

James Gage, with his wife Mary Davis, settled on the land at Stoney Creek, which was afterwards to become historically famous. He was a man well known in those early times of Upper Canada. His house with its store was at first the only, and later the principal stopping place for travelers by land between Niagara and York (now Toronto). This house was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Gage and their family up to the time of their removal to Hamilton about the year 1835.

Mr. Gage was well acquainted with Joseph Brant, in fact, there were few people residing at the Head of the Lake that James Gage or his sons were not acquainted with. James Gage was an exceedingly active and intelligent business man. He made frequent business trips by boat from his home at Stoney Creek to York. His store was in a log building on the opposite side of the traveled road from his home. This store building is now removed but up to a few years ago one could still distinguish the old sign which read "JAMES GAGE'S STORE." An extensive and profitable business was conducted in this store. Mr. Gage was always honorable and gifted with great foresight in business. After his removal to Hamilton he was appointed one of the first directors of the Gore Bank and at the time of his death was comparatively a rich man.

The village formerly called Wellington Square (now Burlington) was first projected by Col. Joseph Brant who, in 1778, received from the Crown a grant of the block of land, which still bears his name and which he received in consideration of his services and loyalty, he being one of the chiefs of the Six Nation Indians who continued true to the British Government