

The Hamlet of Carmel (Gleason's Corner)

One of the smallest hamlets in Alnwick/Haldimand Township is Carmel, also known as Gleason's Corner. It was named after a Dutch farmer by the name of Samuel Gleason.

You can find Gleason's Corner (officially known later as Carmel) on two lots, 9 and 10, in the fifth concession southeast of Centreton. On a map, the hamlet is clearly situated about halfway between Centreton and Castleton.

Children attended the one-room school S.S.#19.

It was known as Wait's School, because the land upon which the original log school was built was leased from Benjamin Wait.

Gleason's Corner's big claim to fame concerns the late actor, Burgess Meredith, who was born one mile south of the hamlet around 1907. His home is described as "north of Vernonville". Burgess is well-remembered for his portrayal of the infamous "Penguin" character on the 1960's Batman television series. Both of his parents were buried in the Eddystone cemetery. Burgess' father was a doctor who came from New York early last century to practice medicine.



Photo: Cobourg and District Images "Wait's School"

Little else is known of the history of Gleason's Corner, but of particular interest was an 1886 petition to have additional gravel laid on the road between lots 9 and 10, specifically in concessions 4 and 5, near Mount Carmel Church. Lewis Gleason was the first name on the petition, signed by at least 28 other local men.

Library Resources:

Memories of Haldimand Township – When the Lakes Roared (pages 58 and 113)

971.357 Mem, Ref 971.357 Mem LH

By Haldimand's History Committee

Township Tales – The Intangible Heritage of Alnwick/Haldimand Township

971.357 Tow, Ref 971.357 Tow LH

Compiled by Raquel Devison

"Gleason's Corner" – Centreton File, File Cabinet A-1,
Alnwick/Haldimand Heritage Committee Archives

Virtual Resources:

Cobourg Daily Star article, March 8, 2003, p. 1:2 "Carmel: One Sweet Stopover"

Cobourg Daily Star photo, March 16, 2002, p. 12:1 "Carmel: One Sweet Stopover"

Cobourg and District Images – Wait's School (<https://images.ourontario.ca/Cobourg/23152/data?n=1>)