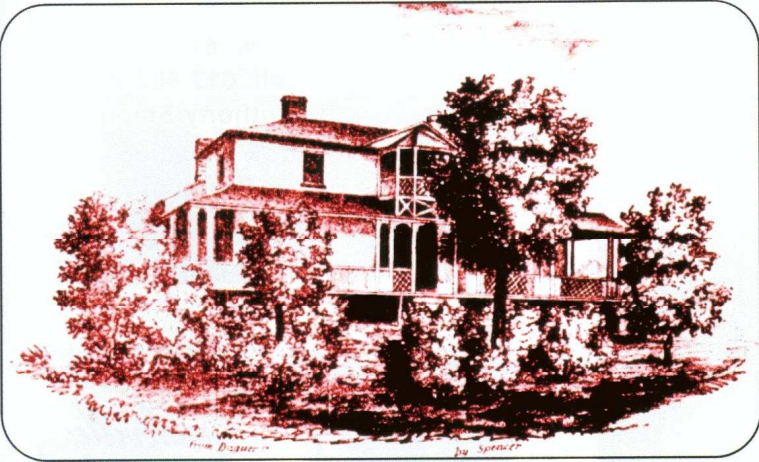


# Maria & James L. Schofield House

(now converted into an apartment building)

14 Schofield Ave., west of Perth St.

Built ca., 1845



The Schofield House held a prominent place on the heights of the Perth Road north-west of the town of Brockville. This engraved drawing was based on an early daguerreotype photograph taken by Elihu Spencer, Brockville's first resident daguerreotypist in the early 1850's.

**James Lancaster Schofield** (1800-1872), was the son of Maj. Ira Schofield who came to Upper Canada in 1785 with his father Dr. James Schofield.

James L. Schofield was married on October 24, 1833 to **Maria Campbell**, the youngest daughter of James Campbell of Augusta. During the Rebellion and Patriot War of 1838-39, he held the position of Lieutenant in the Brockville Independent Company. In 1843 he purchased the lot on which this house stands from George Crawford. It was considered a great distance from town at the time. He had a large stucco-covered stone house built on this lot and developed his extensive surrounding estate. This house was once a showpiece "house on the hill". In fact, this is how "**Schofield Hill**" got its name.

Schofield was appointed County Treasurer about 1846 and held this position for the next twenty-six years. He managed to eventually purchase most of the land on the west side of Perth St. from Buell's Creek north to the present Central Ave. On the north shore of the creek, where it crosses the main line of the CNR, was a large mill pond and the flour mill which he purchased from Elnathan Hubbell. He operated this mill for a number of years.

Maria and James eldest son was **Frederick**, who became a lawyer in Brockville. His mother, Maria died in 1862, and then in 1864, **Fred Schofield** purchased his father's interest in the Schofield House. This was shortly before Fred's marriage to **Letitia Hargrave** in September 1864. Fred and Letitia were the parents of four young children when she suddenly passed away in 1880 at the age of thirty-six. The Schofield properties were heavily mortgaged, and the TRUST AND LOAN CO. OF CANADA

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foreclosed on this property. It was sold in 1883 and then came into the possession of **Eliza L. Fowler** and her husband, owners of the Fowler & Co. furniture store in 1886.

In 1887, following a search for a suitable medical facility, the Roman Catholic Parish of Brockville, with the encouragement of Bishop James Cleary of Kingston, purchased the Schofield House. The new Catholic hospital named for **St. Vincent de Paul**, was run here by the **Sisters of Providence** for the next five years. It was decided in 1892 to relocate the hospital to the downtown house at Pine and Garden Sts., formerly owned by Ormond Jones, but then being used as a convent by the **Sisters of Notre Dame**.



Prior to becoming the location of the first Roman Catholic Hospital in Brockville, the home of Maria and James Schofield had been a family residence for over 40 years.

The Schofield House was then sold to **William Gillerlain**, the owner of the Windsor Hotel on lower Perth St., in March 1892.

In this century, the Schofield House was home to **Lena and Andrew Jackson** and their family from 1934-49. It is still standing as an apartment now, but very hard to locate in the middle of the block and stripped of its porches. Access is now from Schofield Ave.

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1. Brockville History Album web site: [dmgrant.wordpress.com](http://dmgrant.wordpress.com)
2. Old Brockville Photographs web site: [brockville0old0photograph0archive.wordpress.com](http://brockville0old0photograph0archive.wordpress.com)
3. Heritage Brockville web site: [sites.google.com/site/heritagebrockville](http://sites.google.com/site/heritagebrockville)