



WHEN PORT SYDNEY WAS A MILL TOWN



~ THE CHEESE FACTORY ~

Upstairs was used as a community hall until 1925 after fire burned the original Music Hall. Milk was brought to the factory by boat from farms around the lake in the late 1800's.



~ THE BUTCHER HOUSE & STORE ~

House built in the 1870's. Store operated from 1910 - 1928.



~ THE FAWCETT STORE ~

The store built in the 1870's. Building torn down c 1987.



~ KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~

Built in 1884 on land donated by Sydney Smith. The fence was originally built to keep cows away from the church.



Bridges and Dams

- A. Brunel Bridge - 1870 to 1896
- B. Lumber Dam - 1870 to 1910
- C. Indian Landing Wooden Bridge - 1896 to 1905
- D. Indian Landing Iron Bridge - 1905 to 1968
- E. Indian Landing Concrete Bridge - 1968 to present
- F. Floating Bridge - 1892 to 1896
- G. Timber Control Dam - 1875 to 1914
- H. Concrete Control Dam - 1914 to present
- W. Wharf

- 1. Sash Factory
- 2. Original Community Hall (Music Hall) 1875 to 1902
- 3. C.Geall, C. Butcher, P.Rumney House, 745 MR10 - 1877
- 3a. C.Butcher Store - 1910 to 1928
- 4. Frame House 1880 to 2002
- 5. Frame House, 773 MR10
- 6. Knox Presbyterian Church (United in 1925), 777 MR10 - 1984
- 7. Sally Foot/McDonald House, 18 Sally's Lane
- 8. Heggie House, 821 MR10 - 1908
- 9. Third S.S. No.9 School House, 869 MR10
School from 1895 to 1947 (Converted to Robin Hood Apartments)
- 10. S.S. No.9 Original and Second School House - 1872 to 1895
- 11. Sydney Smith Grist, Oatmeal & Saw Mill - operated 1872 to early 1920's
Demolished 1930 (Originally McAlpine Saw Mill 1869 - 1871)
- 12. Sydney Smith Lumber Kiln - Operated 1875 to early 1920's
Demolished 1930
- 13. Sydney Smith House 1872 to 2002
(Original location of McAlpine House 1868-1871)
- 14. Sydney Smith Barns
- 15. Isaac Fawcett Home & Store - 1900 to 1987
- 16. Frame House - 1872 to 1985
- 17. Steamer Construction Area (Northern 1877)
- 18. Steamer Gem Winter Storage Area
- 19. Hays/Chester General Store
(Moved west 1950 to be Rosewood Apartments)
- 20. Goodwin Store

Existing Building Building Removed/Ruins



~ SYDNEY SMITH'S HOUSE ~

Built in 1872 by the planner and benefactor of Port Sydney. Torn down in 2002.



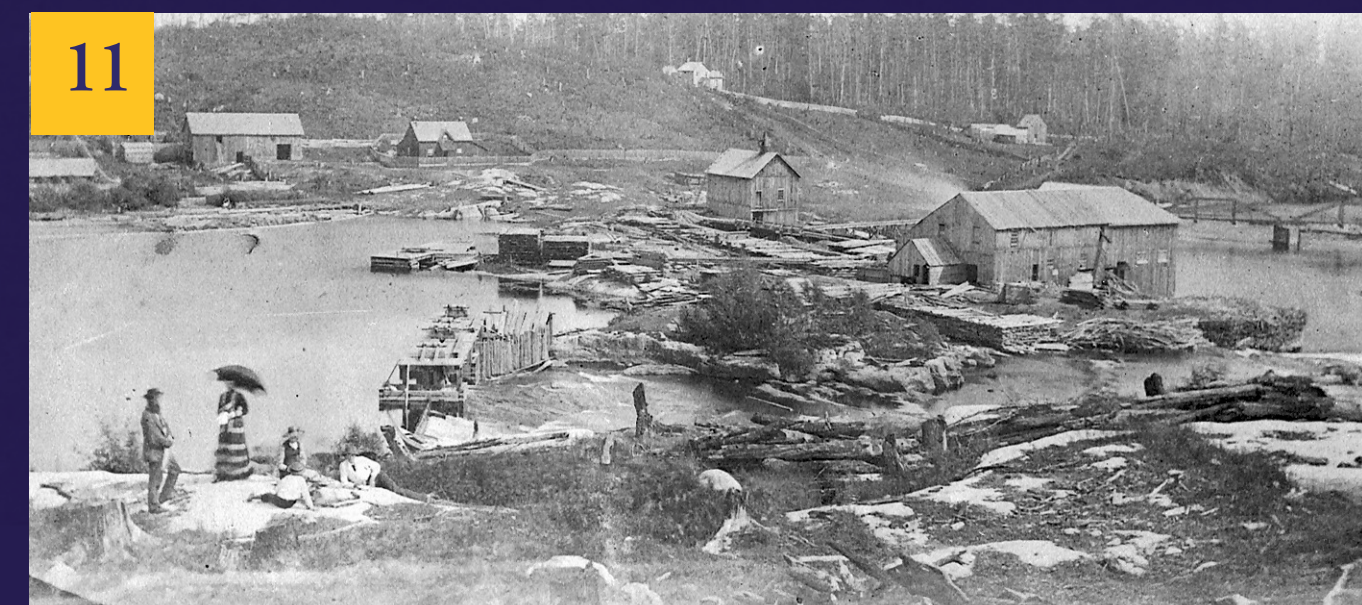
~ THE IRON BRIDGE ~

The third bridge 1901 - 1968.



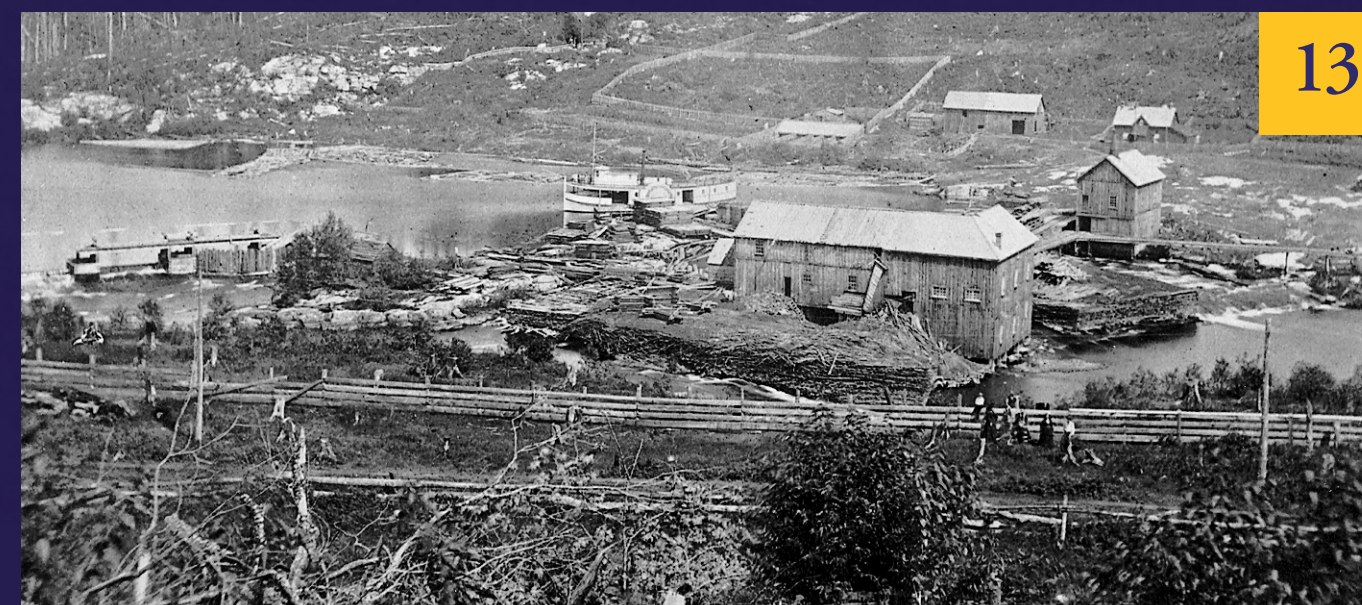
~ THE SCHOOL ~

The third one room school built in 1895. Used until 1947 for Grades 1 - 11 and up to 44 students.



~ THE GRISTMILL ~

The gristmill is to the right of the large building, the sawmill to the left, both powered by water in a sluiceway just beyond the dock that drove a horizontal wheel under the building. The dam raised the lake water 2.5 feet to increase the water height for the mill. The first bridge built in 1873 is downriver and was eventually washed out.



~ THE NORTHERN ~

The 200 foot Northern can be seen at the entrance to the sluiceway. It was built in Sydney Smith's garden in 1877. It ran between Port Sydney and Hoodstown until the railway arrived in 1886. The drying kiln building is east of the sluiceway.



~ THE MILLS ~

The gristmill is on the left and the sawmill is on the right.



LUMBER PRODUCTION IN PORT SYDNEY



McAlpine's Mill seen circa 1869.
Financial problems forced him to sell to Sydney Smith.



Sydney Smith (centre), the father of the town,
seen picnicking with friends circa 1873.



Sydney Smith standing beside the Gem at the dock beside the
sluiceway. The Cheese Factory is in the background



The Shier lumber camp in Brunel. The importance of the
cooks can be seen. H. Brown of Port Sydney was a timber cruiser
with this company.



Logs on the ice at sandy beach east of Forrest Island.
Logs floated down to the mill and Bracebridge in the spring.



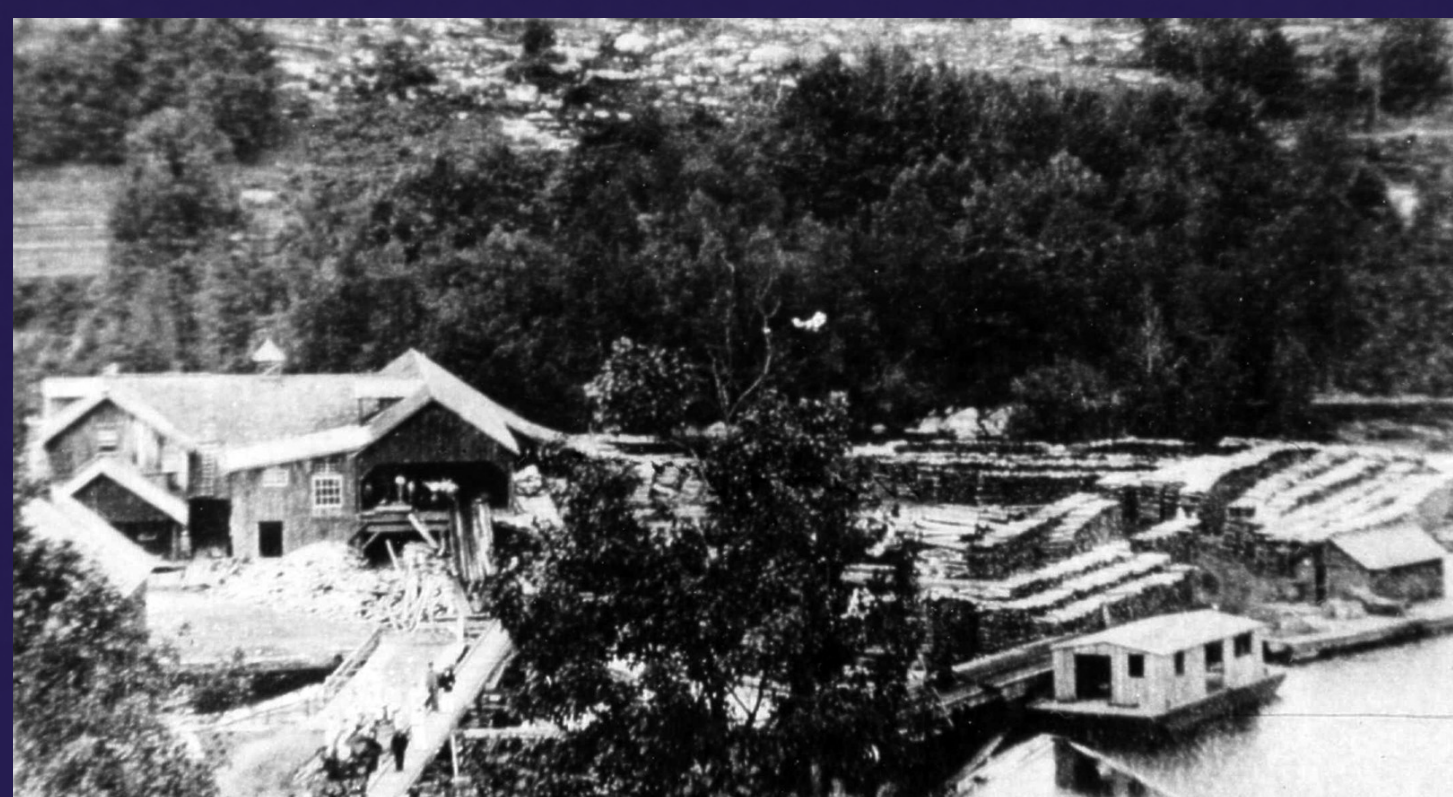
The Gem towing a log boom past Stayer's point. Sawdust was piled
here and burned in the summer. The trees had been burned off
Rocky Island in 1883. (Background)



Lumberman's dam c 1890 between mill and bridge to float logs over
the rapids on the way to Bracebridge mills. Remnants are still there.



A shingle mill operated at the east end of the town beach near
the end of the 1800's.



The mills seen from the east. Piles of slabs are for steamship fuel.
The barge provided sleeping space for the men when the mill was busy.



At the sawmill logs were hauled up from the sluiceway
by jackladder to the saw.



The small railroad carried dried lumber to stacks along
Ontario Street. The bridge over the sluiceway is seen at the right.



The Gem is tied up beside piles of Hemlock bark waiting
to go to the tannery in Huntsville.