Egmondville United Cemetery

Location: Kippen Rd and Front Rd, Egmondville, Ontario
Year built: c. 1849

CONSTANT VAN EGMOND donated one acre of land to the Presbyterian congregation in Tuckersmith for use as a church and burial ground site. Sites for a church and manse had been offered since 1845, but it wasn't until 1849 that Van Egmond's offer of a site was accepted. The land was deeded to the trustees of the Egmondville Presbyterian Church on February 10, 1854 (in 1853, the congregation's name was changed from Tuckersmith to Egmondville).

As early as 1835, the parish of Goderich, Stanley and Tuckersmith Townships was organized. By 1844, Tuckersmith and Stanley had separated and extended a call to Rev. William Graham. There was no church building at the time. Services were held in a local schoolhouse, in barns and private homes, or, at times, in Leopold Van Egmond's sawmill.

A church was built on the south side of the present cemetery to the west of the Van Egmond house. It was built with donated lumber and volunteer labour.

The earliest date of death on a tombstone is 1846 indicating that the land was already used as a burying ground by this time, before it was formally donated. Another early burial was that of the oldest son of George Sproat in 1851. The Rev. William Graham is buried here alongside his daughter, the Tuckersmith poet, Hannah Isabel Graham. The Scott brothers, William and Matthew, who donated money to found Scott Memorial Hospital in Seaforth (*see the related story about Seaforth Manor*) are also buried here.

Anthony Van Egmond, who died in 1838 and was buried on his home farm in Hullett Township, was reinterred in the Egmondville Cemetery and lies surrounded by many of his descendants and fellow settlers. In 1963, the historical plaque commemorating Van Egmond was unveiled.

Egmondville Cemetery has expanded to twice its original size. In 1928, the Van Egmond estate donated money toward a Perpetual Care Fund.

A. G. Van Egmond.
Tuckersmith T.P.