

Walk through history at the old Elgin Settlement...

The final destination for thousands of slaves fleeing captivity. Now known as Buxton, this is one of the few remaining African Canadian settlements still in existence since mid 1800's.



Museum Hours

Open to Public

May 1 - September 30

Wed to Sun - 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

July 1 - August 30

All week - 10:00 am to 4:30 pm

October 1 - April 30

Mon to Fri - 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Other times arranged by appointment...



21975 A.D. Shadd Road
North Buxton, Ontario, N0P 1Y0

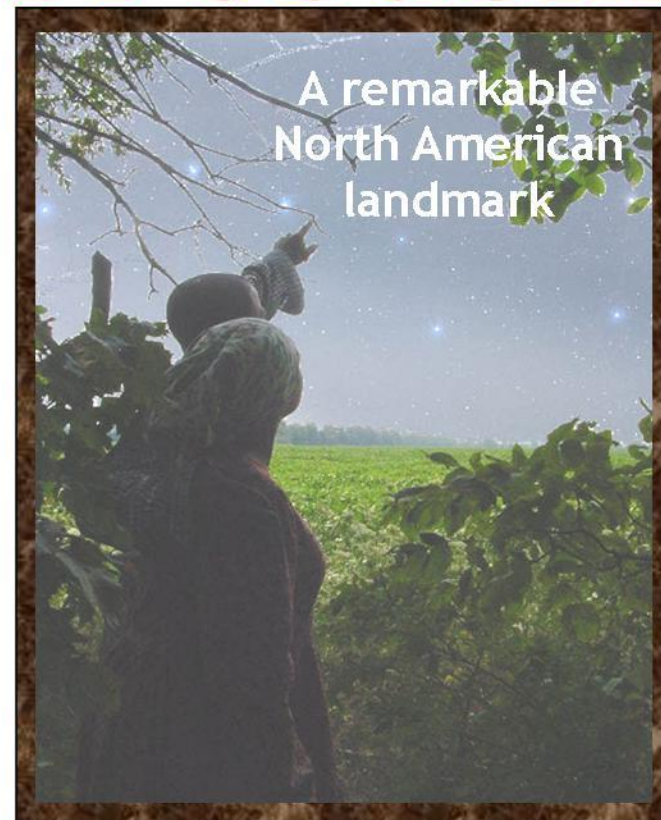
Tel: (519) 352-4799

Fax: (519) 352-8561

Email: buxton@ciaccess.com

Website: www.buxtonmuseum.com

Footsteps to Freedom



The last stop on the Underground Railroad for hundreds of fugitive slaves.

The Buxton National Historic Site & Museum

North Buxton
Ontario, Canada

Special Event

Our Annual Homecoming

Labour Day Weekend ... An 80+ year old traditional celebration that draws thousands from across North America. Everyone is welcome!

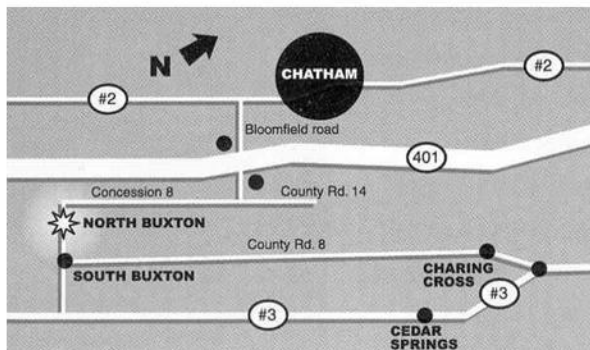
- **Friday:** History & Genealogy Conference
- **Saturday:** Family Feud Baseball Tournament, Party In The Park (dance)
- **Sunday:** Church Services, other events
- **Monday:** Parade, Sports Events, Classic Car Show, Championship Games, Children Activities, Craft Tables, Exhibits.

Admissions:

- \$6 Adult
- \$5 Student /Senior
- \$20 Family

Buses welcome!

Group rates available for advance bookings of 10 or more! To avoid disappointment, we strongly advise tour groups to book in advance...



Directions

Take Hwy. 401 to Bloomfield Road exit just west of Chatham. Turn south onto Bloomfield Road, west onto 8th Line, south on A.D. Shadd Road to 21975 A.D. Shadd Road.

Footsteps to Freedom

A Haven of Freedom from injustice.

The Buxton National Historic Site & Museum is on the original Elgin Settlement site... one of the last stops on the Underground Railroad for many runaway slaves. In the mid-1800's, this settlement was a haven of freedom for fugitive slaves who risked everything to escape the brutality of slavery in the United States. In 1849, Rev.



William King founded this

historic Black settlement which became a self-sufficient community for more than 2000 people.

The museum's mission is to preserve artifacts of the settlement with special emphasis on the history and accomplishments of the original settlers and their descendents. Among other important artifacts, the museum houses Rev. William King's diary, important papers, dresser, and a bed (which was made by former slaves).



The museum's library and research documents contain papers of historical significance not only to the community but to North America.

A flourishing community of people with big dreams and strong resolve.

The Settlement was built around an agricultural economy, but also included many thriving businesses, owned and operated by the settlers. A saw and grist mill, a pot-ash and pearl-ash factory, a brick yard, hotel, blacksmith shop, and dry goods store contributed to the success of the community. An original log cabin from the settlement sits adjacent to the museum.



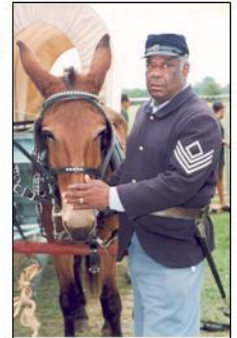
The educational system at Buxton was world renowned. Rev. King offered classical education which soon surpassed the standards of the neighboring schools. The original schoolhouse, built in 1861 is the only surviving schoolhouse in Canada built by and for fugitive slaves. It is open to the public as part of the museum complex. A number of educational programs are available to school groups. These programs are correlated to the Ontario Curriculum grades 1 to 8, and offer resource packages to prepare students for their full or half day visit to the site.

The old cemetery and 1866 church are adjacent to the Museum grounds and visitors are welcome to visit and pay homage to the original founders.



Following the Civil War ...

During the period of reconstruction after the Civil War, many of the settlers and their families returned to their homes in the south as free people. Their purpose was to help educate their recently emancipated friends and neighbors.



Today ... Buxton is inhabited, for the most part, by the descendents of the original settlers who stayed in Canada. Buxton is an active Black Canadian village with people

who are dedicated to preserving their African American/Canadian heritage.

Museum Facilities...

Include a large picnic and playground area with a shelter, barbecue area, baseball diamond, washrooms and a wheelchair access ramp to the Museum. There is plenty of parking for cars and buses.

