

Royal Hotel of Ethel

Location: Ethel, Ontario

Year built: 1890

THE FIRST ETHEL HOTEL was built on this site in 1872 by William Patton. He operated the hotel until 1875 when he sold to Elizabeth Lamb. It had two other owners over the next 15 years. In 1890, fire destroyed the frame building. That same year a two-storey brick hotel was built.



The Royal Hotel was in business under a number of different owners from 1890 to 1912. It became a residence in 1912.

The hotel had a large horse shed on the west side and a livery stable on the east side. Horses and rigs for hire were kept in the east stable. Abraham Sanders kept an express dray, or stage, bringing passengers and freight to and from the Ethel train station at Tindell. Jim McLennan was the last to run the express stage.

The business of the Royal Hotel was affected by the call for temperance. Many complaints were heard in the villages about the Crooks Act not being enforced. William T. Spence opened a grocery store in the west part of the hotel. It also had a barbershop at one time.



The Ethel Hotel as it is today, a private residence.
