

# St. Ambrose Catholic Cemetery

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Location: Brussels Line (County Rd 12), between Cranbrook Rd  
and St. Michael's Rd, 1 mile south of Brussels  
Year built: 1914

THE LAND ON WHICH St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Cemetery lies — Lot 1, Concession 12 of Grey Township — was inherited in April 1863 by Abraham Burgess, the son of John Burgess. By 1914, the land was owned by Isabella Rands. She sold the north half of the property to St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church on February 20, 1915. Before this time, parishioners in Brussels buried their dead in either the Blyth or Seaforth Catholic cemeteries, or in Protestant cemeteries.



The first burial was Anna Christine Cooper, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Cooper, who died October 31, 1915. Some graves were moved from the Blyth cemetery to Brussels at this time; for example, Edward Armstrong, Mary Neville Gaynor, and Mr. Strath were re-interred here.

Robert Dark was the first caretaker. Relatives of the deceased paid him to dig the grave. From 1937 into the 1950s, an annual collection from parishioners paid his salary.

In 1964, the cemetery was landscaped and the large cross was erected. That same year, a cemetery board was appointed by Rev. Mooney. The chapel was built in the late 1960s. A new fence was built in 1979 and a new cross in 1981.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is a member of the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of the Diocese of London, Ontario.

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