
On the Arch at Mulcaster and Collier Sts. near City Hall

This arch represents the southern exposure of the 1870’s form of the market building, which stood at the midpoint of Mulcaster Street. The area was reserved as Market Square when Barrie was first surveyed in 1833. The original cornerstone was laid in 1856.

In the 1870’s, the structure was remodelled with a center tower and mansard roof as outlined by this arch. The building became Barrie City Hall in 1959 and was demolished when the new City Hall was built in 1985. This monument stands as a continuing reminder of our heritage.
Midhurst Plaque (Barrie Hydro)
Midhurst village on Finlay Mill Rd. east of the Willow Creek bridge.

Erected to mark the first saw and grist mill on Willow Creek built about 1825. Also located here were four other mills, a soap factory, a distillery and two hydro plants, which supplied Barrie in 1888. Oliver’s Mills, later renamed Midhurst, added a community hall in 1854, and a church in 1881. S.S. No. 6 dates from 1866. This bell is from a second building, used from 1887 until 1963. Erected by Huronia Historic Sites Association.

Lt. Gov. J.G. Simcoe Mural
West side of Bayfield St., between Dunlop St. W. and Simcoe St.

This mural depicts Lt. Gov. J.G. Simcoe landing on a Kempenfelt Bay shore in October 1793. The mural was funded in 2000 by the Barrie Molson Community Fund.

Stepping Stone
North side at 49 Burton Ave.

This 19th century stepping stone was used by passengers when stepping out of horse-drawn vehicles.
Buildings and sites with a plaque in this design have been protected under the Ontario Heritage Act, for their cultural heritage value or interest to the City of Barrie. They can be found throughout Barrie at the following addresses. For more information see the Heritage Barrie Walking Tours.

54 Armoury (1888)
36 Mulcaster St.

55 Robert Boyle House (c.1875)
62 Shirley Ave.

56 Carnegie Library (1915)
37 Mulcaster St.

57 Commercial Storefront (1876)
123 Dunlop St. E

58 Robert Dutton House (1891)
30 Mary St.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Building Name and Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Simon Dyment House (1883)</td>
<td>72 High St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Grammar School Boarding House (c.1854)</td>
<td>126 Blake St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Grammar School Headmaster Residence (1849)</td>
<td>47 Rodney St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Master Mechanic’s Office and Stores Department</td>
<td>205 Lakeshore Dr. (Southshore Community Centre)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Dr. Morton House (1875)</td>
<td>158 Dunlop St. E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>John Pearson House (c.1875)</td>
<td>16-18 Mary St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>C.H. Ross House (1868)</td>
<td>147 Toronto St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Sanders Block (1880)</td>
<td>72-74 Dunlop St. E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>Shearman Bird House (1872)</td>
<td>17 Peel St.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Buildings and sites with a plaque in this design are recognized for their historic interest. Each plaque has the date of construction, and identifies the past owner or use. These markers were distributed by Heritage Barrie.

68 John Alexander House
111-113 Collier St.

69 William Boys House
80 Toronto St. (plaque faces Park St.)

70 Coachman’s House
42 Blake St.

71 John Forsythe House
1 Berczy St.

72 Grammar School Boarding House
126 Blake St.

73 Henry Holt House
134 Blake St.

74 Railroad YMCA
268 Bradford St.

75 Walter Urry House
214 Toronto St.

Watch for more historic buildings around the city.
**Army, Navy, Air Force Club Memorabilia**
7 George St.

Many plaques and markers about local Armed Forces history are on display. Call before visiting.

**Artillery Gun**
Memorial Square

*Presented by Canadian Forces Base Borden in commemoration of 80 years of friendship with the City of Barrie 8 July 1996*

**Cenotaph**
Memorial Square

This 1922 monument was placed in Memorial Square to honour those of Barrie, Innisfil, and Vespra, who lost their lives in war. Names of those who died in later wars also are recognized.

**Georgian College Memorial**
1 Georgian Dr.

*To Honour all Canadians who have given their lives in the cause of peace.*

This plaque is located near the field across from the Administration building.

**Grey & Simcoe Foresters Regimental Museum**
36 Mulcaster St.

This small military museum is in the former armoury at 36 Mulcaster Street built in 1888.

**Dr. W.C. (Bill) Little M.M.**
Royal Canadian Legion,

*Branch 147 Royal Canadian Legion Memorial*

Dedicated to all Canadian War Veterans, Police Officers and Firefighters who made the supreme sacrifice for their country and community

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them*
Memorial Square
Dedicated to all those who served in the Canadian Armed Forces and Merchant Navy.

Sherman Tank
Queen’s Park Armoury

A Memorial to
The Grey and Simcoe Foresters
(Royal Canadian Armoured Corps)
Who Served . . . Fought . . . and Died
Dedicated
June 1974

Veterans’ Plaque and Flagpole
Gore of Essa Rd. and Bradford St.

Dedicated to the City of Barrie in memory of all veterans of the Army, Navy, and Airforce Barrie Unit 365

Veterans’ Unit 365 Army, Navy and Air Force
North end of Centennial Beach near Vespra St.

By the grace of almighty God may all who pass this way hold sacred in their hearts the memories of those who have gone before us
Erected June 11, 1967
As a Centennial project by the Members of Barrie Unit, 365 Army, Navy and Air Force
Veterans in Canada 1867-1967
Pavilions

86 Barrie Metals Pavilion

Sunnidale Park Arboretum

City of Barrie
Sesquicentennial Signature Project

Celebrating 150 years
(1853-2003)

Other plaques at the Pavilion include:
List of Patrons
List of Sponsors (2 plaques)
List of Benefactors

87 Heritage Park Pavilion - Rotary Club

Heritage Park (plaque is at entrance to pavilion)

88 Kiwanis Club of Barrie

Allandale Station Park

The Kiwanis Club of Barrie
Serving Barrie Since 1922
The City of Barrie acknowledges with thanks the contribution of this pavilion by the Lions Club. August 1976

Lions Club Pavilion Plaque (on west wall)

Tyndale Park Pavilion

This pavilion has been constructed through a generous contribution by the Lions Club of Barrie in partnership with the City of Barrie.

June 2003

Rotary Club of Barrie Pavilion

Built and donated by the Rotary Club of Barrie 1963
Refurbished 1999
People

92 **Samuel B. Ardagh**

Trinity Anglican Church

In Memory of Samuel B. Ardagh M.A.
Rector of Barrie 1842-1869 and Martha his wife
In honor of God, and grateful remembrance of christian parents. This house is erected by their children ~ 1873

The original location of this plaque was on the Ardagh Memorial Home on Dunlop St. E. at Dundonald St.

93 **Hewitt Bernard 1825-1893**

North end Centennial Park, near end of Vespra St.

Born in Jamaica, Bernard immigrated to Canada and settled in Barrie, where in 1856 he established a law practice. He was chief clerk, 1858-66, in the office of the attorney-general for Canada West, John A. Macdonald, and later became his brother-in-law. Bernard accompanied Macdonald to the Charlotte-town Conference (1864), and was the secretary of the Quebec (1864) and London (1866-7) Conferences, at which the groundwork was laid for Confederation. A lieutenant-colonel in militia, he served as aide-de-camp to two governors-general, Viscount Monck and Baron Stanley of Preston. He also served as deputy minister of justice, 1868-76. Bernard died at Montreal in 1893 and is buried at Ottawa.

Archaeological and Historic Sites Board of Ontario

94 **Allan L. Burns 1925-2001**

Near Southshore Community Centre, 205 Lakeshore Dr.

Allan L. Burns 1925-2001
City of Barrie Alderman

The corporation of the City of Barrie honours Allan L. Burns for his vision, dedication and commitment for his part in the establishment of the Barrie Waterfront bicycle and walking path built for all citizens of Barrie to enjoy.
This plaque is erected to the memory of Frederick W. Churchill.
In recognition of the contribution made by him as a member of the Barrie Harbour Committee 1964-69 and the Kempenfelt Bay Development Committee 1970-1971 towards the development of the bay shore for the Citizens of Barrie.

This plaque is placed in memory of William C. (Bill) Clark 1916-1983
For more than 30 years Bill dedicated himself to community service and was instrumental in having our club plant the trees in this park
The Rotary Club of Barrie August 1984

Recognizing the vision of Lester E. Cooke
Mayor of the City of Barrie
1962-68 and 1970-72

Erected by the men of the Northern and North-Western Railways, 1881.
This bronze bust monument by a Canadian sculptor, F.W. Dunbar, was placed in the Allandale railyards by the railway employees.

Unveiled May 24, 2001
In Memory of
R.E. (Dooley) Greer
For his dedication to the
Citizens of Barrie
Mayor 1955-56
Vern S. Hambly
Centennial Park, east side Lakeshore Dr., near Victoria St.

This plaque is erected in recognition of the contribution made by Vern S. Hambly, a member of the Harbour Committee, 1956-1963 to the development of the Bayshore for the enjoyment of the citizens of Barrie.

Andrew Frederick Hunter 1863-1940
Southwest corner of Mulcaster and Collier Sts.

This distinguished historian and archaeologist was born in Innisfil Township, graduated from the University of Toronto in 1889 and was editor of the Barrie Examiner 1889-95. His extensive exploration of archaeological sites throughout Huronia stimulated public interest in the history of that area. He supplied much valuable information for Thwaites’ 73 volume edition of the “Jesuit Relations”. Hunter was secretary of the Ontario Historical Society 1913-1931 and wrote many scholarly articles. His “History of Simcoe County”, published in 1909, was one of Ontario’s earliest and best regional histories.

Erected by the Ontario Archaeology and Historic Sites Board.

Connie Kilgour 100th Birthday
Tree at Trinity Anglican Church, on Collier St.

Planted in Honour of Connie Kilgour
On her 100th Birthday
March 10, 2001
Many displays and markers can be found in the Barrie Public Library, including the official opening plaque located in the entranceway. There is a book quilt with the names of many library supporters stitched on the spines.

There are many interesting plaques and markers in City Hall in the Rotunda and on the second floor. Note the “Spirit of Barrie” quilt in the rotunda, and the plaque for the opening of the building, at the bottom of the stairs that lead to the second floor.

There are several plaques and markers located at Georgian College, notably in the Canadian Automotive Institute (CAI) building, and in the Administrative Centre.

Part of Southshore Community Centre is the 1903 Grand Trunk Railway Master Mechanic’s Office and Stores Department building. Inside is information about the building, as well as an original crane used to hoist railway locomotive engines in need of repair.
Barrie Arena Mural
155 Dunlop St. W, west wall

This large mural located on the outside west wall of the Barrie Arena depicts winter activities.

Golfers’ Bench
Sunnidale Park Arboretum

This bench in Sunnidale Park is a memorial to the golfers in the City of Barrie. The markers on the bench have been placed there by family and friends.

Fanny ‘Bobbie’ Rosenfeld 1903-1969
Allandale Recreation Centre, at Bayview and Little Aves.

Shortly after her birth in Russia, Fanny Rosenfeld’s family emigrated to Canada, settling in Barrie. An all-round athlete, she excelled in hockey, basketball, tennis and softball. She held several long-standing Canadian track and field records and the world record for the 100 metres. ‘Bobbie’ led the Canadian women’s team to victory at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics with a gold and silver medal. Arthritis ended her athletic career in 1933, after which she became a prominent Toronto sports columnist. In 1949 she was chosen Canada’s outstanding female athlete of the half-century.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Government of Canada

Sports Hall of Fame
Allandale Recreation Centre, at Bayview and Little Aves.

The Sports Hall of Fame has many plaques and markers noting sports figures. Trophies, photographs, and memorabilia are on display throughout the Centre. A history of the Center is located in the Aqua Lounge, on the second floor in a room with a great view of the pool.
Transportation

111 Allandale Railway Station and Steamer Islay Mural
West wall of 76 Dunlop St. W.

A mural of the 1905 Allandale Railway Station and the steamer Islay with a brief history.

112 Locomotive #1531
West side Lakeshore Dr. near Victoria St.

In memory of
William Huckett No.1 Engineer
John Harvie No. 1 Conductor
And all railwaymen who served the O.S. & L.H.R.R. and its successors 1853-1967

113 Nine Mile Portage
Memorial Square

Site of eastern terminus of an Indian portage from Kempenfeldt Bay to Willow Creek and thence by the Nottawasaga River to Georgian Bay. In the winter of 1813-14, a force under Lieut. Colonel Robert McDouall followed it on the way to relieve the isolated British garrison at Michilimackinac. That summer it was developed as a rough wagon road and till about 1830 was in frequent use for transport of supplies to Penetanguishene and the western military and fur trading posts. Erected by the Ontario Archaeological and Historic Sites Board.

114 Nine Mile Portage Trail
Memorial Square and Queen’s Park

The bench in Memorial Square is located next to the Nine Mile Portage information plaque. Following the route of the portage between Barrie and Willow Creek, a second bench can be found in Queen’s Park.
Steamboating on Lake Simcoe
Heritage Park, near Government Dock

The “Sir John Colborne”, launched in 1832, was the first of many steamboats on Lake Simcoe. A link in the land-water transportation route connecting the upper and lower Great Lakes, steamboats opened land around Lake Simcoe to settlement. They carried passengers, freight and mail to developing ports and catered to tourists and excursionists as the region prospered. Steam tugs were used by the lumber trade to tow log booms across the lake. By 1877, railways encircled the lake and thereafter monopolized freight and passenger traffic. Steamboats continued to run pleasure cruises until the popularity of private motorboats brought Lake Simcoe’s steam era to an end in the 1920s.

Ontario Heritage Foundation, an agency of the Government of Ontario

Steamboat J.C. Morrison
Centennial Park, near Rotary Fountain

Named in honour of Joseph C. Morrison, Esq. President of the Ontario, Simcoe & Huron Railroad Union Company, this sidewheel paddle vessel was built for the company in 1854 at Bell Ewart on Lake Simcoe by Captain Hugh Chisholm. A palatial steamer ornately fitted by the Jacques and Hay Furniture Company, the J.C. Morrison was powered by a vertical beam steam engine, making it the fastest of its type on lakes Simcoe and Couchiching. Daily service carried passengers, freight, and mail to ports such as Beaverton, Orillia, and Hawkestone. Pleasure excursions and moonlight cruises were chartered. On the morning of August 5, 1857, the J.C. Morrison took fire at the Barrie wharf and sank just offshore in Kempenfelt Bay, where it now lays.

Erected by Heritage Barrie with the Assistance of the Ontario Heritage Foundation
Steamboat J.C. Morrison Wreck

10 meters below the surface of Kempenfelt Bay

Scuba divers can read the plaque near the wreck of the J.C. Morrison. Follow the underwater line from the area between the Tiffin Boat Launch and Centennial Beach, out to the wreck, which is about 10 meters below the surface.

Trans Canada Trail Benches

Sunnidale Park and various other locations

A Centenary Project of Barrie, Huronia And Kempenfelt Rotary Clubs
1905-2005

These benches are located in Sunnidale Park, as well as other locations around the city.

Trans Canada Trail Pavilion

Centennial Park near Tiffin Boat Launch

The Trans Canada Trail, the longest recreational trail in the world was initiated in 1992 as a lasting legacy to Canada’s 125th birthday celebration. It is a non-profit charitable endeavour of love and commitment to a great vision of bonding Canadian’s together from coast to coast to coast.

These are the names of those who contributed and those whose family and friends donated funds on their behalf for this part of the trail.

Text continues with a list of people and organizations.

Yonge Street 1796-1996

Parkview Centre, on Blake St. at Nelson Square St.

Yonge Street 1796-1996

Lt.-gov. Simcoe’s Yonge St. vision opened new land to settlers, accessed NW trade & aided in Canada’s defence. Cut north from Kempenfelt Bay in 1814 & South in 1825, the Yonge St – Penetanguishene Road gave Barrie the stability of an all season overland route.

Erected by Heritage Barrie
Watch for Other Plaques and Markers

Datestone on Buildings

Many buildings have a small marker with the date of construction.

Memorials

There are many personal memorials in the city, often on benches, near trees, or in gardens.

Missing Plaques

There are some rocks and other markers in the city that have had their plaques removed. Contact the City of Barrie to report missing plaques 726.4242

Other Plaques and Markers

Please contact the City of Barrie with information about plaques and markers not listed in Finding Barrie. 726.4242
The locations of some plaques and markers were identified by the Barrie Historical Association, Josephine Boos, Peggy Staite-Wong (Barrie Garden Club), Ross Wallace, Betty Glenesk, and Scott Crew. Special mention is due to Mona Boyd, Heather Cassis, Eric Hodgins, and other staff members of the City of Barrie.

Thanks also to those who called or e-mailed with information about plaques and markers in their area.

All photographs are by Celia Laur, except p.1, p4, top p.15 and top p.25 by Kurt H. Schick. Technical assistance and electronic technology were generously provided by Kurt H. Schick. Editing is by Su Murdoch.