

DOWNTOWN SUMMERLAND

The first town site of Summerland was situated on Okanagan Lake in 1902. By 1906, plans for another town site, "West Summerland" were developing "up on the flat." In the 1920s, fires destroyed much of the lakeside community and room for growth was at a premium, but the re-location of the major highway through the Okanagan was the deciding factor. Highway 97 was constructed up the Summerland Hill and took the place of the lakeshore road in 1956. By 1964 the decision was made to drop the "West" and move the main post office to the flat, now simply called Summerland.



(Start tour by the Museum at the southwest corner of Prairie Valley & the Rosedale round-about)

1. St. Stephen's Church: (9311 Prairie Valley Road)

St. Stephen's was the second "English" church in Summerland, the first being St. Peter's on Giant's Head Rd, built in 1897. Construction began in 1909 and was complete for Easter service in 1910. The architecture was influenced by the Arts and Crafts Movement and has Gothic Revival elements. (Architect: W.A. Peters of Kelowna; Builders: John Robertson, Alfredo Biagioni, R.W. Nelson and sons, carpenters.)

2. Badminton Hall: (Prairie Valley Rd.)

Originally formed as the Summerland Athletic Club, which encompassed both badminton and tennis, the Summerland Badminton Club came into being in 1911, making it the oldest continuously-operating sporting club in town. Badminton was originally played in Ellison

Hall in Peach Orchard. The present badminton hall was built in 1936, along with two wooden tennis courts on the adjoining property. In the 1960s, the land with the tennis courts was sold to the Municipality, and tennis moved to Peach Orchard Park.

(Go north along Rosedale Ave.)

3. Kelley Home: (13205 Rosedale Ave., now a funeral home) Built prior to 1912, Wellington C. Kelley, barrister, arrived in 1907. In 1937 he was appointed Judge of the County Court. He originally owned the land encompassing the area across Rosedale Avenue where all the schools were originally built.

4. The Stonehouse: (14015 Rosedale Ave.) Alfredo Biagioni worked on many stone buildings in town and this, his family home, was started in 1916 and finished in 1921. Eclectic in design, it is strongly reminiscent of the Queen Anne Revival style with a turret and steeply pitched rooflines. It was made from local fieldstone and has eighteen-inch walls.

(Backtrack to the second roundabout, and take a right along Jubilee Rd W. Turn left onto Kelley Ave.)



5. Loomer Home (13232 Kelley Ave.): The Loomer family arrived in town in 1904 and this home was constructed in 1919, starting as a two-room residence and added to over the years. It was the second home built on this street.

6. IOOF Hall: (NE corner of Main St. and Kelley Ave.): Also called the Kelley Block, W.C. Kelley purchased the Gartrell Block building near the lake in Lower Town, dismantled it, and built this structure using the bricks. Before it was acquired by the Oddfellows in 1935, several business operated from here including the first

post office in West Summerland and a bakery. Now used as a meeting hall, the mural (on the east wall) was added in 2011 acknowledging the 200th anniversary of the Fur Brigade through Summerland.



7. Bank of Montreal: (9902 Main St.) Built in 1917, the bank is the oldest commercial building in town that has been owned and operated by a single business. The building architecture is Tudor Revival, and was designed by Samuel Maclure. Manager's quarters were built upstairs.

8. Old Bowling Alley: (9901 Main St. corner of Kelly) Now housing a number of businesses, this long, narrow building opened as Hecker's National Bowladrome in 1946 & later became known as the King Pin Bowling Alley, closing circa 1980.

(Continue west down Main St into the downtown core. Turn right down Henry Ave)

9. Arkell Bakery: (13230 Henry Ave) Mrs. Arkell ran the first bakery in West Summerland from her home in 1911. The house is a 1909 Classic Box or Foursquare design. Her husband, J.C. Arkell, was a prominent road builder who worked on the lakeshore road to Peachland and the Summerland-Peachland upper road. Mr. Arkell served as a Municipal Councilor from 1925-36.

(Backtrack to Main St., and take a right continuing west. Look up on the hill at the end of Main Street)



10. Steven Home: (13019 Steven Ave. On rise at end of Main St.) Alex Steven, upon arriving in town, worked for Summerland Development Co. and later operated a livery business. He built this Queen Anne Revival home in 1910 and established foreign fruit markets as an independent packing house and fruit shipper.



11. Premier Hotel: (10118 Main St. SASS Fashion Boutique) Arriving in town by train in 1921, parts of the Crowell Hotel from Midway became the Premier Hotel in Summerland. The name changed to the Nu-Way Hotel and Café, and later to the Village Inn, operated by Mr. Estabrooks for many years. In 1978 the building was featured in a made-for-TV movie, the *Orchard Children*, starring Shirley Jones and Len Cariou. The hotel/café later became Red's Village Inn, followed by the Peppermill, very briefly Peter's Place and then became part of the Summerland Pharmacy. Now it is home to SASS, a very successful women's boutique.

12. Summerland Supply: (10124 Main St.) When J.C. Ritchie started the new town site, this building was one of the first to be built in 1907. An example of Boomtown architecture with a false front, for many

years this building was home to Laidlaw & Co. (general store) later called Laidlaw Men's & Boys Wear (when the ladies' wear moved down the street) and then Marguerite's Florist.

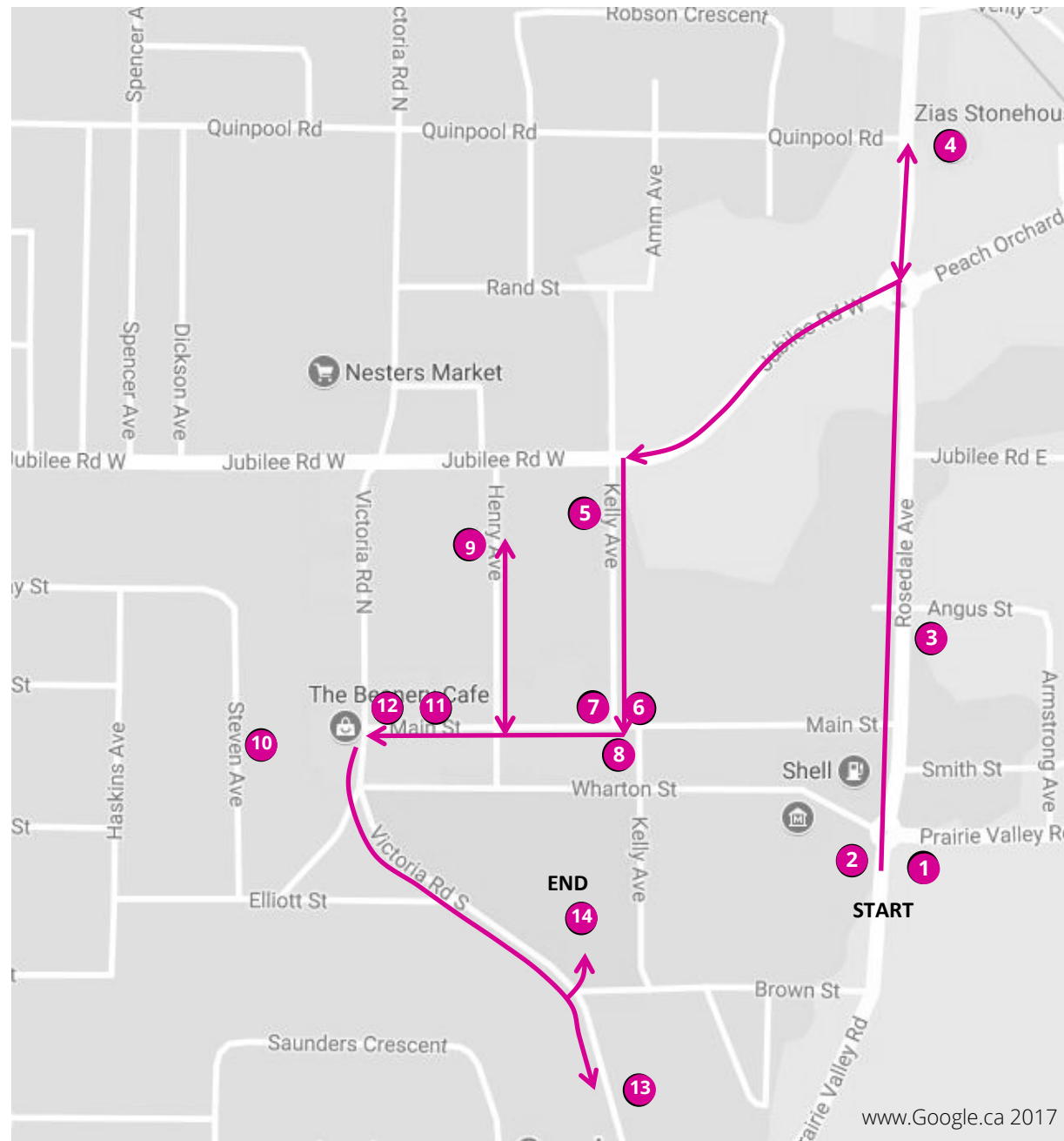
(At the end of Main St., turn left and go up the hill on Victoria Rd S., staying on the lower road)



13. Barclay Ranch House: (12409 Victoria Rd. S.) Originally built on Jones Flat c.1887 by David Lloyd-Jones, the house was purchased by early rancher George Barclay in 1890 and moved to this location. The Summerland Development Co. purchased the Barclay Ranch and home in 1902. James Ritchie, West Summerland promoter, purchased the home in 1903 and called it "Parkdale."

(Return North on Victoria; turn east on Wharton OR take the set of stairs from Victoria Rd. S down to the park)

14. Memorial Park & Cenotaph: (Wharton St.) This land where Memorial Park now sits was purchased by Charlie Wharton for a cherry orchard. He set aside part of this property for a public skating rink, and operated it annually from 1930 to 1952. The park fountain was dedicated to Charlie Wharton for the 75th town anniversary, and the War memorial (Cenotaph) was moved from the high school grounds and rededicated after the Second World War.



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SUMMERLAND MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

DOWNTOWN
 SUMMERLAND:
 A SELF-GUIDED
 WALKING TOUR

3.0 KM
 1 HOUR