SELKIRK is the oldest village in Walpole Township. In 1800, David Hoover purchased two thousand acres of land from Captain Dochstader. In 1827 he sold a portion of this land to William Steele who thought the area was ideal for a village. Steele sold several lots and founded the village of Williamsville. The first person to set up business in Williamsville was a carpenter named Robert Stillwell. The town expanded in 1833 when a weekly mail service was established between Dunnville and Port Dover. David Evans opened the first general store in 1834. The first post office in Walpole Township opened in 1844 under postmaster William Mudie. There were many names attributed to the village; apart from the town being called Williamsville, the post office was part of Walpole Township, and the region was Stoney Creek. In 1855, an official meeting was held to collectively name the village and the post office. The name chosen was Selkirk. The village became a hub of activity and in 1875 it became home of a grist mill, carding mill, tailor shop, cobbler’s shop, and a thirty-two piece brass band. The village grew with the addition of its own photographer, a saw mill, two cream factories, and an egg grading station. In 1904, the first natural gas well was planted in Selkirk, further bolstering the community and its economy. Selkirk has maintained its community charm making it the village it is today!

Please...
Stay on the side walks
Use caution when crossing the road
Follow the map for directions
Respect those living in the buildings
Obey all road signs
Have fun!
9) Bell Canada

Walk back toward Main St.

10) Fire Hall
3 Erie S.: 2nd location built 1946 housed 1st old truck from Hagersville then army truck; these replaced pull ladder and chemical wagons. Also a location of the Library

11) Sunflower Café
1 Main W.: Former Creamery and butter factory. The basement was used for cold storage. It also housed a bake shop & billiard hall. Westside lean-to (demolished) housed drug store, post office and barber shop.

Follow Erie St. North

12) Bank
2 Main W.: Location of First School (log construction). Original building at back (General Store, Post Office & Telegraph Office) was moved to 7 Park W. Bank & House at 4 Main W. (demolished) built 1875. Originally a private bank owned by R.J. Winyard. In 1906, it was taken over by the Bank of Hamilton, then CIBC.

13A) P.W. Armstrong
6 Erie N.: Butcher Shop, Grocery Store, Feed & Grist Mill. Building moved to farm east of town.

13B) I.O.O.F. Hall
8 Erie N.: moved from Main St. W. at one time telephone, library, P.O., Barber shop, Pool Hall. Demolished.

13C) Blacksmiths Shop
5 E. Corner of Erie & Park.: James Nunn, burnt down.

14) Furniture Store
11 Erie N.: Owned by Monroe Hoover and served as a furniture shop and an undertaking parlour. Was also an egg grading Station here during the 1950’s and 1960’s that was owned by the McWatt family.

15) Dr. Harrison’s Office
9 Erie N.: This house was originally Dr. Harrison’s home and office in 1854. It was originally located on the edge of the road and has since been moved back.

16) Garage
14 Erie N.: Martin Bros, 1930. Ernie Hoover owned later. House on NE corner was a Grocery Store owned by P.W. Armstrong. House later moved to South of town.

17) Church of Christ
20 Erie N.: the original part of this church was built in 1896, though the congregation dates back to 1851. Later, two additions were added. The congregation was originally part of the Selkirk Church of Christ, located at the east edge of town, at the Cemetery. Note: Garage behind 23 Erie N. was a Blacksmith Shop.

18) Dominion Gas
30 Erie N.: Dominion Gas Co. served natural gas industry. Yard closed in 1958. Lot next (38 north) was Creamery.

Turn left onto Park St. east construction.

* 12 Park E.: Note building construction.

19) Justice of the Peace
13 Park E.: This house is where Elias Hoover, Justice of the Peace, once lived. Elias Hoover also served as game warden. Note original stained glass window.

20) Jim Mattice Co.
19 Park E.: Former location Sutor Bros Saw Mill and Water Tower. Vic and Bob Hare Started Construction Co. in 1959. Building to West had car wash, pizza parlour, laundry mat, was formed E.U.B. Church. Moved from Main Street West.

21) Lumber, Grist and Planning Mill

22) Candy Shop
5 Water St.: Taffy Tom, famous for soft taffy.

Walk down Water Street toward Main St.

23) Barber Shop
29 Main E.: Location of print shop and barber shop. Located at the edge of the sidewalk. (Demolished). Offered Hot Baths for drillers

24) Legion Hall / Dr. Office
21 Main E.: 1900’s.

25) Millers
19 Main E.: Early General Store, Hoovers, Antique Shop

26) Derby Shop
15 Main E.: M.F. Derby General and Drug Store here. Later cold storage and restaurant. The upstairs was a hall and was later changed into apartments in 1945. Note Derby House next door, 17 Main E.

* 13 Main E.: Vacant Lot: Former drug store and post office, building was moved to the lake.

27) Bake Shop
11 Main E.: Established mid 1800’s. 1922 Eastbury’s, 1970’s Pizza Shop. Bunt in late 1900’s.

28) Kent’s
12 Main E.: This was the first brick building in the village. James Kent opened a general store until 1916. House watchmaker, library, billiards, restaurant & barber shop.

29) Beams
10 Main E.: Furniture and Undertakers, large saw mill to rear off Kent St.

* 9 Main E.: House was a Bell Telephone exchange, barber shop, layers and doctors office.

30) Winger’s Hardware
7 Main E.: Originally a Tin Shop since late 1800s. 5 Main E. Siples Grocery and Meats.

31) Town & Country
2 Main E.: Built 1800’s by Phillips, General Store, Hilburts, Kibler’s & Laidlaw’s.

32) Union Hotel

33) Garage
16 Main E.: The Selkirk post office was the first post office in Walpole Township when it was opened in 1844 by Postmaster William Mudie. Operated from many location in town.

35) Blacksmith
8 Main W.: Operated by Henry Smelser and James Nunn.

*10-1/2 Main W.: Manufactures Gas Office, stables at back, moved to Erie St. N

36) Upper Hotel
12 Main W.: The Upper Hotel was purchased in the 1905 by Wm Rohrbach. In later 1905 Sam Sternman took the Upper Hotel and Wm Rohrbach the Union Hotel. In later years the Upper Hotel became a private residence.

37) Memorial Gates
17 Main W.: Built 1926 by the Women’s Institute