

CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Mary's church on the tenth concession of King Township was opened September 23, 1855. The first pastor was Father Rattigan.

This church was erected on one acre of land purchased from the Trainor Farm, the present owners of this farm are Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Peldszue. It was a mission church of the parish of Tuam, a little settlement in Tesumseh Township. Colgan was also a mission of this parish. Tuam is an Irish name.

Tickets for the opening were sold at two shillings and six pence each. The Bishop was invited and between three and four hundred attended.

In 1876 this church became part of the Schomberg Parish. Father Carberry was pastor in 1910 when a disastrous fire completely destroyed the driving shed during mass. The smell of smoke attracted the attention of some members who investigated to find a fire well out of control. Lost also were seven fine horses and their vehicles.

This shed was later replaced with a cement structure. The timbers used in the new building were salvaged from a bridge on the twelfth concession which was destroyed by a flash flood of the Humber River.

The shed as it stands today will remain as long as the catholic church is in use as a memorial to this tragedy.

St. Mary's is the oldest church in continuous use in King Township having served Bolton to Schomberg to King City and Kleinburg.

The present pastor is Father Arthur McMahon. 1976

