

What's in a Name?

Gaukel, Scott, Bowman, Young, and Bradley, you see these names throughout the Region of Waterloo. They are the names of streets and conference rooms. Discover the men behind these names and the roles they played in local government.

Friedrich (Frederick) Gaukel, farmer and businessman; born 7 June 1785 in Württemberg (Federal Republic of Germany); married first ca. 1813 Polly Kaufman (died 1827), and they had four sons and three daughters; married secondly Maria Roschang (died 4 August 1834), and they had one son; married thirdly Dorothea Weikmillar (died 25 June 1872); died 8 November 1853 in Berlin (Kitchener).



Frederick Gaukel

Friedrich Gaukel sailed to Philadelphia from Holland aboard the Rebecca on 27 August 1804. His voyage was paid for by a farmer in exchange for Gaukel's promise to serve as a farm labourer. After earning his release from the indenture, he continued to farm near Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Around 1829 Gaukel immigrated to Canada, arriving at Preston where he worked in a distillery. Later he bought a small farm near Bridgeport and erected a log cabin, barn and a small distillery. In 1833 he moved to the area later known as Berlin and started Gaukel's Tavern.

Gaukel operated the tavern while awaiting the completion of a larger building which would meet the demands of the growing village. In 1835, Gaukel's Inn (later known as the Walper House) opened to the public. For many years Gaukel and his third wife hosted various civic and political meetings, markets, and other public gatherings. The veranda of the inn was used by political candidates to make speeches to people assembled in the street.

In 1841 and 1846 Gaukel acquired additional property and became one of Berlin's leading landowners. He donated the land on which Waterloo Township Hall was built in 1848-49. He was also involved in the selection of Berlin as the seat of the County of Waterloo and donated the property on which the original county court house was erected in 1852. He died a year later. Two of Kitchener's streets, Frederick and Gaukel, bear his name.



Dr. John Scott

John Scott, doctor and politician; born 25 January 1814 Selkirk (Scotland); married first Mrs. (died 24 July 1850); married secondly Catherine Smith (died 11 October 1895), and they had two sons; died 21 December 1856 of consumption.

Dr. John Scott moved from Toronto to Galt during a cholera epidemic in 1834. He helped his father become established in Blenheim Township. In the fall of that year he opened a practice in the nearby village of Berlin.

His interest in politics led to his selection as the Reeve of the first council of the village of Berlin. When the County of Waterloo was established in 1852 he became the first Warden of the County of Waterloo. He also acted as the County Coroner.

Scott Street in Kitchener was named in his honour.

Israel D. Bowman, businessman; born 28 March 1830 in Waterloo Township; married 20 August 1864 Angelina Louisa Tyson, and they had four sons and one daughter; died 4 September 1896 in Berlin (Kitchener).

Israel Bowman was the eldest son of Henry Baer Bowman, a native of Pennsylvania. He was educated at Rockwood Academy and afterwards engaged in the mercantile business with his brother-in-law Mr. Hines. In 1858 he was elected as the Reeve of the village of Berlin and appointed Clerk in 1861. In the same year, he was appointed as Clerk of the County of Waterloo. Bowman retired from the mercantile business in 1865. On the death of County Treasurer Charles Stanton in 1880 Bowman was appointed County Treasurer.



Israel D. Bowman

Bowman was also the Inspector of the House of Industry and Refuge, Secretary of the Berlin Public School Board, and was a Director of the Waterloo Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

In 1864 he married Angelina L. Tyson. They had two sons and one daughter. When Israel Bowman died in 1896, his son Herbert assumed the position.

Herbert Joseph Bowman, civil engineer; born 18 June 1865 in Berlin (Kitchener); married Edith H. M. Walker, and they had two daughters and two sons; died 1916 in Kitchener.

Upon his father's death in 1896, Herbert served as the County Clerk-Treasurer until his death in 1916.



Jack A. Young

Jack (John) A. Young, politician and businessman; born 17 January 1919 in Toronto; married 1943 Belva Irene Trace (born 1913; died 2003), and they had one son and one daughter; died 18 July 1999 in Kitchener.

Jack Young was born in Toronto and grew up on his uncle's farm in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. During the Great Depression he worked at a Muskoka resort in the summer and as a menswear clerk and short-order cook in the winter.

Young served in a medical corps overseas and suffered serious lung injuries during a bombing in 1943. His injuries resulted in tuberculosis. As a result, he was sent to the Freeport Sanatorium outside Kitchener to convalesce. As occupational therapy, Young was taught to make belts. After his release from the hospital he married Belva in 1943. In 1949 he formed Custom Leather Products Ltd. with two partners. In 1959 Young bought out his partners and sold the company in 1971.

Between 1963-64, Young was a school trustee and chairman of the Kitchener School Board. In 1966 he was elected to Kitchener City Council and served until 1969. As a member of the Progressive Conservative Party, he ran in the 1968 federal election, but was defeated by Liberal Keith Hymmen. In 1969 he was elected chairman of the Waterloo County Area Planning Board. He was also a member of Kitchener's downtown urban renewal committee. The committee recommended that Kitchener City Council replace the old city hall and market with the Market Square shopping centre and a parking garage.

On June 30, 1972, Lieutenant-Governor Ross Macdonald signed the Regional Act into law. On July 13, Jack Young was appointed by Ontario premier William Davis to a four and a half year term as the first Regional Chairman.

In 1979 he was appointed an international trade consultant to the Ontario Ministry of Industry and Tourism. He became the founding president of the Ontario International Corp. and travelled the world promoting Ontario products in export markets.

Whitney Lloyd Bradley (Whit Brad), engineer; born 1922 in Thorold, Ontario; married Marjorie McInnes, and they had two sons and two daughters; died 29 April 1995 in Kitchener.

Soon after graduating in Civil Engineering from the University of Toronto in 1944, Whitney Bradley was stationed in British Columbia training to fight in Japan. The war ended before he was sent overseas.

In May 1946, Bradley was hired as the assistant city engineer for the City of Waterloo. He kept this position until October 1947. He became the assistant engineer for the City of Kitchener for eight years and was later promoted to the position of city engineer. He held the position of city engineer for 17 years. Bradley contributed to assembling the land for the Conestoga Parkway, upgrading local water treatment control, and downtown services.

In 1973 Bradley was appointed as the first Chief Administrative Officer of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. He was one of the first people hired to regional government. He retired in 1980.

Bradley was the president of the City Engineers Association, president of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario, an officer of the Order of the Sons of Martha, president of the Kitchener Kiwanis Club and served on the executive of the Grand River Conservation Authority. During his retirement he was a prominent philatelist.