UPDATED

Possible Tornado
Bayfield - Atwood, Ontario
October 13, 1973

Date- Local: Saturday, October 13th, 1973
UTC: Sunday, October 14th, 1973
Time- Local: 2200
UTC: 0200
Location: Bayfield - Atwood
Region: Huron - Perth
Classification: Possible Tornado
Category: -999
Casualties: None
Track Length: 57320 m
Width: None available
Motion: 260 degrees
Damage Estimate: None available
F-Scale Rating: F1
Code: BS
Damage Survey: None
Spotter Reports: None
Other Documents:
Newspaper articles
Map of approximate tornado track
Newark summary sheet

Tornado F-Scale Re-Assessment

~~Sarah J. Scriver~~ Paul Rousseau
Tornado Data Production Assistant, Environment Canada
September 30th, 2003

Classification: Possible Tornado
Date: Saturday, October 13th, 1973
Location: Bayfield – Atwood, Huron – Perth Region

Original Assessment: F0
Re-Assessment: F1
F-Code: BS
Explanation of Assessment: Reported that a barn roof was removed. According to the Wind Damage Rating table, this falls under F1 category.

SJS

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TORNADO PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

F=0 ONT

1. DATE AND TIME OCT 13, 1973 2100 EST

2. LOCATION OR PATH (attach map)
BAYFIELD TO ATWOOD 06 973 08

3. PATH LENGTH ☐ NOT KNOWN ☐ <1mi; ☐ 1-4mi; ☐ 5-10mi; ☐ 11-50mi; ☐ LENGTH IF>50mi

4. PATH WIDTH ☐ 5. TORNADO PART OF SQUALL LINE? ☐ YES; ☐ NO; ☐ UNKNOWN:

6. ANY UNUSUAL COLORATION? ☐ YES; ☐ NO; ☐ UNKNOWN

7. ANY UNUSUAL SOUND? ☐ YES; ☐ NO; ☐ UNKNOWN

8. IF ANSWER TO 6 OR 7 YES, ELABORATE;

9. LIST ANY ASSOCIATED PHENOMENA
(Such as hail, vivid lightning heavy rain, no rain, etc.)

10. TOTAL DAMAGE ESTIMATE $ U 11. TOTAL DEATHS NONE

12. TOTAL INJURED NONE 13. TOTAL HOMELESS U

14. LIST ALL REFERENCES

BEACON HERALD, STRATFORD OCT 15, 1973
GODERICH SIGNAL STAR, OCT 18, 1973
PALMERSTON OBSERVER, THUR OCT 18, 1973
LISTOWEL BANNER, OCT 18, 1973
Telephone Interview, Dec 10, 1980 by m.s. Newark

15. SUMMARIZE REMARKS PERTAINING TO (a) FUNNEL; (b) INTERESTING OR CAPRICIOUS EVENTS.

(a) Mrs Logan cleave, Bayfield, saw funnel to the east.

(b) Called Harold Price (519) 527-1637

WORKSHEET

IDTO 0697308

(1) ORIGIN x 17442600
y 4823500

(2) LIFT-OFF x_1 17498500
y_1 4835000

(3) $(x_1 - x)$ = 55900

(4) $(y - y_1)$ = 11500

(5) Standard Error S_x 1000 ϕ.

(6) Standard Error S_y 1000 ϕ.

(7) DAMAGE LENGTH

$$L = [(x_1 - x)^2 + (y - y_1)^2]^{1/2}$$

(3)+(4) [→ r, θ] = 57071

(8) $\alpha = \tan^{-1} \dfrac{|y - y_1|}{|x - x_1|}$

[x ↔ Y] = 12°

(9) Standard Error $S_L = (S_x^2 + S_y^2)^{1/2}$

(5)+(6) [→ r, θ] = 1414 ϕ

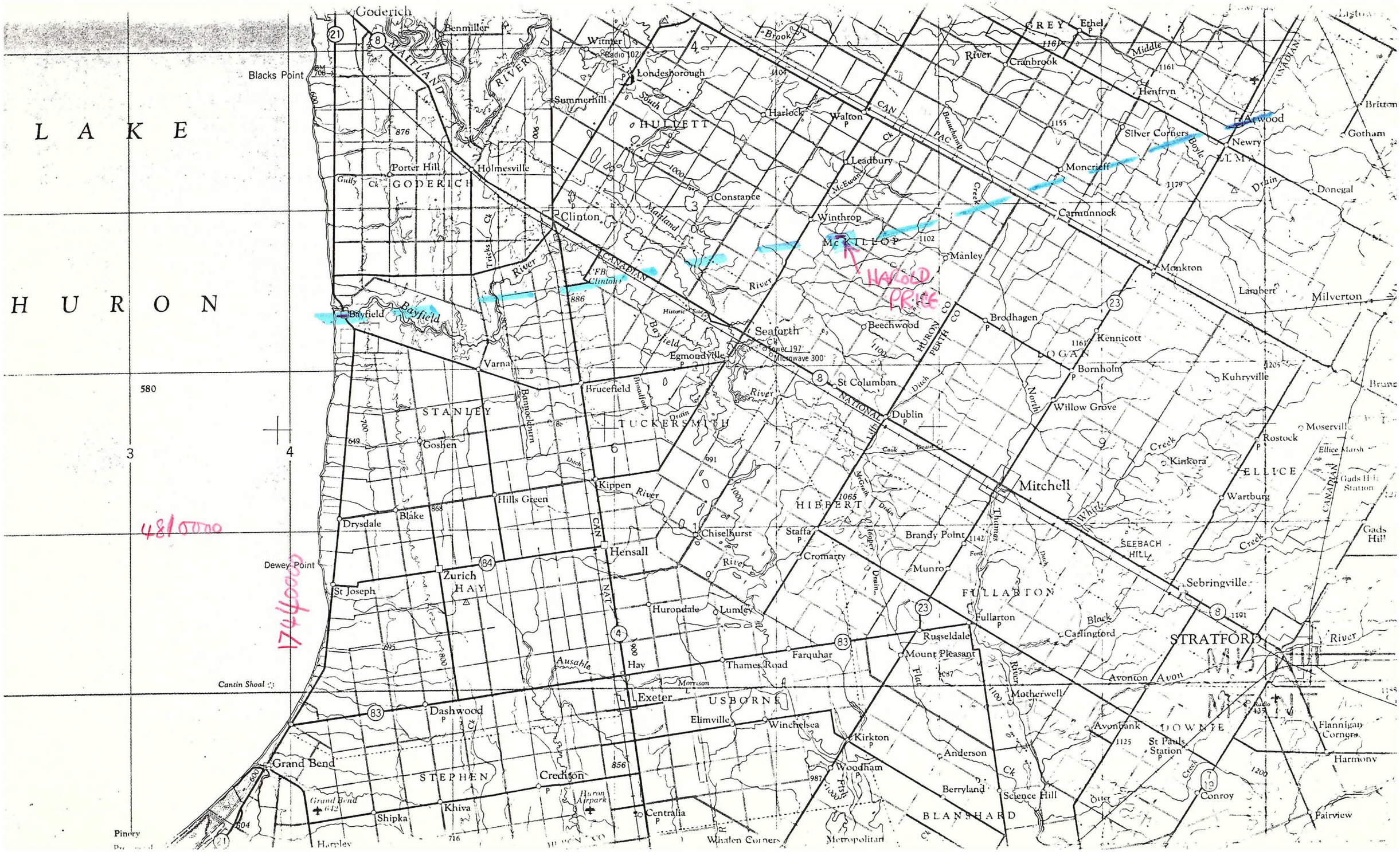
(10) $\beta = \dfrac{\tan^{-1} S_L}{L}$

(7)+(9) [→ r, θ]
[x ↔ Y] = 1°

NE quad $\phi = 90 - \alpha$
NW quad $\phi = 270 + \alpha$
SW quad $\phi = 270 - \alpha$

SE quad $\phi = 90 + \alpha$

(11) ϕ = 258°


LAKE
HURON
Goderich
Benmiller
Blacks Point
Witmer
Londesborough
Summerhill
HULLETT
Harlock
Walton
Brook
River
Cranbrook
GREY
Ethel
Middle
Henfryn
Britton
Atwood
Gotham
Newry
Silver Corners
Boyle
Leadbury
Monteith
Donegal
Drain
Porter Hill
Holmesville
GODERICH
Gulley Ck
Constance
Clinton
Maitland
River
Winthrop
McKILLOP
Manley
Carmunnock
Monkton
Lambert
Milverton
HAROLD PRICE
Bayfield
Bayfield River
Historic Site
Seaforth
Beechwood
Brodhagen
Kennicott
HURON CO
PERTH CO
LOGAN
Bornholm
Kuhryville
Varna
Egmondville
St Columban
Willow Grove
Brucefield
STANLEY
TUCKERSMITH
Dublin
Moserville
Rostock
Ellice Marsh
Goshen
Kinkora
ELLICE
Mitchell
Wartburg
Kippen
Hills Green
HIBBERT
Drysdale
Blake
Chiselhurst
Staffa
Cromarty
Brandy Point
Munro
SEEBACH HILL
Gads Hill
Hensall
Zurich
HAY
St Joseph
Dewey Point
Hurondale
Lumley
FULLARTON
Sebringville
Fullarton
Carlingford
STRATFORD
Russeldale
Mount Pleasant
Farquhar
Hay
Thames Road
Ausable
Cantin Shoal
Exeter
USBORNE
Motherwell
Avonton
Avon
Dashwood
Elimville
Winchelsea
Kirkton
Avonbank
DOWNIE
St Pauls Station
Flannigan Corners
Harmony
Grand Bend
STEPHEN
Crediton
Woodham
Anderson
Berryland
Science Hill
Conroy
Fairview
Shipka
Khiva
Centralia
BLANSHARD
Pinery
Hayley
Whalen Corners
Metropolitan
Tower 197'
Microwave 300'
481 0010
174 4000

Twisters tear through area

OCT 15 1973

storms

A series of twisters that struck the Seaforth-Bayfield area Saturday night uprooted trees, took out power lines and flipped a $12,000 house trailer end over end.

The twisters hit Bayfield first about 10 p.m.

Mrs. Logan Cleave, of Bayfield, said she went outdoors to investigate when she heard the roar of the wind.

"The sky was jet black above," she said.

"There were points coming down from the sky like funnels to the east."

Mrs. Cleave said she went back indoors because the wind was so strong. It was bending trees, she said. Hydro then went off for two hours.

Only two hours earlier, Mrs. Cleave said, there was a clear sunset, with lightning over the lake on the horizon.

In Goderich, about 12 miles south of Bayfield, the weather office recorded a maximum wind velocity of 51 m.p.h.

The Village Market in Bayfield received major damage from the storm.

Keith Bunn, owner of the store, said a tree limb broke during the storm and crashed onto its roof. Besides damaging the roof, the limb buckled the wall beneath it. Insurance adjusters will review the damage today, Mr. Bunn said.

Homes in Bayfield were without power for about three hours, and telephone service was cut off for several hours.

The twister then skipped south about 10 miles to the Hensall area where it hit the Hay Township farm of Harold Willert, RR 4 Hensall, just north of the village.

A house trailer that was to have housed Mr. Willert's son, Richard, next month after his marriage, was completely demolished.

The wind apparently picked the trailer up and flipped it end over end. The trailer, and its contents, new furniture, were valued at $12,000.

In the town of Hensall, hydro was out for about an hour and the fire department was called out to take tree limbs off hydro lines.

The drive-in theatre screen in Hensall was blown over, but no damage reports were available this morning.

When it left Hensall, the twister touched down again north of Seaforth in McKillop Township.

About 6½ miles east of Seaforth, on the farm of Harold Pryce, RR 1 Seaforth, wind tore the steel roof off the barn, and hurled a piece of the steel a half a mile through the window of the house trailer owned by Mr. Pryce's son Brian. No one was hurt.

MRS PRICE SAID THIS WAS AN EXAGGERATION

Throughout McKillop, trees were uprooted and hydro lines were down, blacking out parts of the township for 12 hours. Works department crews cleared trees from county roads with road graders.

Constable Ray Primeau, of the Seaforth detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, said fully mature trees were completely uprooted, and some were snapped off a few feet from the ground by the wind.

Before blowing itself out in the Brussels area, the storm hit the Jan Van Vliet, Jr. farm at RR 2 Brussels.

There, the wind tore the steel roof off one side of the barn, and took out rafters. Damage was estimated at up to $5,000 by Mr. Van Vliet. About 250 pigs in the barn were not hurt.

No further damage from the tornado-like winds were reported from the area.

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press clipping service

paper The Goderich Signal-Star
date 18 Oct 73
source Western Region

SAT OCT 13 1973 OCT 29 1973

First fall storm whips up tall waves, topples trees

High winds on Saturday evening, which the Department of the Environment weather station at Sky Harbor report gusted to 51 miles per hour, swept through Goderich but left minimal damage.

Goderich Public Utilities linemen were called out about 9:00 p.m. Saturday when a limb was torn from a tree severing power lines from the power distribution station located on the east end of town near the railway line.

The downed lines resulted in a power blackout to the eastern portion of town, which lasted about one hour while the P.U.C. crews cleared the fallen tree limb and repaired the smashed lines.

While the P.U.C. crew was engaged with the east half blackout, a 40 foot tree was torn down at the corner of Widder and Caley Streets pulling more power lines to the ground and interrupting service to homes in that area.

Bill McNaughton, 139 Widder Street, Alvin Gilders, 187 Caley Street and Mr. Gilder's son-in-law Ken Moffat of Toronto stood watch over the scene while diverting traffic, for more than two hours until Public Utility line crews arrived to deal with the torn lines.

They blocked the street with tires from Mr. Gilders' car and directed all traffic away from the scene.

The men said the line arced for about 30 minutes and then stopped. Police were not available at the time, they explained.

The tree which was torn down grew only about 15 feet from the home of E. Mallough at 160 Widder Street but winds felled it away from the house.

When the P.U.C. crew finally disengaged themselves from the east power failure it took them until about 3:00 a.m. Sunday morning to clear the fallen tree at Widder and Caley Streets and restore power service.

Evert Middell, P.U.C. Hydro Foreman, said his crew returned to the damage scenes on Monday morning and completed clean up operations.

He said no estimate of damage by the storm had been drawn up but that property loss was fairly minimal.

"There were several cases of minor damage to homes where limbs fell across individual service lines ripping stacks and meters from the house," he explained.

"One home on McDonald Street suffered considerable damage when the stack and meter were torn off taking with them chunks of siding and facing boards under the eaves," he said. "There were also a lot of T.V. towers torn down."

Goderich Police Chief Pat King said the local force answered three calls regarding trees and power or telephone wires down but investigated no accidents connected with the storm.

Despite the high wind weather office officials report very little rain accompanied the storm. Only about one half inch fell on Saturday with just a trace of precipitation being registered on Sunday.

When the high winds swept in off Lake Huron they piled water into the Goderich harbor and at one point, shortly after 10:00 p.m., completely submerged the piers and docks at the local waterfront.

Paul Carroll of the Goderich Sail Club, organized a work party at Snug Harbor and directed the moving of small craft from their cradles, at the water edge, to higher ground as well as checks on mooring lines of the larger boats docked in Snug Harbor.

At one point, as the water piled up, the racks holding small craft were threatened with floating free and being dashed against the fixed piers.

Although one boat was blown off its trailer and others were bumped around very little damage was suffered by any of the craft.

Ivan McConnell, speaking for the Goderich Elevator and Transit Company, said the storm had caused only minor damage to equipment owned by that company at the local waterfront.

"We were very lucky," he said. "Only two mooring cables were broken and although the barges were bumped around

STORM DATE.SAT.NIGHT,OCT.13TH.1973.

TWISTER DESTROYS BARNS,MACHINERY,TREES AND CARS.

Many thousands of dollars damage was done throughout this area on Saturday night of last week when a tornado type twister swept through on a hit and miss track.

Hardest hit in the PALMERSTON area was the farm of BILL BENSON at R.R.1 PALMERSTON,14TH.of MARYBOROUGH.MR.BENSON had just recently constructed a steel quonset type barn,40X100 feet,only to have it completely destroyed.

Damage to the barn was estimated at $8,000.In the barn were four tractors,two autometic forage waggons and several other smaller pieces of equipment.Damage to the equipment is estimated at $25,000.MR.BENSON had wind insurance on the building,but not on the contents.

At the farm home of MR.WESLEY WHITTAKER,at R.R.1 PALMERSTON,trees fell down alongside the family home but damage was minimal.Hydro to the barn,but not the house,was cut off by the fallen trees.

Debris was strewn about the barnyard,following the collapse of a 28X50 foot shed which housed a bale stooker,forage blower,plows and several other pieces of equipment.Damage to the machinery and shed would be about $7,000.

In the shed at the time of the storm hit around 12:30p.m.were two waggon loads of hay.When the shed collapsed the majority of the machinery was saved from damage because of the two loads of hay.

The roof of the building was thrown across the barnyard and struck a combine completely destroying it.Two older type tractors were also hit.Insurance was carried on the building but not on the machinery.

MR.WHITTAKER and his sons were in the process of finishing off a new steel roofed building to house the machinery and would have had it completed within a few days.

PETER MINKENBERG,who lives east of the WHITTAKER farm,on the former ERIC MALLETT farm,lost the north half of the barn roof when the storm passed over his farm.Several trees were also uprooted.

Over $50,000 damage was done to the LISTOWEL DRIVE-IN THEATER. Extensive damage was done to the screen,a building and its contents.A tree crashed down on a car in LISTOWEL and similar damage was done to a car at ATWOOD.

Several trees were uprooted in the village of ATWOOD and residents along KING STREET were without hydro from 10:30p.m.Saturday night until hydro crews restored power at 9:30am. Sunday.

A farmer in the ATWOOD district also lost his barn roof as a result of the gale force winds.

area of the scrap yard, were picked up by the wind and scattered across the fields for nearly a half mile, some coming to rest in trees near the Drive-In Theatre. Several sheets were caught high up in a number of large spruce trees at the edge of the scrap yard.

Steel fencing panels that enclose the yard were also ripped off their framework ~~over~~ and scattered over the area as were a number of oil drums. Mayor Kalberg did not estimate his loss, but it will be extensive.

A car owned by Ken O'Grady and parked beside his residence at 836 Wallace Ave N., suffered considerable damage when it was struck by a tree that was blown over by the high winds. The house which is owned by William A. Roberts was not damaged.

A small tree was blown over at the golf course and came to rest on the roof of the junior clubhouse, however no damage was reported. Another large soft maple on the 6th fairway was uprooted. A wagon rack on the farm of Harold Bartman which adjoins the golf course, was pulled off its moorings and tossed over a binder coming to rest on the club parking lot, doing no damage to the binder on the way across.

A number of Listowel homes had minor roof damage and shingles loosened by the blow.

Atwood Damage

In Atwood, Spencer Broome of Queen St. lost nearly half his barn roof, the remains of which ripped through 2 fences to end up in the back yard of the Delford Duncan property. The Duncans also had a large evergreen tree drowned by the wind. On King Street, a tree in front of Tom Anderson's house fe

on top of their car, crushing it. Another tree hit the hydro lines on the side of the house.

Across the street, in front of Mrs. F. H. Gordons home, a large maple was split and fell across road. On the same street a tree branch pulled the stac of H. Alex Ducklow's house. A lilac bush at the home of R. P. Dennis was uprooted.

On Main St, Atwood, trees in a grove at George Tuck place were swapped off & some were uprooted. A small aluminum tool shed belonging to Gordon Ament was lifted & turned upside down on the Tuckers lawn

While some Atwood residents were ~~#~~ without hydro power for only 15 min, due to sizzling lines and the amount of damage, others went without power from the time the storm hit, (around 10:15 pm) until 9:30 am, Sa

Some residents were still ~~e~~ out telephone service Monday evening

A spokesman for Listowel's Ont. Hydro office, Roy Galway, said the town was without power for about only 10 min when wind damaged a 110 volt. Twin pole structure located between Palm & Wanover. A large area surrounding Listowel, reachi to the Palmerston and Clifford area, was also affec by the blackout

Several residence in Wallace & Harwich Townships as well Elma, uprooted trees uprooted & broken.

In the Palmerston area Bell Benson etc