



Village of Lefroy

Lefroy was founded in 1853 when the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Union Railway opened a station in the village to serve neighbouring Belle Ewart's busy lumber and ice industry. The village was named after Sir John Henry Lefroy, who was famous for his work on discovering the magnetic north pole. In its early days, Lefroy offered a general store, millenary, bank, post office, three hotels, several taverns, and its own library. Much of its early commercial district can still be seen today and is the focal point of this heritage walk.

'Squire' Henry Grose

(1808-1888)

Henry Grose, known locally as 'Squire' Grose, was an English immigrant who settled in Innisfil in the 1850s. He amassed over 1,000 acres of property that were sold, donated, or used to build many of the first structures of Lefroy, including the railway, a school, a church, and a hotel. Many of his descendants married into families that helped build what we know as the Town of Innisfil today.

Heritage Committee

The Innisfil Heritage Advisory Committee provides advice and recommendations to Council on local heritage matters relating to the Ontario Heritage Act. Members also promote awareness of local heritage, review, and identify potential Heritage properties, and advise Council on potential Heritage designations.

The Heritage Walk is an initiative to encourage people to explore the town's history, connect with their neighbours, and learn about the stories and people that have shaped the Innisfil of today.

Images courtesy of the Innisfil Historical Society and Innisfil ideaLAB & Library, on OurStoriesInnisfil.ca



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Heritage Walk

Take a stroll through time and discover Innisfil's fascinating heritage sites and landmarks



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Innisfil Heritage Walk

1 Lefroy United Church

931 Church Drive

Originally built in the late 1850s in Bell Ewart, the Church was relocated to its current site in 1902. It had a unique 3-foot choir platform behind the congregation, and its exterior has remained almost unchanged today.



2 Grange Hall

925 Church Drive

Built by "The Grange" farm organization in the 1870s, Grange Hall closed around 1910 and became the Lefroy Community Hall. Since then, it has been used for community events and as a temporary school. Today, it continues to be an important focal point for residents.



3 Lefroy Inn

1370 Killarney Beach Road

The Inn, built and run by Henry Grose, reflects the construction techniques of the 1850s to 1860s. It was a key rest stop for settlers, sawmill workers, and tourists, and has been a notable feature of the village's commercial core for decades.



4 Sterling Bank

1364 Killarney Beach Road

This two-storey Edwardian Classical building, constructed around 1918, is a notable example of Ross Sheldon of Lefroy's work. It was one of the first rural Ontario bank branches and retains original features, including a brick band and classic pediment at the front.



5 Kirkpatrick's Store

1341 Killarney Beach Road

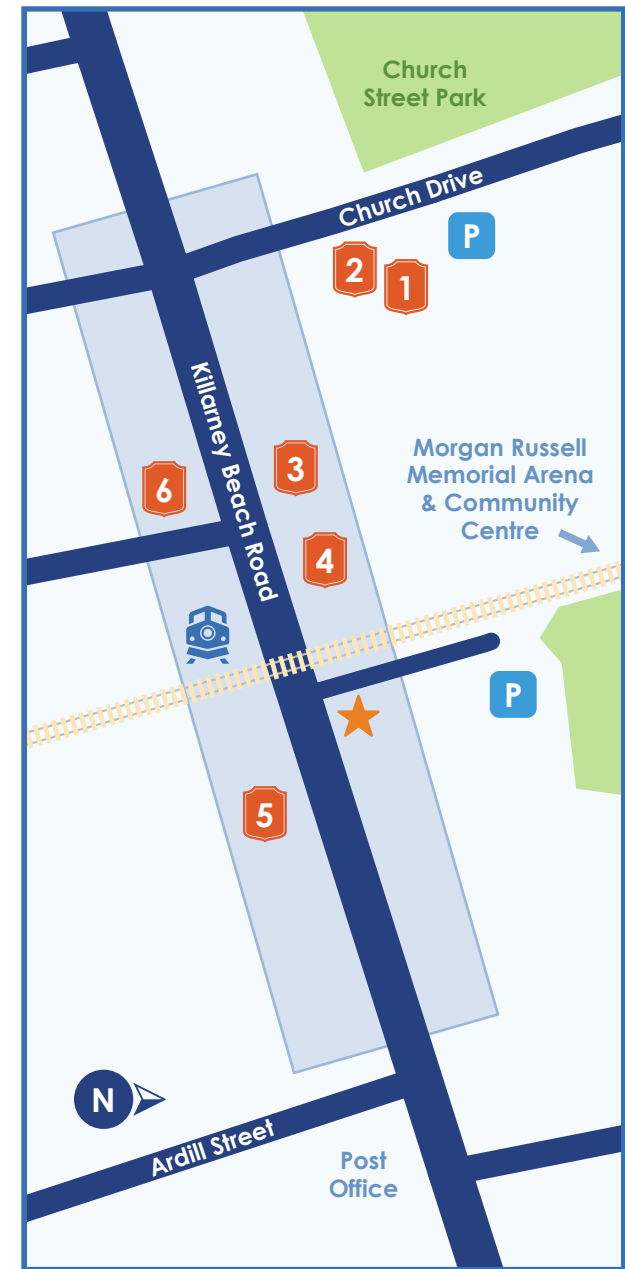
Built around 1910 in the Vernacular style, this structure remains largely unchanged today. It was constructed for prominent merchant Albert Kirkpatrick, who also built the Lefroy Grain Elevator and donated land for a local war memorial park.



6 Northern Hotel

1369 Killarney Beach Road

Built in the 1850s to 1860s in the Ontario Vernacular style, the Hotel served as a key landmark in the bustling village of Lefroy. Now used as apartments, the building retains much of its original façade.



- Tour Parking
- Gate Posts
- Tour Highlight
- Site of the former Lefroy Train Station
- Historical Commercial District

Also look for the original cobblestone gate posts at the entrance to Lloyd George Park.