

REIMAGINING DOON Heritage Village

Doon Heritage Village + Museum Milestones

- 1952 - A.E. Broome, a Kitchener physician and radiologist, conceived the idea while visiting Nederland Openluchtmuseum in Arnhem, Holland. He spent countless hours visiting curators of similar museums in the USA, promoting the idea, raising funds and forming a board that eventually acquired land.
- 1953 - Broome presents idea for pioneer village to Waterloo Historical Society, and other organizations, municipalities, etc.
- 1954 - Election of Board of Directors
- 1956 - \$15K purchased 13.4 acres (also known as the Ermel property), which includes house and barn located at top of Grand River embankment at Huron Road, Expropriation proceedings start for Culp property, Ontario Pioneer Community Foundation receive Letters Patent from Province of Ontario.
- 1957 - Doon Pioneer Village opens to the public, Shantz barn at Peter Martin Farm starts, Truss bridge (north), Culp property purchased for \$19K, approximately 43 acres
- 1960 - Museum building opened, Shuh barn at Peter Martin Farm, Parking lot built to accommodate visitors
- 1961 - General Store opens, Well drilled, Outdoor barbeque built, Parking lot extended
- 1962 - Freeport United Brethren in Christ Church, Circular loop road built at southeast side of property, Entrance to village relocated, Excavating for pond complete, Dam built with floodgate, Woodworking and cooperage (now Repair Shop), Small barn behind store
- 1963 - Truss bridge (north) covered, Blacksmith shop opened, Peter McArthur House opened
- 1964 - Harness shop and print shop, Seibert house, Truss bridge (south), School housem, Engine 894
- 1965 - Butcher shop and Snack barn built
- 1967 - Baechler sawmill, Waterloo Township Hall, Limerick Road cemetery relocated to village, Miniature railway began operating on Willow Green
- 1968 - Agreement that GRCA will control property, and OPCF will run facility
- 1969 - Peter Martin Farm wagon shed, Wellesley Post Office opened, Simeon Martin wagon shed built at Peter Martin Farm, Gate house construction started at entrance to parking lot, Petersburg Grand Trunk Station opened
- 1970 - Sararas House
- 1971 - Peter Martin Farm workshop, Erb House moved to village, Sararas/Bricker farm started, Peter McArthur House raised, CNR caboose donated
- 1972 - Waterloo County Hall of Fame opened, Clan Donald house, Eby/Seibert House opened, Gate house finished at entrance to parking lot
- 1973 - Detweiler Weavery, Miniature railway on Willow Green ceases operation, Addition to museum building for offices
- 1974 - Fire hall, Peter Martin House moved to site, Bricker Barn, Peter Erb house moved to village

- 1975 - Clan Donald House
- 1976 - Bricker Barn
- 1981 - Name change to Doon Pioneer Village and Heritage Community
- 1982 - Friends of Doon Luncheon (Nov. 19) – key to the village is transferred from the Ontario Pioneer Community Foundation and the Grand River Conservation Authority to the Region of Waterloo
- 1983 - Region of Waterloo (Jan. 1) assumes ownership and operation of Doon Pioneer Village and Heritage Community, Facilities Maintenance building
- 1984 - Gazebo on Willow Green
- 1985 - name changed to Doon Heritage Crossroads, restoration date established as 1914, Ontario Pioneer Community Foundation donates \$20,000 to restoration of Dry Goods and Grocery Store (formerly the General Store), Dry Goods and Grocery Store restored and opened as first building in revitalized living history village
- 1987 - Museum Rehousing Study, Phase I (Needs Assessment for New/Expanded Facilities) lays the groundwork for the Region of Waterloo Curatorial Centre and Waterloo Region Museum, Wellesley Post Office building restored and opened as the Post Office and a Tailor Shop, new washroom building constructed at east end of village
- 1988 - Peter Martin House restored and opened, Ontario Pioneer Community Foundation donates \$20,000 to furnishings and reconstruction of bake oven and hearth in the Peter Martin House, Museum Rehousing Study Phase II (Design Report) outlines architectural concepts for a Waterloo Region Museum, gate house demolished (west of parking lot entrance from Huron Road)
- 1990 - Domestic livestock program introduced with horses, cattle, sheep and poultry, heritage garden and seed saving program introduced, partner with Wellington County Museum and Archives and Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery to exhibit Crossroads Quilts
- 1993 - Ontario Pioneer Community Foundation officially changes its name to the Friends of Doon Heritage Crossroads
- 1994 - Five year plan to improve access for visitors with disabilities, Regional Council approves construction of the Waterloo Regional Curatorial Centre
- 1995 - Waterloo Regional Curatorial Centre opened
- 1996 - Waterloo Regional Curatorial Centre receives awards of excellence from the Ontario Museum Association and the Canadian Museums Association, Peter Erb house deaccessioned and removed from property
- 1997 - Region of Waterloo receives the Corporate Award from the Archives Association of Ontario "for support of archives and the archival community" in recognition of the construction and operation of the Waterloo Regional Curatorial
- 1999 - \$50,000 Capital Grant from the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation for the restoration of the Petersburg Railway Station and Canadian Pacific Railway Engine 894
- 2000 - Restoration and re-opening of the Petersburg Grand Trunk Station, packing and moving of approximately 20,000 artifacts into the Waterloo Regional Curatorial Centre, Canadian Pacific Charitable Foundation grant to mount a photographic exhibit Tied to the World - Railways in Waterloo County, 1900-1914
- 2002 - Freeport United Brethren in Christ Church restored and opened
- 2004 - Construction of replica blacksmith shop, Truss bridge at south end of village replaced
- 2006 - Photography of small artifact collections and scanning of archival collections, Feasibility study completed for Waterloo Region Museum
- 2007 - More than 1,000 trees planted on property
- 2008 - Waterloo Region Museum project awarded \$2 million by the Cultural Spaces Canada Fund, Department of Canadian Heritage, Government of Canada, Waterloo County Hall of Fame demolished, official ground breaking for the Waterloo Region Museum (Nov.), A Collecting Plan for Doon Heritage Crossroads complete

- 2009 - Village closed during museum construction (from Dec. 24, 2008 through April 31, 2010), Seibert House refurbished, (Clan) Donald House demolished, construction of cast iron gazebo and creation of Jubilee Park in village to honour the museum's 50th anniversary, with funding from the Friends of Doon Heritage Crossroads
- 2010 - Waterloo Region Museum building opened (May 1), museum recognized with a Green Building Design Award from Ontario Wood Works, name changed to Waterloo Region Museum, village renamed Doon Heritage Village, and Waterloo County Hall of Fame renamed Waterloo Region Hall of Fame
- 2011 - museum recognized with an Ontario Association of Architects Design Excellence Award, museum recognized with a City of Kitchener Urban Design Award, Waterloo Region Museum officially opened (Nov. 12), What Makes Us Who We Are? exhibit opened (Nov. 12), Unconventional Thinking: Innovation in Waterloo Region exhibit opened (Nov. 12), staff/volunteer support building constructed in village
- 2012 - Friends of Doon Heritage Crossroads officially change their name to Friends of Waterloo Region Museum
- 2013 - modern greenhouse built, Torn from Home: My Life as a Refugee exhibit with local content additions, Exploring Trees Inside and Out exhibit
- 2015 - Combined Harness Shop and Print Shop demolished in Doon Heritage Village, 20th annual Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival, Selected buildings in Doon Heritage Village added to City of Kitchener Municipal Heritage Register, Maple Leaf Foods announce a \$200K donation to name the Waterloo Region Museum long-term gallery
- 2016 - New Harness shop opened in Doon Heritage Village, Friends of Waterloo Region Museum donate \$25,000+ to Harness Shop furnishings, Road reconstruction in Doon Heritage Village at Freeport Church and leading to covered bridge, including resurfacing with permeable concrete