

1909



BASKET FACTORY

This uniquely shaped building served as the original office of the Beamsville Basket and Veneer Company. Founded in 1909 by Aquilla W. Reid and Samuel Piott, and later overseen by Reid's sons, W.O. Reid and B.H. Reid, the factory produced baskets to ship the increasing volume of fruit and vegetable crops being grown. The town recognized that importance and provided the factory with free water and ten years of relief from property taxes. On this site, logs were soaked in boiling water and peeled strips were dried on racks, then assembled into all sizes of baskets. The business operated until December 1981, when a devastating fire completely destroyed the factory. By that time, however, it had given growers the ability to market their product widely, which led to a huge industry expansion, and the successful fruit growing sector witnessed today in the Town of Lincoln.

