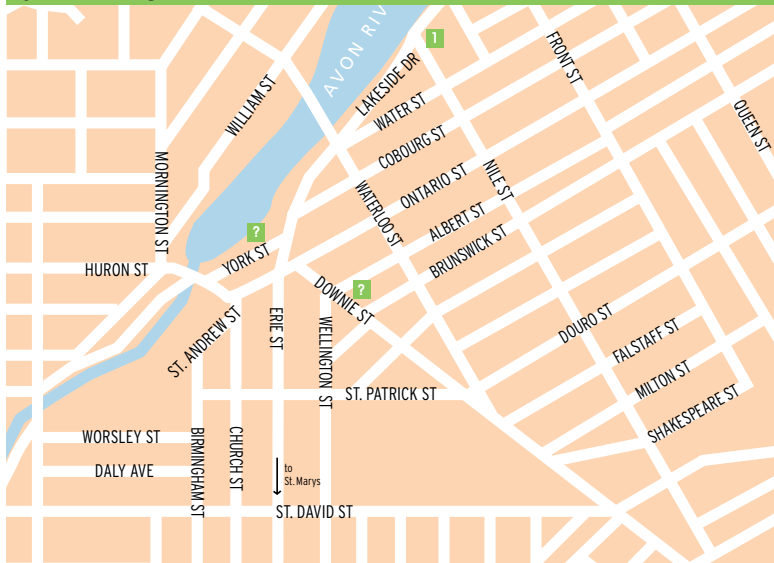
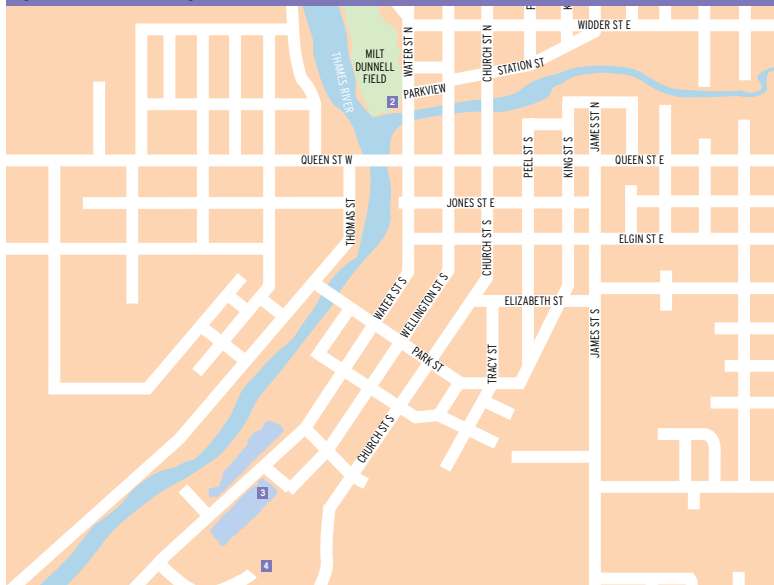


STRATFORD



ST. MARYS



\$2

Which Canadian Prime Minister took a dive at the St. Marys Quarry in 1968?



Find out the answer to this question and a whole lot more with **Heritage, Hockey and Baseball – Oh My!** A sports heritage tour in Perth County.

**STRATFORD
ARTS**

**THE ARTS
ARE WHAT
WE ARE**

Stratford Tourism Alliance
519-271-5140 or 1-800-561-7926
47 Downie Street, Stratford, ON N5A 1W7
visitstratford.ca



Stratford's William Allman Memorial Arena is one of the last remaining examples of the Ice Palaces built in North America during the 1920s and '30s. The youngest Men's World Figure Skating Champion began skating here at the age of 4, as well as an impressive list of NHLer's whose careers started in Stratford. Canada's golden boy Wayne Gretzky scored his first minor hockey goal in "the old barn" in 1968, but the area's sports heritage doesn't stop at hockey. In nearby St. Marys, The Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame Museum sits proudly atop a hill looking down on an impressive premier diamond, a beautiful ball field set in a natural amphitheatre. And which Canadian Prime Minister was caught on film plunging from the high dive at Canada's largest spring-fed pool? Find out with **Heritage, Hockey and Baseball – Oh My!** A sports heritage tour in Perth County.

STRATFORD



Stratford's Grand Old Hockey Shrine, 15 Morenz Dr.

Built in 1924, The William Allman Memorial Arena, is touted as the longest continuously operating arena of its kind in the world. It is one of the last remaining examples of the so called "Ice Palaces" built in North America during the 1920s and 30s, which took advantage of new technologies permitting the installation of indoor artificial ice surfaces.



SPORTS CELEBRITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE WILLIAM ALLMAN ARENA:



Local Hockey Hopeful Turned Coach Brings Home the Gold!

Sons of the city's leading baker and confectioner, the Rankin boys enjoyed a measure of hockey success. Frank Rankin coached the Toronto Granites in the 1922-23 Ontario Hockey Association's senior league, and in February 1924, he and the Granites beat the United States 6-1 to win hockey gold for Canada at the first Winter Olympics, in Chamonix, France. Frank was inducted into the Hockey hall of Fame in 1961.

the great
one's first

} The William Allman arena is the site of Wayne Gretzky's first minor hockey goal in 1968.





Hockey-Hall-Of-Famer Got His Start In Stratford.

Named in a national press poll as the outstanding hockey player of the first half of the 20th century, Howie Morenz spent his formative years in Mitchell, just west of Stratford. He learned to skate and play hockey on the Thames River, but it was in Stratford, where he starred on junior, senior and railway teams, that he signed with the Montreal Canadiens launching a hall-of-fame career.



William Allman. So, who was this guy?

Not a well known sports figure or VIP, Bill Allman spent most of his 47 years with the City of Stratford managing "the barn" and its ice. He passed away in 1995 and the following year the arena was named in his memory. A fitting nod to the man who truly loved the old barn and the game played within it.

TO CONTINUE THE TOUR IN ST. MARYS, DRIVE WEST ALONG LAKESIDE DRIVE CROSSING THE WATERLOO STREET INTERSECTION (WHERE LAKESIDE DRIVE WILL BECOME VETERANS DRIVE) TO THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT ONTARIO STREET. TRAVELLING ACROSS ONTARIO STREET, VETERANS DRIVE NOW BECOMES ERIE STREET. CONTINUE SOUTH ON ERIE STREET LEAVING STRATFORD EN ROUTE TO ST. MARYS. ERIE STREET WILL BECOME HIGHWAY 7/119. TURN RIGHT AT THE HIGHWAY 9 EXIT TO ST. MARYS. HIGHWAY 9 WILL BECOME QUEEN STREET AS YOU ENTER THE DOWNTOWN. TURN RIGHT AT WATER STREET NORTH AND CROSS THE BRIDGE. MILT DUNNELL FIELD WILL BE ON YOUR LEFT.

Hockey Day in Canada



On January 30 2010, CBC celebrated the 10th annual live broadcast of Hockey Day in Canada from Stratford. The Allman Arena hosted Don Cherry & Ron McLean as well as many hockey greats including Ted Lindsay, Wendel Clark and Tim Taylor.

Youngest Men's World Figure Skating Champion.

Winning the 1963 World Figure Skating Championships at the age of 18, marked the culmination of 14 years of hard work for Stratford's Donald McPherson. Born in 1945, McPherson began skating at the Stratford Figure Skating Club at the age of 4. He gained valuable experience in 1960 at the age of 15 when he finished 10th at the Olympics in California. He then turned professional starring in Dick Button's Ice-Travaganza at the 1964 New York World Fair.



ST. MARYS

2



Milt Dunnell Field – The Flats Renamed

Frequently flooded by the Thames River, the area of land known as the Flats, was not suitable for any permanent structure. Cricket and baseball teams played here as early as 1860, with bats changing to lacrosse nets in the 1890s when it was home to the St. Marys Alerts Lacrosse Team until 1920. As a young lad Milt Dunnell would evade the nickel charge at the gate to watch a referee get tossed into the river after a bad call.



“The Sports Editor of Canada” Milt Dunnell.



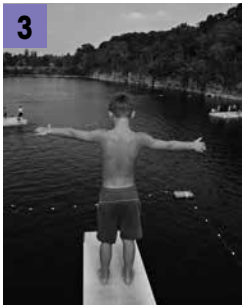
Joining the Toronto Star in 1942, Milt Dunnell travelled the globe to cover sports, but he cherished his ties to Perth County, where in 2005, in honour of his 100th birthday, St. Marys renamed the town’s athletic field Milt Dunnell Field. Milt Dunnell died on January 3, 2008 at the age of 102.

Boxcars for Milt!

While training at Ipperwash during WWII, avid gambler Milt Dunnell got into a craps game with pal, Waldo Montieth. The craps table was the

regiment bass drum causing every roll of the dice to out a rousing military tattoo. During the evening, Milt made thirteen straight passes cleaning out the Perth Regiment and then moving to the London Hussars to pick them clean too! And by the way, J. Waldo Monteith went on to become a cabinet minister in the Diefenbaker government.

DRIVE ALONG WATER STREET NORTH BACK TO QUEEN STREET CROSSING THE INTERSECTION TO WATER STREET SOUTH UNTIL YOU REACH THE QUARRY. OR IF YOU PREFER, ENJOY THE LEISURELY WALK ALONG THE RIVERVIEW WALKWAY FROM THE MILT DUNNELL FIELD TO THE QUARRY.



Canada’s Largest Outdoor Spring-fed Swimming Pool, Water Street South.



With a water depth ranging from 20 to 25 feet, this swimming hole of legendary stature is a perfect destination on a hot summer day. The Quarry gained additional status in 1968 when, former Prime Minister of Canada Pierre Elliot Trudeau dove off the high dive during an un-scheduled side-trip to St. Marys.

FROM THE QUARRY, THERE ARE THREE ENTRANCES OFF WATER STREET TO THE GROUNDS OF THE CANADIAN BASEBALL HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM.

THE CANADIAN BASEBALL HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM MAY ALSO BE ACCESSED BY DRIVING EAST ALONG QUEEN STREET TO CHURCH STREET SOUTH. TURN RIGHT ON CHURCH STREET SOUTH AND TRAVEL TO THE END OF THE STREET.

Scan QR codes to hear a related audio clip. Share your #StratfordStories on social media.



Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, 386 Church St. S.

Hundreds of artifacts rich in Canadian baseball history are on display in the 1860s limestone museum house. The collection includes a tribute to the Canadian women who played in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, an exclusive collection of Fergie Jenkins memorabilia, and artifacts from Canada’s two major league franchises: the Toronto Bluejays and Montreal Expos. The view from the museum house set high on the hill, looks down on the premier diamond, a beautiful ball field set in a natural amphitheatre in the centre of the 32-acre property.



Why St. Marys?

St. Marys has close ties with the beginning of baseball in Canada. One of St. Marys’ early settlers, Dr. Adam Ford, wrote an article that was published in a magazine called American Sporting Life in 1886 describing a game played in the nearby community of Beachville that closely resembled baseball. Ford, a doctor and the Mayor of St. Marys, later organized the town’s first baseball league.

Batter up! } The St. Marys bat, forerunner of the Cooper bat now used in the major leagues, was made by The St. Marys Wood Specialty at the turn of the century. The company relocated to Hespeler, Ontario in the early 1930s.

Images courtesy of:

The Stratford-Perth Archives, 4773 Line 34, R.R.5, Stratford, 519-271-0531 ext 259 www.perthcounty.ca/stratford_perth_archives

The St. Marys Museum, 177 Church St. South, St. Marys 519-284-3556 www.stmarysmuseum.ca