



## **Sandtown Advent Christian Church**

The Sandtown Advent Christian Church did not come from any of the “lost villages” but rather from Lot 22, Concession 8, Township of Osnabruck. Originally built as an Orange Lodge, circa 1860, it’s conversion to a church was in 1890. This high gabled building is sided with clapboard. Its returned eaves and plain frieze gives it a stark look on the outside but the interior is much more inviting with it’s lower, interior walls which are covered in vertical butternut wood (board and batten style). The original lathe and plaster walls were replaced with plasterboard prior to it’s move to the museum site. The interior was repainted to match it’s original colour. The original cast-iron box stove, manufactured by Findlay, of Almonte, Ontario is prominent near the central aisle. There are also the original wrought-iron ceiling chandeliers with oil lamps. Donated along with the church itself were the pews, pulpit, organ, communion table, bibles, and hymn books.

Although the church is not from a “lost village” it is a reminder of the many churches which were destroyed. Only three churches were moved at the time of the Seaway Project and therefore saved. They were Christ Church, Moulinette, Holy Trinity “Whitney Memorial” Church, Aultsville, and Emmanuel Pentecostal Church, Milles Roches (which no longer exists).

The church and it’s contents were donated to the Lost Villages Historical Society by Leitha (Warner) Casselman, and her daughter Betty (Ron) Neville. The church had been closed since 1995 and was donated and then moved to the museum site on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2000. It was officially opened to the public on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2000. Today, it is used for weddings (weddings may be booked by contacting Jane Craig at 534-2197) and for yearly Advent services hosted by the Lost Villages Historical Society.