

Brussels United Cemetery

Location: 84227 Brussels Line, Brussels, Ontario

Year begun: c. 1861

THE LAND ON WHICH Brussels United Cemetery was built was an unofficial burial ground as early as 1861. It was originally called the New Connexion Burial Ground and was cared for by New Connexion Methodist Church prior to 1865. The property consists of the north half of Lot 30 Concession 7 Morris Township. It was purchased from Robert Burgess in 1865. Additional land was bought from Margaret Burgess in 1875. Union of the two local Methodist Churches in 1884 put the cemetery under the care of the Methodist Church. The later union of churches in 1925 put it in the care of the United Church.



A postcard of the Methodist Church in Brussels



The area to the northwest of the old stone mausoleum is the oldest section of the cemetery. Note the type of stone used as grave markers here. Some of the markers lay flat on the ground.

Walk through the cemetery and you will find grave markers bearing the names of many of the early citizens who played a role in shaping the village of Brussels. William Ainley, the founder of Ainleyville (renamed Brussels), John Leckie, the first Reeve, and William Vanstone, the operator of a flour and grist mill, are only a few examples.

In the late 1800s, a plot with five grave spaces sold for \$8.00 while an individual grave cost \$1.50. Gravesites were then taken care of by the families of those buried here. In the 1940s, the board of trustees offered a perpetual care service.
