

Rideau Lakes Map Content – 2025 Edition

Early History

For thousands of years before European settlers arrived in what is now called Rideau Lakes, Algonquin speaking peoples, the Massasauga and proto-Hurons lived in these lands. Indigenous artifacts have been discovered around all of the lakes throughout this area, some that are more than 9000 years old. When the European settlers arrived, just over 200 years ago, the communities of Rideau Lakes were born.

Villages and Hamlets

Heritage walking tours of Delta, Elgin, Newboro and Portland tell the story of architecture in these villages. To request your copies, please contact the Township of Rideau Lakes, visit one of the Rideau Lakes Public Libraries or explore rideaulakes.ca/experience/things-to-do/trails-tours

Chaffeys Lock

Samuel Chaffey, descendant of a family of woollen manufacturers from Somerset, England, came to Canada with several relatives in 1816. In 1820, he established a successful milling business at the outlet of Indian Lake where the water fell 13 feet (4 m.) into a river leading to Opinicon Lake. By 1827, when Sam Chaffey died of swamp fever (malaria), his milling complex consisted of grist, carding and lumber mills and a distillery. The construction of the Rideau Canal necessitated the demolition of Chaffey's mills to make way for the building of the lock and dam. Colonel By purchased the mills from Chaffey's widow, Mary Ann, and his brother Benjamin. Completed in 1831, the contracted work was done by John G. Haggart, and a maze of lowlands were transformed into navigable waters. Watch the documentary, "Fettercairn: WWI on Indian Lake", and more at rideaulakes.ca/Chaffeys

Today, Chaffeys Lock is a thriving cottage community drawing visitors from around the world. Set on a beautiful isthmus of land between Indian Lake and Opinicon Lake, here you will find the seasonal Lockmaster's House Museum and historic fishing lodges and waterfront resorts including Dorothy's Lodge, Simmons Lodge and the Opinicon – now offering seasonal dining, ice cream and live music events. Capture photos of the picturesque one-lane swing bridge, the heritage community hall, the Cataraqui Trail, the memorial wall on the Marion Dunn Trail, and the Queens University Biological Station. Enjoy self-guided paddling and walking tours around the village. Travellers will find a full-service marina with a grocery, beer and liquor store.

Delta

The main attraction in Delta is the Old Stone Mill, built in 1810, a designated National Historic Site of Canada. The Mill is open annually from Victoria Day weekend to Labour Day and during special events, where it continues to grind and sell locally grown heritage Red Fife wheat.

Historically, Delta was known as "Stevenstown" named for Elder Abel Stevens, a United Empire Loyalist and Baptist Minister, who brought several pioneer families

from Vermont beginning in 1794. Delta once prospered as a farming and industrial village, which also supported pioneer trades, general stores, smiths, hotels, churches, carriage works, a distillery, brickyard, foundry, cheese factory, tannery, newspaper and even a hospital. Watch the documentary, “Beverley Riots and a Death in Philippsville” at rideaulakes.ca/Delta

Today, Delta is a picturesque village located between two pristine lakes in the Frontenac Arch Biosphere. Millstream Park features an accessible ramp to the waterfront, stabilized docking, a kayak launch, and an amphitheatre. Boaters are once again able to dock their vessels and access the village from Delta Creek. Launch from this point to find quality paddling on both Upper and Lower Beverley Lakes. Seasonally, Lower Beverley Lake Park offers camping, cottages, a beach, boat launch, playground, ball diamond, canteen and wooded trails.

In early April, Delta hosts the annual Maple Syrup Festival (since 1967) that marks the first crop of the year, maple syrup. Held at the end of July, The Delta Fair (since 1830) is one of Canada's longest running fairs, showcasing traditional agricultural activities such as home craft judging, tractor pulls, a horse pull and horse shows, plus a modern midway. The last Saturday in September is the Harvest Festival (since 2015), a community favourite showcasing local produce, crafts, and hot apple cider.

Year round, visitors enjoy live music events at the Bastard Coffee House, delightful self-guided walking tours of the village. Book a horseback ride through scenic trails at nearby Deltawood Farm. Delta is equipped with a grocery store, ice cream and sub shop, gas bar and recreation centre (ice rink, tennis court and sports facility). Home to the Rideau Lakes Heritage Centre (archives), the Delta branch of the Rideau Lakes Public Library offers Wi-Fi and public washroom facilities.

Elgin

Historically, Elgin prospered as a prominent village and service centre for farmers, commuters, summer residents and visitors to surrounding lakes. For decades it was called “Halladay’s Corners” for the Halladay family that settled there in the early 1800s. Even though the Rideau Canal was constructed some distance away, its development brought dozens of quarrymen and teamsters to a camp nearby where they quarried thick strata of Cambrian sandstone. These ashlar were transported to Jones Falls to build the great dam and locks, as well as the locks at Davis and Chaffeys. In 1850, a post office was established, and the growing agricultural community was officially named after the Eighth Earl of Elgin, James Bruce, Governor General of Upper Canada, 1847–1854. For the history of Elgin and to watch the documentary, “Yours Truly, Clifford Pennock”, visit rideaulakes.ca/Elgin

Today, Elgin is a hub for thousands of seasonal cottage residents who enjoy shopping at The Tipped Ship, dining at Stoodley’s Kitchen and Beverage, and amenities including grocery, wine & spirits, a bank, pharmacy, post office, hair salons, cannabis shop, and thrift shop. Elgin Bowling Lanes in the village operates year-round. Visit the historic Red Brick Schoolhouse and Heritage Park, where roller skating events or ice-skating takes place on the outdoor rink. The Elgin Days festival (second weekend of July) features a parade, flea market, and famous chicken barbecue. Elgin is home to modern community halls and the main branch of the

Rideau Lakes Public Library offering visitor information, public washrooms and 24-7 access to free wi-fi.

Jones Falls / Morton

Known as one of the prettiest Lockstations along the Rideau Canal, Jones Falls is home to the "Great Stone Arch Dam," - the highest lift of any Lockstation on the canal with a turning basin that separates 3 lower locks from the upper lock. Enjoy sprawling greenspace, picnic areas, stroll by the old blacksmith shop and the Sweeney House to get a sense of life in the 1800s. Historic Hotel Kenney Rideau offers ice cream, take out, a full-service restaurant and accommodations. Find out more at rideaulakes.ca/JonesFalls

Morton was once called Whitefish Falls and had the first mill in South Crosby Township. Morton developed as a model village in the 1850s with several thriving industries including milling, potash manufacturing and eventually cheesemaking. Morton is home to one of only two octagonal schools in Canada.

Today, the community hall is a hub of activity, hosting dances and open mic events. At nearby No. 9 Gardens you'll find seasonal accommodation, workshops and art trails. Off Briar Hill Road, Wendy's Country Market is one of the best sources of local foods in Eastern Ontario. While in Morton, hike to the summit of Rock Dunder (operated by the Rideau Waterway Land Trust) for a breathtaking view overlooking lakes and islands. Find out more at rideaulakes.ca/Morton.

Newboro

Newboro is the site of one of the four blockhouses built by Colonel John By. During the construction of the canal, it was necessary to dig a two-kilometre channel to connect Rideau Lake to Mud (Newboro) Lake. Ultimately the excavation was completed under the supervision of the 7th Company of the Royal Sappers and Miners between 1829 and 1832, allowing boats to travel the length of the canal from Ottawa to Kingston. On the east side of the canal, a toll ferry (and later a bridge) took travellers across the channel. Today, Newboro Lock is one of only three along the Rideau System with hydraulically operated steel gates. Located at the junction of the canal, a 'stone road' and later a rail line, Newboro thrived as a meeting and commerce centre through the 19th century. Watch the documentary, "The Rideau Canal: The Big Breakthrough" and learn more at rideaulakes.ca/Newboro

Today, they anchor the character of this community and its reputation across North America as a mecca for recreational fishing. Stay at historic Stirling Lodge, Poplars Resort, Newboro House or Lakeland Cottage's Lock Master House. Don't miss Kilborn's destination store and the historic Stagecoach Fine Foods and Bistro for lunch or coffee at the Village Corner Café. Seasonally, dinner is served at Stirling Lodge and Poplars Resort by reservation. Nearby retail opportunities include Newboro Soap Company, Norris's Live Bait & Tackle Hunting Centre, and Little Rideau Farm where World Champion Maple Syrup brings people from far and wide. Farm tours for all ages are offered at Stealing the Bloom Farm on Sunnyside Road. Be sure to order in advance from The Pie Bar for incredible baked goodness or book an art class at Stone Manor Studios. Newboro's Memorial Park is home to a walking trail with "StoryWalk" and equipped with pickleball courts, a ball diamond, soccer pitch, playground and seasonal washrooms. The public library offering visitor

information and access to free Wi-Fi 24-7 is located in the historic courthouse/townhall built in 1850. Down the street, St. Mary's Anglican Church boasts a Tiffany Style glass window. Another historic site, the Royal Sappers and Miners Cemetery, is just outside of the village.

North Crosby / Westport

Historically, while small farms grew wheat and potatoes for their own consumption, the Rideau Canal provided the means to carry North Crosby's timber to wider markets. Log rafts and sawn timber left North Crosby throughout the 1840s. The land was quickly cleared, creating a barren landscape quite different from its reforested appearance today. Churches, one-room schoolhouses, mills, and cheese factories were also built, initially of logs, and then wood frame and stone construction. Some of these structures remain today, and many have been converted into private residences.

Nature lovers will enjoy a hike to Spy Rock lookout at the Foley Mountain Conservation Area for spectacular views overlooking the picturesque village of Westport. Close by, Scheuermann Vineyard and Winery delights patrons with wood-fired pizza on the vineyard patio. Seasonally, restaurants with scenic views at nearby golf courses are open to visitors. Bear Mountain Boats offers woodstrip canoe building workshops. Outdoor recreation opportunities at Shillington Park include a "StoryWalk" trail, 5-course outdoor seniors exercise equipment for seniors, softball diamond, community hall with canteen, 2 shuffle boards, 2 tennis courts, playground, gardens, and sheltered picnic areas. Also explore the Airfield, Sand Lake Beach, Evergreen Golf Course and Rideau Lakes Golf & Country Club that all make North Crosby an attractive destination for recreation. Learn more at rideaulakes.ca/Westport or rideaulakes.ca/NorthCrosby

Portland

Set on Big Rideau Lake, Portland has been a boating community for hundreds of years. Several fine buildings mark Portland's evolution as a community of faith, home, and business. The Gallagher Bank Building, erected in 1903 is a classic example of bank architecture of that era. The Polk Store, built in 1891 and the Harmon Toffey House, built in 1892 manifest the prosperity of the village at the turn of the 20th century. Emmanuel Heritage Centre (1861) built of fine local sandstone at the crest of Portland Hill, hosts events and stands as the landmark of the village. Watch the historical documentary, "Vacations in 19th- and 20th-Century Portland and the Rideau Lakes" at www.rideaulakes.ca/documentaries

Welcoming to visitors, you will find waterfront dining at The Galley, the Recess Café, the Portside Pub, Portland Family Pizzeria, Claire Jacobs Fine Art, and services including grocery, wine and spirits, a post office, a bank, the public harbour and full-service marinas. Outdoors, enjoy beautiful Hanna Park, a children's playground on water street, swimming at Portland Community Beach or venture to the Cataraqui Trail offering 104 kms for cycling and nature walks just east of the village. Portland is equipped with a public library offering visitor information and free Wi-Fi 24-7, located right on Highway 15. Nearby you'll find historic Forfar Dairy, and Sunflower Bake Shop. Find out more at rideaulakes.ca/Portland

Rideau Ferry / Lombardy

Rideau Ferry was known as Oliver's Ferry, named after the legendary John Oliver, who exacted tolls from ferry travellers and their conveyances wishing to cross this narrow point on Rideau Lake - a more direct overland route between Brockville or Kingston, and Perth. In 1874, a bridge was built to provide a more dependable traverse from Leeds to Lanark. A swing bridge component allowed boat and barge traffic to pass on the Rideau Canal. By the 1890s, the function of the Canal was shifting from commerce to recreation. Rideau Ferry benefited with the construction of summer homes and cottages that dotted the south shore of what became known as Lower Rideau Lake, to the east of the bridge. Many of these residences remain with the same families now, a century later. Find out more at rideaulakes.ca/RideauFerry

Lombardy is recorded under several names through its history, including Landon's Corners, Landon's Mills, and South Elmsley. But the name that persevered was that of a French soldier, Francis Lombarde who settled in the vicinity in the 1820s. A series of mills drew power from Otter Creek, and shops, smiths, taverns (for Saturday evening) and churches (for Sunday morning) were established. Charles Lombard opened the first Hotel. Watch the historical documentary, "Taverns and Their Keepers" at www.rideaulakes.ca/documentaries

The true Canadian cottage atmosphere of Rideau Ferry will inspire you to explore the lakeside community and the agricultural haven of Lombardy. Visit Miller's Bay Farm for fresh produce or take home a treasure from Rideau Antiques, Settlement House Antiques, Gallery 15 or Bernie's Nearly New Shoppe. Stop for breakfast at Hawk's Nest Kitchen and play a round at the Lombard Glen Golf Club or have a bite at the Smiths Falls Golf & Country Club – home course to internationally renowned Brooke Henderson. Grab a snack at Hank's Fries or dine at Wild Wing on your way to scenic Poonamalie Lockstation. Lombardy is equipped with an outdoor pump track, a short jogging/running track, a community hall and a modern library branch offering visitor information and access to free Wi-Fi 24-7. Learn more at rideaulakes.ca/Lombardy

Historic Sites

The Rideau Canal National Historic Site

The Rideau Canal and its surroundings bestow a rich cultural landscape and a great diversity of natural treasures. Experience the canal system through a series of Lockstations accessible by road or by water. The Township of Rideau Lakes boasts six lock stations on the Rideau Canal: Chaffeys Lock, Davis Lock, Jones Falls, Narrows Lock, Newboro Lock and Poonamalie.

The establishment of the Rideau Canal, completed in 1832, has profoundly influenced the commerce and now the tourism of the Rideau Corridor. Navigation on the Canal shaped settlements, encouraged development, and continues to significantly contribute to the culture and economy of the Township of Rideau Lakes.

Now operated by Parks Canada, this engineering marvel of the 19th century operates as a jewelled necklace of lakes and locks. In 2007, the Rideau Canal was accorded the status of a UNESCO World Heritage site.

For more information, contact the Rideau Canal Visitor Centre:
 34 Beckwith St. South, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2A8
 613-283-5170 / 888-773-8888
 email: rideaucanal-info@pc.gc.ca
parks canada.gc.ca

Old Stone Mill National Historic Site

The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada has deemed this mill to merit commemoration as a National Historic Site. This stone mill, built in 1810 is a remarkable example of mill architecture that has persisted from the era of Upper Canada and now it is the only designated stone grist mill in Ontario. Located at 44 King Street in Delta.

Heritage Plaques

Lieutenant- Colonel John By, Royal Engineer

The life of Col. John By (1779 – 1836) and his work in Canada is commemorated with a provincial plaque located near the remarkable locks at Jones Falls on County Road 11. Between 1802 and 1811, Col. By helped engineer fortifications at Quebec and small canals on the St. Lawrence. The British military recognized Col. By's genius and asked him to return to British North America to supervise the construction of the Rideau Canal between 1826 and 1832.

Chaffey's Mills

A provincial plaque erected at Chaffeys Lock commemorates Chaffey's Mills. Falling water powered Sam Chaffey's extensive milling complex here on the Cataraqui system in the 1820s and a small settlement known as Chaffey's Mills flourished briefly. However, construction of the Rideau Canal necessitated the demolition and flooding of Chaffey's mill sites.

Memory Wall and Outdoor Chapel – Chaffeys Lock

Located at the entrance to Chaffeys Lock cemetery, the memory wall was erected by the Chaffey's Lock and area Heritage Society to commemorate the founding, building and continuing life of the community. Buried in this cemetery are Samuel Chaffey and his wife, Mary Ann as well as 79 individuals including Rideau Canal labourers, mostly Irish immigrants, who died in the construction of the Rideau Canal. The stones of the masonry wall hold plaques inscribed with the names of families who settled in this area.

St. Edwards

A memorial plaque located on Parish Rd., north of Westport commemorates the original Catholic Parish, its place of worship and its parish school here in northern Leeds in 1840.

The Founding of Newboro

The provincial plaque erected at the War Memorial on Drummond Street (County Rd. 42) in Newboro commemorates the origin of this mecca of crossroads and commerce.

James Philips

A provincial plaque in Philipsville beside County Road 42 commemorates James Philips, an early store and tavern owner in this community. He became active in local politics, rose to prominence as a Reformer in the 1830s and became embroiled in the violence and rebellion in Upper Canada during 1837. James Philips was killed in the Battle of the Windmill in 1838.

Dr. Lorne Pierce

A provincial plaque located on the grounds of the United Church in Delta commemorates Dr. Lorne Pierce, a prolific writer and ardent promotor of Canadian literature. Born and brought up in Delta, Dr. Pierce was editor of the Ryerson Press between 1920 and 1960. He established several university scholarships and an excellent collection of Canadian literature at Queen's University.

Sir Charles Edmund Kingsmill

A provincial plaque located at the Emmanuel Anglican Church Cemetery about 1 km. west of Portland along Hwy 15 commemorates the talent and service of this famous Canadian. Kingsmill advanced through the ranks of the Imperial Navy in the late 1800s. Prime Minister Laurier invited Kingsmill to return to his native land to establish the Royal Canadian Navy in 1910. He guided our fledgling fleet through World War I and became its Admiral in 1917. Viscount Kingsmill established the foundation for Canada's fleet that by the end of WW II was one of the finest in the world.

The Red Brick School

The Red Brick School in Elgin is a premier example of a late 19th century campaign by Egerton Ryerson to improve public education through the building of more stimulating environments for learning.

The Royal Sappers and Miners

A provincial plaque at The Cemetery of the Royal Sappers and Miners is found appropriately on the west side of the famous Rideau Canal at Newboro. It commemorates the two companies of the British Army's construction corps, the Royal Sappers and Miners, who were raised to work on the Rideau Canal. They built locks and military structures particularly in Bytown (Ottawa) and here at the Isthmus. This Newboro cut demanded that they hew and blast through an outcrop of Canadian Shield granite, a formidable obstacle to linking the Rideau and the Cataraqi Systems.

Trails, Roads and Railways – Then and Now

The Cataraqi Trail

The Cataraqi Trail follows the route of the old Napanee, Tamworth and Quebec City Railroad, a ribbon of steel built in 1912 to link the Bay of Quinte to the Ottawa Valley. The steel and ties, and even the legendary stations, are gone from Lombardy and Chaffeys, but its route is now part of the Trans-Canada Trail. Joggers, cross-country skiers, horseback riders, bird watchers and snowmobilers can now meet, mingle, and marvel with hikers who are striding from sea to sea to sea. The Cataraqi Trail is maintained year-round by the diligent work of the Cataraqi Trail Management

Board. Multiple access points at Chaffeys Lock, Elgin, Forfar, Portland, and Lombardy. See the interactive map at cataraquitrail.ca

The Rideau Trail

The Rideau Trail is a cross-country path that can take the hiker all the way from Kingston to Ottawa. Its route marked with distinctive orange triangles, the Rideau Trail is primarily for hiking, although some sectors are suitable for cross-country skiing. Within the Township of Rideau Lakes, join the Trail near Chaffeys Lock where it intersects with the Cataraqui / Trans-Canada Trail. The hiker then treks northward to and through North Crosby, intimately experiencing biology and geology of the Shield. Swinging eastward, follow the north shore of Westport Sand Lake, through the Foley Mountain Conservation Area and along the north shore of the Rideau Lakes to briefly re-join heritage civilization at Narrows Lock. Enjoy an exhilarating experience on the Frontenac Axis, its rugged granite plutons and its great diversity of flora and fauna. The Canadian Northern Railway, later the CNR, was an operating railroad through Rideau Lakes until 1979 (Chaffeys – Forfar – to Smiths Falls). Multiple access points include Foley Mountain, Salem and more. See the interactive map at rideautrail.org

Sugarbush Island Trail

This Rideau Waterway Land Trust property is available to the community for passive recreational use and quiet contemplation. Enjoy an easy hike amongst magnificent butternut, sugar maple, white pine and bitternut hickory trees. The 2.8 km trail leads to a view of the Murphy Bay Wetlands (Opinicon Lake) and to the short causeway leading to the island. Sugarbush Island has an abundance of wildlife and birding opportunities. Located off Davis Lock Road just west of the junction of Sleepy Hollow Road across from Chaffeys Lock on Opinicon Lake.

Mill Pond Conservation Area Trails

Peaceful and serene, Mill Pond has six kilometres of wilderness trails. Low undulating hills, forest, water views and a trail to the Lime Kiln provide a relaxing but worthy hike. Take a walk through the park and stop for a quiet picnic in the sugar bush or at the covered picnic shelter. There is also a boat launch (car top only) for those who would like to enjoy a quiet canoe trip. Located at 4774 Briton-Houghton Bay Road, Rideau Lakes.

Marion Dunn Trail

Established in 2007, the Marion Dunn Heritage Trail, located in Chaffeys Lock, provides a pleasant, easy walk among towering trees, including many large cedars. The trail is named after Marion Dunn, a descendant of one of the early settlers in the area, who generously provided funding for this trail. The hike leads down an old road and past the area's old lime kiln and blacksmith's shop all the way to the Chaffeys Lock Cemetery. Here are cut rocks Colonel By decided were not worthy for use by the canal builders but have become a memorial wall for residents and visitors. The cemetery hosts graves of canal workers that came from many different lands. The Marion Dunn Trail is open to the public to use at their own risk. The trail can be accessed from either the Chaffeys Lock Cemetery or from Chaffeys Lock Road (County Road 9), about 30 metres south (towards the lock) from the Community Hall.

Rock Dunder Trail

Located in Morton, this trail offers a series of trails for different skill levels including a good 2-to-3-hour challenge through rough terrain, steep hills, rocks to manoeuvre, and a spectacular view. At the parking lot visitors will see a map depicting the various trails. Owned and operated by the Rideau Waterway Land Trust, this trail is a carry-in carry-out site and is suitable from sunrise to sunset. No fires are permitted. The **Cabin Trail** is an easy 1.3 km walk past a beaver pond, through mixed forest and a white pine plantation. The **Morton Bay Loop** comprises two moderately steep sections to and from a small peninsular outlook over Morton Bay. The hike is 2 km through mixed forest. Hiking boots recommended. The **Summit Loop** is a 3.9 km climb which runs alongside Dean's Island through a variety of forest, offering sneak peaks over rocky cliffs. The summit offers a panoramic view of the Rideau Waterway. Hiking boots recommended. Day passes available online at rwt.org/rockdunder/ or on site. To find the trail head, take Stanley Lash Lane west of Highway 15 and follow for 1200 metres to the parking lot.

Foley Mountain Conservation Area Trails

Owned and operated by the [Rideau Valley Conservation Authority](#), Foley Mountain Conservation Area consists of 800 acres of mixed forests, ponds, and fields. It is nestled on the top of the “mountain” overlooking the village of Westport and offers a variety of outdoor opportunities, including several marked trails: **Spy Rock (Blue Circle Trail)** is a 3.2 km route that leads to the Spy Rock lookout high above Westport. This view was created when a meteor slammed into the planet a few kilometres to the southwest. The impact resulted in a massive earthquake causing the earth of Foley Mountain to fall away 100 meters creating the abrupt, high cliff with its spectacular panoramic view. The path to the lookout is accessible by an easy access ramp. **Mobility Trail**, at 0.3 km, is wheel-chair friendly with a wide crushed-stone path and low grades. **Rideau Trail** runs for 8 km along the edge of the conservation area. Shorter trails include the **Meditation Trail** (0.1 km), the **Beaver Trail** (1.2 km), the **White Pine Trail** (1.2 km), the **Red Oak Trail** (1.3 km), the **Orange Maple Trail** (2.3 km). Located at 105 Foley Mountain Lane, Westport.

Shillington Park Trail

Located just outside the village of Westport, Shillington Park offers easy walking trails with “StoryWalk” through the wooded area that surrounds the softball diamond, community hall with canteen, 2 shuffle boards, 2 tennis courts, playground, gardens, and sheltered picnic areas. Located at 875 Concession Road 8, Westport.

Jones Falls Trail

The lock station at Jones Falls hosts a number of loops in and around the locks. A trail from the parking lot will give you access to the Stone Arch Dam – a site well worth visiting. When completed in 1831, this was the highest dam in North America (almost 60 feet), a stunning feat of engineering, still very impressive to this day. A more robust trail offers the hiker a trip from the lockmaster's station along rocky terrain that runs parallel to the turning basin and to the blacksmith's shop. The defensible lockmaster's house, known as Sweeney House after the first lockmaster, Peter Sweeney, is a museum, open seasonally. The blacksmith's shop was built in the 1840s. Rideau Canal Locks 39-42 Jones Falls is located on Kenneys Road, Elgin.

Lower Beverley Lake Park Trails

This 106-acre multi-use campground offers a 2.5 km interpretive trail loop. Pick up a trail guide at the park entrance and follow the numbers to learn about the native plants and animals living there along with historical remains of the B&W Railroad - Brockville to Westport. The line was called, "Brockville, Westport and Sault Ste Marie" but was never completed. There are 2 alternate pathways to shorten or extend your hike through this beautiful, wooded area. The trail spurs at the northeast end towards the beach, offering a full day of recreation. A brochure of the Nature Trail that runs perpendicular to the rail line is available at the park. Located at 146 Lower Beverley Lake Park Road, Delta.

Memorial Park Trail

Newboro's Memorial Park is home to an enchanting walking trail; one of two "StoryWalk" trails in Rideau Lakes. The trail meanders through wooded areas nearby to pickleball courts, a ball diamond, soccer pitch, playground and seasonal washrooms. Located at 28 John Street, Newboro.

The Old Kingston Road

The Old Kingston Road provided an early land link between the northern Townships and Kingston, the Limestone City, fortress of Upper Canada. For much of its route, this road for stagecoach and buckboard predated modern Hwy 15, taking dusty and shaken travellers through places called Whitefish Falls (Morton) and Singleton's Corners (Crosby). At Portland, however, the Kingston Road took a more direct line to Oliver's (Rideau) Ferry. This was an important traverse of Rideau Lake enroute to Perth, at one time capital of the Bathurst District of Upper Canada. The section between Portland and Rideau Ferry still bears much of its rustic charm and its name, "Old Kingston Road".

Perth or Rideau Ferry Road

Travellers and transporters had to pay tolls. Now this public highway ranks as Leeds County Road #1.

Perth Road

The Perth Road preceded the route of present-day County Road 10. Surveyed in 1852, this rugged path traversed the ancient granite hills of the Frontenac Axis in present-day North Crosby. Its purpose was to encourage settlement on the isolated townships and rugged lands between Perth and Kingston. In lieu of good farmland, settlers exploited valuable timber like white pine and red oak, and a treasure trove of minerals like mica and apatite. Now you may enjoy the vivid colours of an autumn afternoon as you travel the Perth Road. Stop at the commemorative plaque beside County Road 10 about 1.5 km. south of Westport.

Farmersville (Athens) - Westport Road

The nascent route of present-day County Road 42, this macadamized road required that grumbling travellers pay tolls during much of its early history. Along its route a number of communities such as Philippsville and Newboro grew and thrived as rest stops for those weary and thirsty souls. Now a sign between Newboro and Westport commemorates this, "the Stone Road".

The Brockville – Westport & Sault Ste. Marie R.R.

The Rideau Canal is the most prominent of the historic transportation routes in the Township of Rideau Lakes that is still in active use. But early in the 19th century a number of primitive roads passed through the northern sector of Leeds County, providing essential but bone-jarring and seasonal links between established towns along the St. Lawrence such as Brockville and Kingston, and the growing communities of the hinterland such as Newboro and Portland. The year of 1888 saw the coming of a new dimension of travel to the north country, a new mode of year-round (well almost) and rapid (relatively so) travel. The Brockville-Westport & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad began its daily schedule and students from farms and villages along its route could attend high school in Athens or Brockville. But Westport was as

far as the B.- W. and “Seldom See Money R.R.” ventured. A couple decades later, the C.N.R. traversed the Township from Smiths Falls enroute to Napanee. Freight and passenger trains frequented Forfar Station. Now, Via trains race from Brockville to Ottawa on a ribbon of steel along the eastern side of South Elmsley Ward. The other lines, at one time busy daily, even hourly, have been abandoned. Many of their embankments and bridges now serve as recreational trails, opening up remote vistas of the Township to hikers and snowmobilers.

Museums

Chaffey’s Lockmaster’s House Museum

This former lockmaster’s house is a structure of stone built in 1844. It now features a permanent display of the history of the lockmasters and the daily work of the men and women who settled the shores of Opinicon and Indian Lakes. Evolving displays each year depict aspects of life along the Rideau Canal. Open from June to September annually. Located at 1724 Chaffeys Lock Road, Elgin.

Delta Old Stone Mill (National Historic Site)

A landmark of the heritage village of Delta and designated a National Historic Site, the Old Stone Mill Museum is owned and operated by the Delta Mill Society, a non-profit volunteer group dedicated to restoring and showcasing this 1810 mill. The impressive stone building is open seasonally to visitors. At various times during the season, heritage wheat is ground into flour by the mill’s 200-year-old millstone. The Delta Mill helps host a number of traditional community events such as the Delta Maple Syrup Festival, and the Delta Harvest Festival. Bus tours, school tours and large groups are welcome. A fee for groups may apply so please book ahead. For more information, please visit the website at deltamill.org. Located at 44 King Street, Delta.

Red Brick Schoolhouse

This historic building features exhibits on the history of South Crosby and Elgin area each summer. Open to the public for several weeks, volunteers offer pioneer school days for elementary school students, an annual spelling bee and other recreational events. Located at 3 Halladay Street, Elgin.

Rideau District Museum

Located at the corner of Bedford and George Street in Westport, the Rideau District Museum is housed in an authentic blacksmith and carriage shop constructed in the 1850s. The forges, bellows and iron tools are displayed in their original setting. Browse with fascination the many exhibits and artifacts related to the history of North Crosby and Westport. Open June to September, 1 to 4 pm. Small admission charge. Located at 29 Bedford Street, Westport.

Documentaries

A series of historical documentary films about the fascinating stories of Rideau Lakes including Rideau Canal’s Big Breakthrough in Newboro, the WWI cottage hospital of Agnes Etherington and others are a must see. rideaulakes.ca/documentaries