



22 HAZEL STREET

Built: In 1881
 Built By: William E. Dodge
 Structure: Frame Church
 Exterior Wall: White Siding
 Style: Gothic/ Local indigenous

Current Owner: Anglican Church Canada
 Present Use: Church
 Original Use: Church
 Address: 22 Hazel St.

The Dodge family and the G.B.L. Co. constructed the building and as a result, nothing but the best oak available was used to line the inside of the church. The walls and ceiling are both finished in oak (fig. 1 & 2) and remain in their original condition. The pews and some of the original chairs (fig. 3) and wood equipment are still in the church. There have been no major renovations to the main hall since its construction. However, a modern basement with bathrooms and wheelchair access was constructed in 1993. Miss. Hilda Bennett was one of the most important contributors to the addition and a plaque hangs in her honor inside the church. Some of the windows have been replaced and a protective Plexiglas layer added to help protect them. Only the windows to the north side of the church remain in their original configuration.

Fig. 1 View of the Ash trim



B View of the trim & stained glass windows



Historical:

William E. Dodge, owner of the Georgian Bay Lumber Co., had the Church built as a memorial to Theodore W. Buck (1840-1881). Mr. Buck came to Canada from Pennsylvania in 1871 as general manager of the three mills. When William Earl Dodge took over the presidency of the Georgian Bay Lumber Co. from his son, Anson Green Phelps Dodge in 1873, Buck was advanced to the senior management position of secretary treasurer and became a shareholder.

Waubauskene had a look of order due entirely to the taste and energy of Theodore Buck, whose own home with its white picket fence, gardens, and trim lawn, set an example. The Orillia Times, May 22, 1884, said Waubauskene had a reputation for its “thrift, beauty and lumber business.” Theodore Buck died on May 12, 1881 after suffering for two years from a debilitating disease. Speculation is that a bullet lodged in his body from the Civil War had caused lead poisoning. Theodore Buck’s funeral was held in Montoursville, Pennsylvania. William Earl delivered the eulogy saying, “He was a man of marked business habits, securing in all ways constant order and system in every department so that the villages under his control were models of sobriety and order. Strict rules of temperance were always maintained and no one allowed to sell in any place where he had on oversight.”

In its beginnings, the Church was home to three traditions of the Protestant Church: the Anglican, Presbyterian, and Methodist denominations. The Anglicans and Presbyterians alternated Sundays of worship and the Methodists had a service every Sunday. Methodists in the area had made an impact by 1885 with many conversions and evangelistic exercises.

Previous Owners Date

William Hall	1866
W.D. Ardagh	1868
G.B.L.Co.	1883
Trustees of Ang.	1953



east sides of the building. Observe the door on the left side of the second photo. It is the wheelchair access and was put on the same time the basement was added to the church.