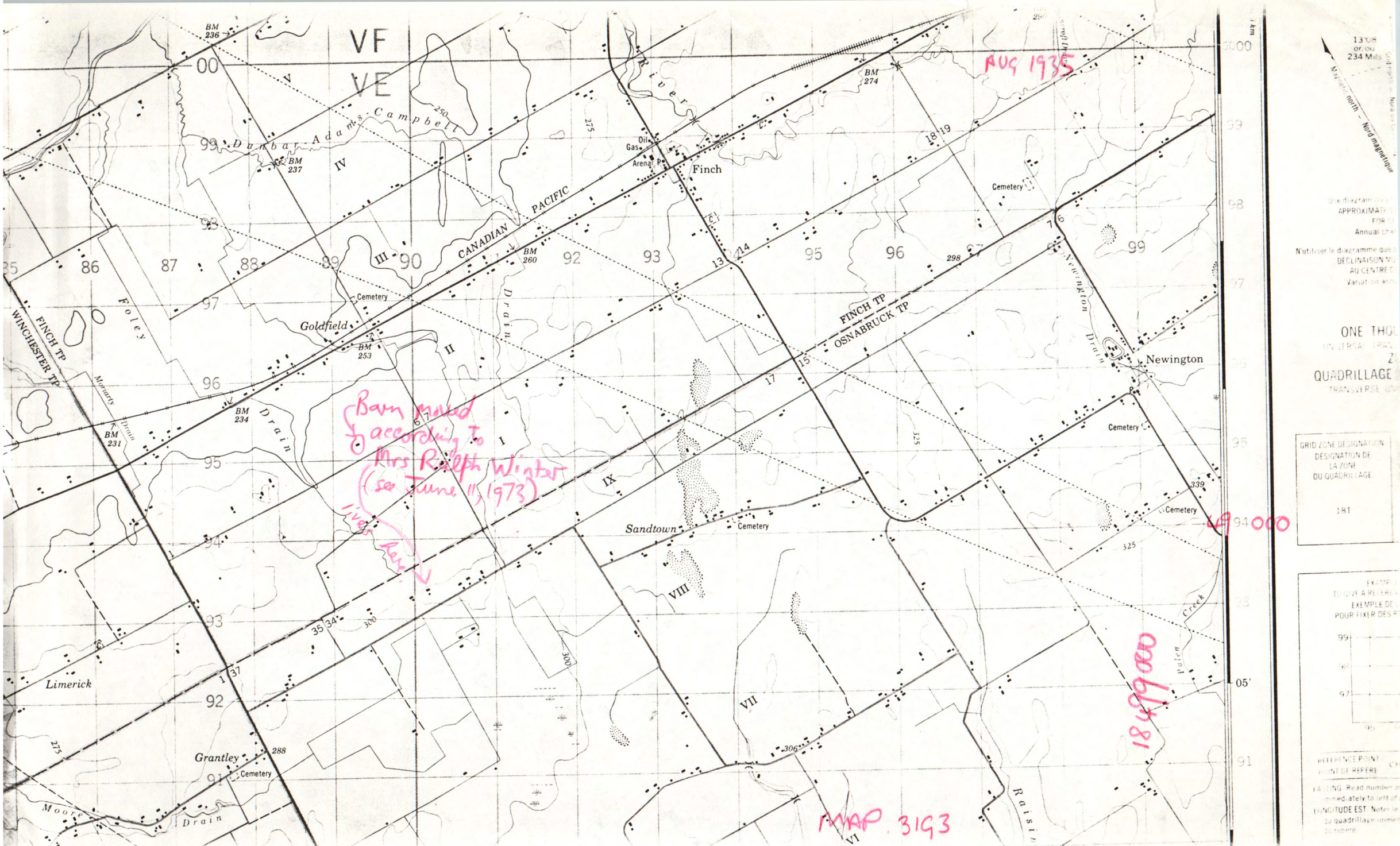
Summary Sheet

IDTO - ID Number :693506
AUTH - Report Author :
TYFU - Tornado Type & Fuji Code :a2
TITL - Report Title or Location :Newington
PROV - Province :Ontario
COUN - Counties :Stormont
REFS - References :The Globe August 2, 1935 Toronto Telegram August 2, 1935, TS August 2, 1935, Morrisburg Leader September 19, 1979
ZOTO - Touchdown Zone Number & Easting :18495790
NOTO - Touchdown Northing :4995830
LOVA - Touchdown Error Value & Code :500o
DADA - Date of Data Entry :26/06/1990
ZOLO - Liftoff Zone Number & Easting :18499000
NOLO - Liftoff Northing :4996000
UPVA - Liftoff Error Value & Code :500o
DEAD - Number of Fatalities :1
HURT - Number of People Injured :
HERT - Injuries Code :3
DATA - Date of Tornado :01/08/1935
DAVA - Date Error Value & Code :
TITO - Time of Tornado :1300
TIMR - Time Meridian :75
TIVA - Time Error Value & Code :30c
AXDA - Maximum Path Width :
AXVA - Max. Path Width Error & Code :
AVDA - Average Damage Width :182
AVVA - Avg. Damage Width Error & Code :10c
SADA - Sample Damage Width :
SAVA - Sample Damage Width Error & Code:
INTO - Initials :JAM
DFTO - Detailed Report Flag :n
JUNK - PRDA & DIMO & DALE : 100
CODA - Property Damage Code :
MISC - ORDE,PICS_TYPE,PICS_AVAIL,COCO :1112
MANY - Multiple Event Flag :y

MEMO:Witnesses said tornado was black in colour, barns and homes destroyed, 1 death caused by boy being picked up and carried 400 yards.

PHEN - Associated Phenomena :A P
TSHP - Townships :Osnabruck

JAM, 26/06/1990


VF
VE
Dunbar-Adams-Campbell
Finch
Goldfield
Sandtown
Newington
Limerick
Grantley
CANADIAN PACIFIC
FINCH TP
OSNABRUCK TP
WINCHESTER TP
Foley
Moriarty Drain
BM 236
BM 237
BM 274
BM 260
BM 253
BM 234
BM 231
Cemetery
Oil Gas
Arena
Drain
Creek
Barn moved according to Mrs Ralph Winter (see June 11, 1973)
AUG 1935
MAP 3193
18499000
94000
ONE THOU
QUADRILLAGE
GRID ZONE DESIGNATION
DESIGNATION DE LA ZONE DU QUADRILLAGE
18T

THE GLOBE.TORONTO,FRIDAY AUGUST 2ND.1935.

STORM DATE.ABOUT 2P.M.,AUG.1ST.1935.

TWISTER HURLS LAD TO DEATH AGAINST WALL STORMONT CYCLONE DEMOLISHES HOUSES AND BARNS DAMAGE OVER $60,000.

CORNWALL,AUG.1.(Special).

Completely demolishing dwelling houses and barns,a cyclone swept a narrow path across a section of STORMONT COUNTY this afternoon,took one life,and left in its wake damage which has been estimated at over $60,000.

NEWINGTON HIT.

The twister was seen approaching NEWINGTON VILLAGE,which is about eighteen miles northwest of CORNWALL,about two O'clock this afternoon, and it was in that village and immediate district where the greater part of the damage was done.

While many residents of the Newington area received minor injuries from flying timbers,pieces of furniture and small trees,the only tragedy befell the family of MRS.LAURA HELMER,NEWINGTON,when her 10-year-old son, DALTON,was swept from the back door of the home by the twister,was carried more than a hundred feet up in the air,and thrown out of the cone -shaped twister to land 400 yards away from his home and more than 300 feet out of the path of the cyclone.The little lad crashed against a small outbuilding as he was sent hurling to the ground,and landed in a small henyard. Despite medical aid,the boy died less than half an hour later.

SEEK REFUGE IN CELLARS.

Eyewitnesses of the twister said that early in the afternoon, a group of clouds seemed to form to the northwest of NEWINGTON.A low hum was audible at the time and,suddenly,a spinning,black cone,which stretched high into the sky,approached the village.The roar of the approaching twister was said to have increased as it neared,and residents of Newington first saw it dip earthward about two miles west of the village.Many residents sought refuge in the cellars of their homes,but others watched the approach of the twister,and claimed the sight to be unbelievable.

The destruction it caused in the area and the path it cut through the village are marked by totally destroyed buildings,uprooted trees,broken furniture and timbers of every description.Even the most vivid imagination could not picture the actual force of the cyclone.

The twisting cone sucked up everything in its direct path.In some places,trees were uprooted all around a residence,but the house was not damaged.At another place,sheds were torn from adjoining buildings

and the main buildings were not damaged. Roofs were lifted completely off buildings, and others were badly damaged by flying timbers. The twister lifted a private garage and hurled it more than 500 yards in one direction, while the automobile was sent crashing 300 feet in the opposite direction. A washing machine, table and bed were carried by the twister for nearly two miles and then dropped. A gasoline engine weighing more than 800 pounds, was lifted into the air when the cone caught up a small milk-house and was carried about 150 feet before being hurled to earth.

Before reaching Newington Village, the cone dipped several times in bushlands owned by H.SECORD and JAMES FERGUSON. There, hard maple trees were levelled and a clean path about 300 feet wide was cut through the bush as clean as if it had been done by bushmen. At other points, trees were stripped of their leaves, while still others were torn from the ground and moved several feet.

Swooping down first at a point two miles northwest of Newington, the jet-black cone struck a hydro transmission line and left a 185-foot ~~tower~~ steel tower a twisted heap of steel. Falling of the tower broke the heavy cables and cut off the power being carried from CHATS FALLS to the Hydro export station at CORNWALL. Workmen were rushed to the scene and service was not restored until late tonight, when temporary towers were erected and the cables connected.

The cyclone continued in a southwesterly direction, and the cone swerved between a house and a barn on the farm of HARRY SMITH. The path of the cone was about 200 feet wide, and was clearly outlined by uprooted trees and levelled corn. A back kitchen was ripped from SMITH'S house, and the lumber scattered far and near, but the house was slightly damaged. Freakish in its behavior, the black funnel then struck SMITH'S barn, a structure 60x60 feet, and sucked nearly all the timbers forming the barn high into the air. The barn was partially filled with hay and straw, but the huge piles were not disturbed. Many fowl were killed, but several horses in the barn at the time were not injured.

Immediately adjoining, the SAMUEL WINTERS farmhouse received the full fury of the twister. MRS. WINTERS, daughter FLORENCE, and grandchild DOLLY HALL, witnessed the approach of the cyclone. Realizing the danger, the three went into the cellar. They had barely left the main floor when the twister struck. The frame house, 24 by 30 feet in size, was lifted intact from its foundation. Crouched in the cellar, MRS. WINTERS saw her home carried into the air, twisted around several times and then sent crashing to the ground more than 30 feet away from the foundation. The building and all the contents were a total loss. Little DOLLY HALL was the only member of the household injured.

EVENING TELEGRAM, TORONTO FRI AUG 2, 1935
STORM DATE THUR AUG 1, 1935

TWISTER CAUSES $100,000 LOSS AND PLAYS MANY PRANKS

FREAK CYCLONE WRECKS VILLAGE AND KILLS BOY

Razes 20 Newington Houses —Lad Hurled 400 Yards Against Wall—Gale Played Tricks

Cornwall, Aug. 2 (Special)—A boy was killed, 20 buildings demolished or unroofed and approximately $100,000 damage done yesterday afternoon when a terrific cyclone tore through the little village of Newington, 18 miles northwest of Cornwall.

The twister, which came as an awful climax to a storm of rain, hail and lightning, cut a swath of destruction a quarter of a mile wide and two miles long.

Dalton Helwer, 10, ran out to the rear doorstep of his home at the outskirts of the village while the fury was at its height. The wind caught him and carried him 400 yards. It hurled him against the brick wall of a building with such force that he died half an hour later. And a moment after he had been plucked from the doorstep the house from which he had stepped was picked up and tossed clean across a field.

In the village itself some 20 houses were blown down or unroofed.

RESIDENTS COLLAPSE

Two residents collapsed and had to be given emergency medical attention while the cyclone raged, and several others had narrow escapes as timbers crashed and brickwork sailed through the air. Several of the wrecked houses were carried clean off their foundations and came to earth in whirling fragments.

On two farms outside the village there is not a single building left standing. A number of cows and horses died in the fields. One barn burned, struck by lightning just before the twister came.

Local telephone lines in the district are all down.

The "freaks" of the twister are something that will be long remembered by residents of the section.

An old-fashioned washing machine was carried through the air for a mile and set down gently in an upright position. It was practically undamaged.

A metal tank, six feet high and five feet in diameter, was transported for 300 yards, jammed through the front doorway of a house, up the stairs and deposited in a front bedroom.

TRANSFERS ROOF

An earthern pot of the variety familiar in rural households was plucked from an upstairs room in one house, carried fully a mile and set down unbroken, on the back porch of another house.

After the tornado unroofed a cheese factory, it "robbed Peter to pay Paul" by lifting the roof from a railway station and setting it on the roofless factory.

A touring model automobile weighing 3,000 pounds was carried 200 yards and jammed down with such force that it collapsed like a concertina.

An 800-pound gasoline engine took a 300-yard flight and buried itself in the ground.

Ten ducks in a farmyard were not only killed, but were stripped of their plumage down to the last pin feather.

A piano and an organ were part of the furnishings of a house razed by the tornado. A single ivory key was found one and one-half miles away.

SUFFERS TWICE IN DAY

Misfortune visited Charles Smith, Newington, on two occasions within an hour. The tornado demolished the barn on a farm which he owns, but which is occupied by his brother, Harry Smith, on the Gore road, 1½ miles northwest of Newington. Loss was estimated at more than $3,000. An electrical storm broke over the Newington area later, and a bolt struck the barn on Smith's farm within the village itself. In a few seconds the large frame structure was a mass of flames. Fire fighting was out of the question. The loss of building and contents is estimated at about $3,500.

Paupst's barn, 22 by 16 feet, was demolished and the timber scattered in pieces no larger than firewood over a wide area. The site of the barn was left as clean as though no building had ever rested there.

Paupst's next neighbor to the north, Colborne Thompson, escaped the tornado by a few feet.

STRIPPED HAY COCKS

"I stood on my back porch watching it," Thompson told The Telegram. "I saw it cross a hay field, on which the hay had been cut and left lying in cocks. For a strip about 150 feet wide the tornado picked up every single straw, leaving the ground absolutely bare. When it kept coming toward me I went toward the fair grounds, but fortunately it missed my place entirely."

A host of Newington residents told vivid stories of the visitation.

"I was working on the railway line almost 1½ miles away," said Neil Campbell, N.Y.C. employe, "but I saw the twister almost from the start. We could see entire trees, some of them 50 to 60 feet in length, being whirled high in the sky. "It was a dreadful sight."

Asa Hawn was standing near Newington school when the tornado arrived.

"It was a jet black cloud," he said. "It seemed to go straight up for a long way and then branch out like the top of a funnel. Trees, lumber and all sorts of things were being spun around in it. There was nothing we could do, so we just stood there and watched it as it passed through the village.

TWO PERSONS HURT

"I had just gone out on my verandah for an after-dinner smoke," Adam Werely said. "I heard a roaring noise, and I thought that they were starting the grinder at the grist mill, but when the roaring got louder, I looked out, west and saw the twister coming! Then I went in the house and the girls went down in the cellar, but fortunately the tornado missed us entirely, although it couldn't have passed us by more than a few feet."

Veterinary Dies At New Hamburg

Woodstock, Aug. 2—Thomas Sterling, well-known veterinary surgeon, died suddenly at his home in New Hamburg yesterday. Dr. Sterling was a lifelong resident of the district.

Canadian Press Clipping Services
410 UNIVERSITY AVE. TORONTO, ONT. M5G 1S7

: 1846
: Thurs July 17 1902
: Aug 1935
: ~~1975~~
1973

Morrisburg Leader, Ont.
September 19, 1979

CANADIAN PRESS CLIPPING SERVICES

D
1492

DOWNSTREAM

Last Friday's steady downpour along with threats of high winds prompted several area residents to talk about storms that they had experienced during their former years. From time to time, the area receives storms in the form of cyclones, tornadoes and thunder heads. According to local folklore Osnabruck township received a severe tornado early in the 1800's and as a result we know the area today as the Winfall.

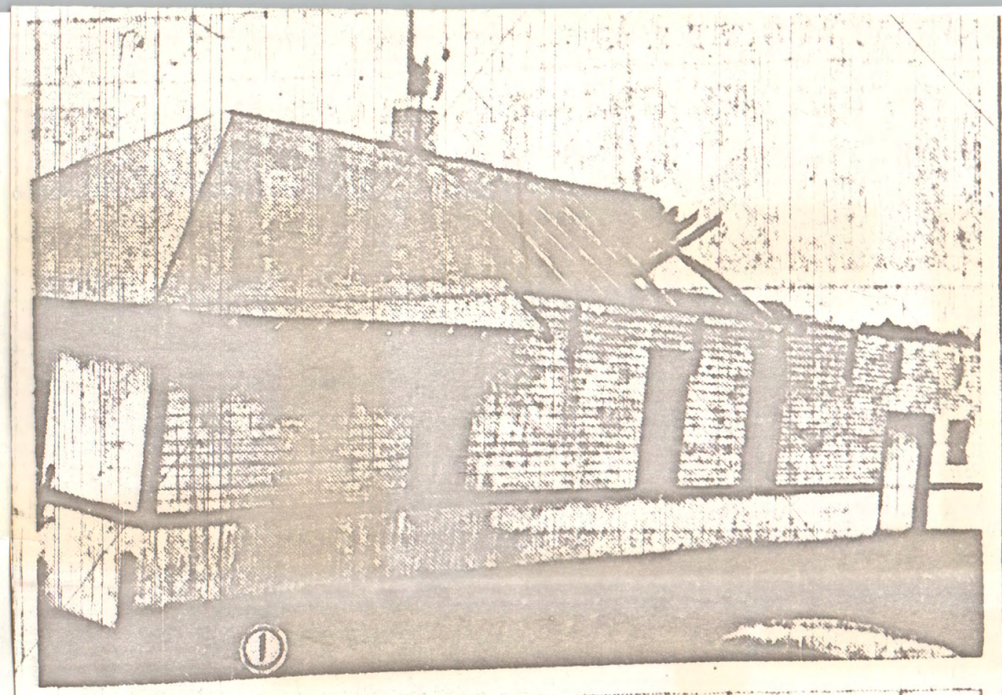
In 1846 from the records of Judge Pringle we hear of a storm which came from the south west and followed the St. Lawrence and fell upon the city of Cornwall. This storm struck the lock where Domtar now stands and blew a young girl from the south side of the canal to the north wall killing her instantly. It came through the front yards of the Wood's and Mattice Farms and removed all trees in its path. It caused considerable damage to many buildings in the city of that day and some papers from one residence was found a considerable distance away in Lancaster.

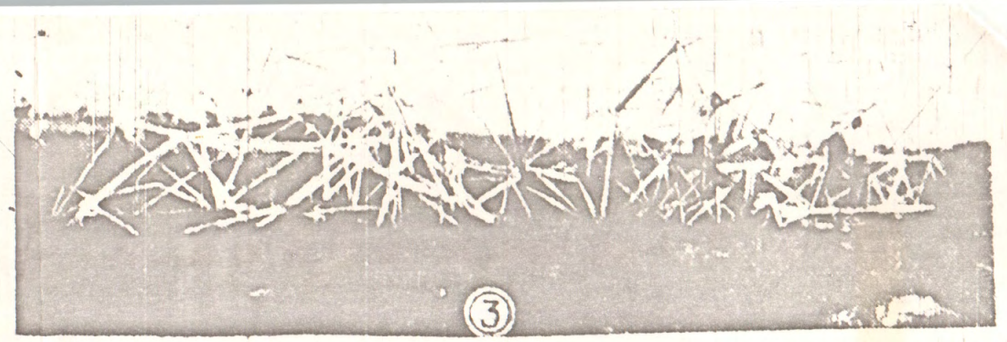
The worst cyclone to hit the area according to records was on teh 17th of July in 1902. That storm hit the property of John Kearns three miles north east of Chesterville. It came from a northernly direction and as a result it demolished the Kearn buildings and left his wife, son and daughter dead. It moved in a south easternly direction and demolished several buildings east of Grantly in the Sandtown area of Osnabruck Township.

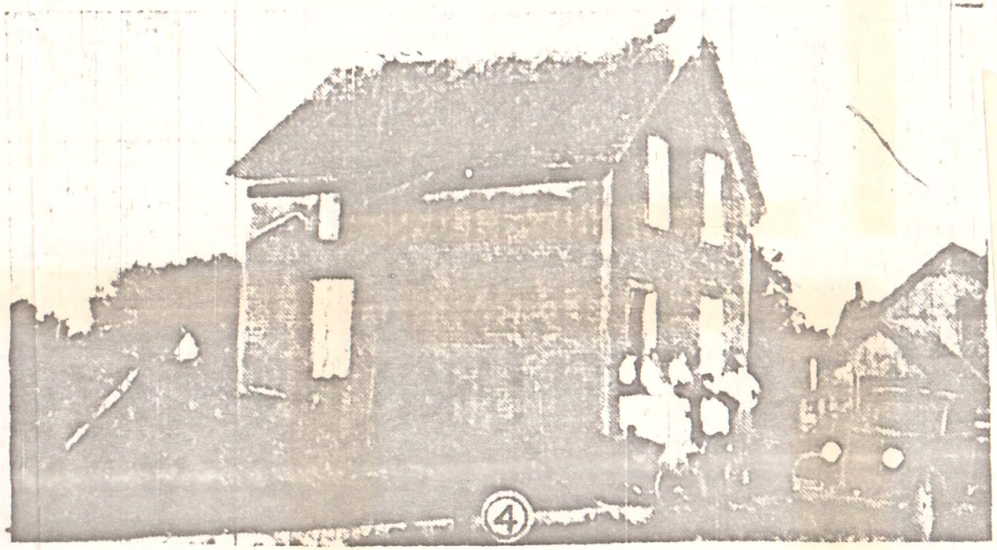
Another disastrous cyclone occured in August 1935 when the present day village of Newington received the full force of the storm. In that village it demolished and or unroofed no fewer than fifteen buildings. Included in the damage was P.J. McEwan's grist mill, Smith's Cheese Factory, the New York Central railway station, the house of a Mrs. Winters and several other unrecorded residences. It was the storm that took the life of Dalton Helmer, the son of Laura Helmer. The boy was sitting on his mother's doorstep when he was flung by the force of the storm into a nearby building and killed instantly. This storm continued south easterly moving down a 185' high Hydro tower as well as cutting a swath 150 feet to 200 feet wide bush carried some

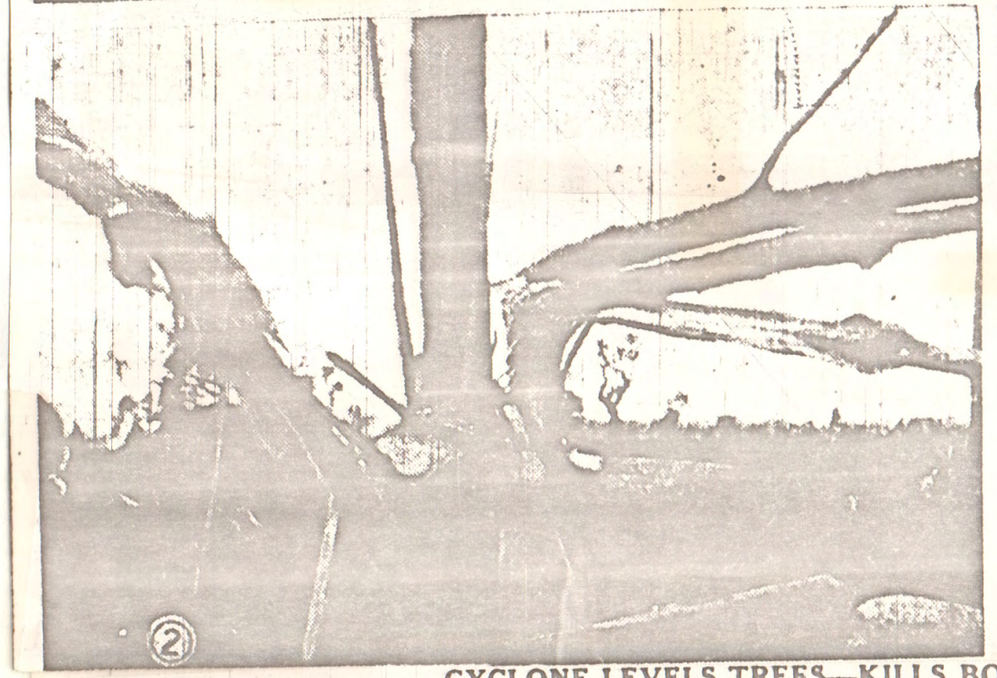
Other minor tornado's and cyclones occured throughout the years but in was not until 1975 that a major storm termed as a tornado struck the area. The storm slammed into the downtown area of the village of Chesterville and removed the top storey off the Masonic Hall. It uprooted trees along the route and followed the Nation River in an easternly direction until it struck a creet an headed south east of the village. Homes in a new subdivision were totally levelled. It seemed to raise into the sky as it proceeded south but again hit the ground on the 9th concesion road of Osnabruck, east of Grantly. There it removed roofs of barns and tore up trees by the roots. One of the largest being a huge Elm at the gate of M. Winters. This storm caused a great deal of damage in the Sandtown area again but fortunatelv no one was injured.

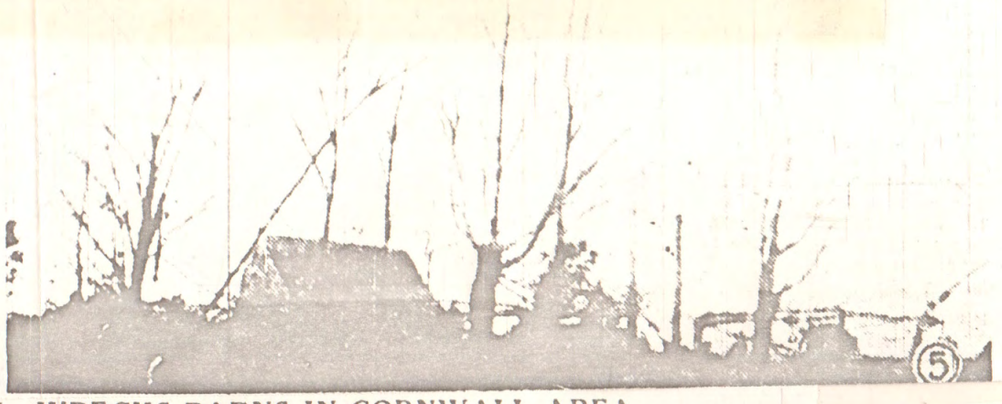
Last Friday was again a reminder that man cannot harness mother nature. Extensive flooding occured in the western section of Ingleside. The present sewar system couldnot handle the load and as a result several residents received a great deal of damage to their basements. A sewar revampaton is proposed in the neighbourhood of 600,000dollars and must be undertaken as soon as possible to remedy the problem. With this capital expenditure I must as ratepayer state that at present I cannot support the concept of a 950,000 dollar municipal pool. A taxpayer must set priorities and that is where I stand. We must fix and pay for our sewar system first before we dig a hole into the ground for our proposed municiapl pool. It is commonsense Mr. Cross and Mrs. Bird. I remember that you two last last fall were going to save the taxpayers of this municipality money if you were elected. It seems that you are costing us more money than we bargained for and not getting very much accomplished in a positive direction in this municipality. A public meeting may be the answer to a lot of negative response that we have been getting lately from our elected fence sitters in the municipality.











CYCLONE LEVELS TREES—KILLS BOY—WRECKS BARNS IN CORNWALL AREA

Roaring out of the western sky yesterday afternoon, a cyclone ripped its way through a narrow section of Stormont county, taking one life and causing damage estimated at more than $50,000. Newington station is seen in (1) with half the roof torn off. One man was in the station at the time but was not injured. In (2) can be seen heavy oak timber from a barn more than 300 feet away, lodged in the centre of a large sized tree. (3) Wreckage of a Hydro steel tower, a mass of twisted girderwork. In (4) is shown the home of Dalpon Helmer, 12, killed when he was picked up by the wind and dashed against a building. Note the wire fence and poles on the roof of the Helmer home. Trees, stripped of their leaves and a view of the general country are shown in (5).

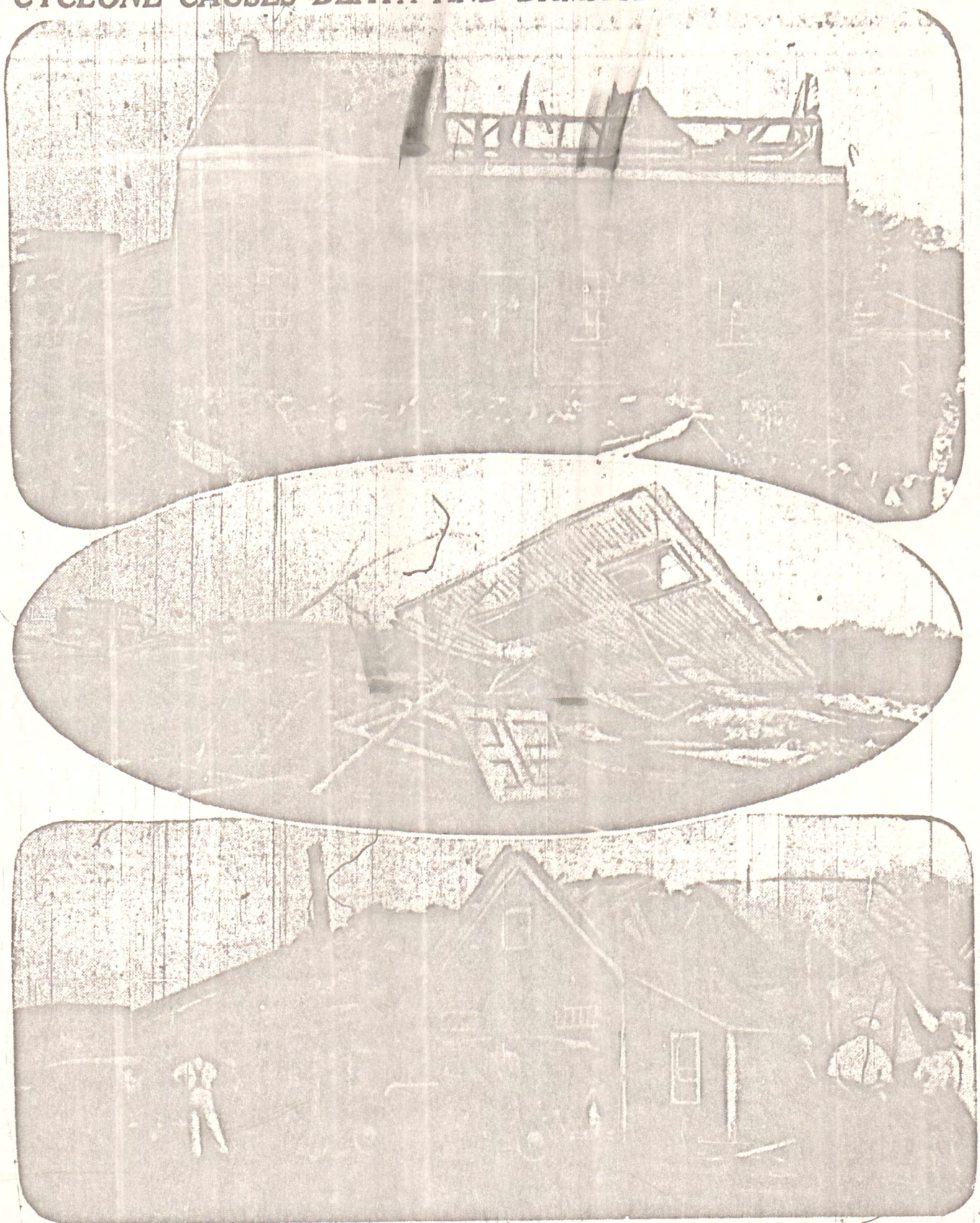
Toronto Daily Star Fri Aug 2, 1935

Stories Date: Thurs Aug 1, 1935

STORM DATE: THUR AUG 1, 1935

THE EVENING TELEGRAM, TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1935

CYCLONE CAUSES DEATH AND DAMAGE AT NEWINGTON



—(Copyright, 1935, The Evening Telegram)

Three views of the damage caused when a cyclone swept across a section of Stormont county yesterday afternoon, causing one death and property loss estimated at more than $50,000. Fifteen buildings were flattened. Top shows the unroofed grist mill of P. J. McEwen. A portion of the wall collapsed. Centre picture shows wreckage of Samuel Winters' home, carried 30 feet. The three occupants fled to the cellar on the approach of the twister and escaped injury. Bottom, the damage to the cheese factory of Robert Smith & Co., with loss estimated at $3,000.