

CIRCA middle 1800's THE COMMERCIAL HOUSE NIAGARA BLVD. FORT ERIE.

This two story frame building facing the Niagara River just opposite the lower ferry landing, in front of the home of John Warren and the Post Office and the Lewis House.

At its beginning it was known as the Campbell House, and along with the Lewis House next door, it did considerable trade with the the soldiers and travellers who picked up the stage coach, at the Lewis House. When the upper Ferry was moved to this spot it got a great deal of business from it's passangers. It was opperated for a number of it's early years by the Magwood family later a Mr. Horn and from 1883 it was owned by Robert Martin and taken over in the early 1900's by Harry Hawkins..

After many years as a House and Hotel , it was turned into a private residence, and then apartments. In the 1970 it was owned by the Pilote family who had the guarage nearby. In Aug. 1975 the upper floor burned and the apartment was gutted. The lower apartment was vacated, and a few days later it was decided to take down the old structure.

LEWIS::: Inkeeper Fort Erie::: from 1851 Census.  
2 story frame house

John Lewis	N.Y. state	49.	
Catharine Lewis	N.Y. State	42.	
Margaret Lewis	N.Y. State	<u>73.</u>	widow
Eliza Lewis	N.Y. Sate	55.	single
Fanny Obsison	N.Y. State	75.	widow
Thomas F. Lewis	Bertie	17	S.
John Lewis	Bertie	15.	S.
George Lewis	Bertie	12.	S.
William Lewis	Bertie	11.	S.
Catharine Eliza	Bertie	7.	S.
Charles W. Lewis	Bertie	5.	S.

LEWIS PROPERTY N.E angle of the Henry Trout lot 3 con.1 Bertie  
divided Lot 20.

Crown to Benjamin Wintemute  $W\frac{1}{2}$ : 50 acres.

Crown to Benjamin Hardison E/pt. 100 acres.

1804 Genj. Wintemute to John Lang, 250 acres.

1815. Aug. 25, John Lang to Benjamin Hershey: 250 acres.

( Bertie road then called Hershey) — BROT T. GEORGE LEWIS. 1816.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre lot 3.

1817. Feb. 10. John Warren & Susan to Henry Trout . N.E. angle of  
lot 3 con.1.

1817 feb. 11. Henry Trout & Rachel to Hugh Gilmore N.E. angle.

1821. Oct. 2, Hugh Gilmore to Benjamin Hardison.

1820. Apr. i, Benjamin Hardison to John Warren

1823. Will of Benjamin Hardison:

1826. July 29. John Warren executive of Benjamin Hardison to  
George Lewis  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre com. at the N. east L of the Henry Trout lot.  
Inkeeper. No doubt the old inn dates back to this date.

1870. Nov.17, William Lewis to George Lewis  $i/6$ th. share of among  
other parcels the premises with the dwelling house  
& Post Office building now stand  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. as deeded  
to George Lewis, Sr.

Lot 4 con 1. Niagara River Township lot.

On the south end of lot #4 the s.E. cr of Catherine  
and the river road.

May 23, 1844. Wm. Lancashire & Susan his wife sold to John W. Lewis  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  acre of S.E. Corner.

THE LEWIS HOUSE::: inf. from R. Radcliffe 1855.

" a short distance 100 ft. down from the Couthard Inn and across the road( S.E. cr. Of Catherine & river Rd.) was the Lewis House. It was run by Wesley Lewis( better known as Capt.). At this house the writer took up a very comfortable room. plenty of good food, well cooked and served, all for \$ 3.00 a nite including bitters in the morning if desired.

I cannot pass it by without a slight tribute to his memory. The Capt. was not by any means a polished man; but he was a diamond in the rough, with as large a heart as an ox's. During the many years under his roof I never knew him to turn a person away from his door without giving him a meal or a bed, more frequently both.

His wife was almost excellent running mate, in all things good and charitable. There was no such thing as trained nurses, and if anyone in the village was sick, no matter who rich or poor, high or low, black or white, she was one of the first on hand to soothe their affliction and relieve their necessities.

The capt. was an old steamboat man, and at one time commanded the Str. Waterloo, which plied the Niagara River between Chippawa and Buffalo, in opposition to the Str. Emerald owned by the Macklems of Chippawa. The boat however did not prove a success either financially or otherwise; for she was a slow boat even for that day.

Capt. Lewis's family consisted of five sons and one daughter.

After the Waterloo The Emerald was operated by Capt. Lweis and then came the Steamer also owned by the MacklemsOf Chippawa.

LEWIS:::

<i>McAFEE</i>	MARGARET LEWIS <i>wife George</i>	Sept. 2nd. 1778	<i>MAR 21 1855</i>
	ELIZA LEWIS	Dec. 28th. 1798	July 10th. 1887
	Elizabeth of John & Jane Lewis of Port Colborne	July 1st. 1843	
<i>McAFEE</i>	George	PRIVATE IN Queens Fencibles.	<i>1795 - 1852</i>
	Amelia	Nov. 9th. 1837.	

JOHN WESTLEY LEWIS (INKEEPER) 1803 May 18th. 1858  
 wife Catharine B. Sept. 28th. 1810 mar. 27th. 1872  
 Children of John W. & Catharine:::

- 1: James Edmund Jan. 14th. 1860

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- 2: Henry died-baby Aug. 4th. 1854

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- 3: Thomas F. Dec. 6th. 1835 1902

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- 4: John Lewis Oct. 24th. 1836 march 24th. 1925  
 wife Emma R.  
 Children :::  
   Mary C. July 8th. 1865 Jan. 8th. 1866  
   John K. Nov. 6th. 1869 died baby

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- 5: GEORGE Lewis march 15th. 1840 may 3rd. 1890  
 wife Helen C. Warren oct. 15. 1840 may 5th 1920  
 Children; of George & Cassandra  
   Mary E. Lewis  
   George J. Lewis Jan. 10. 1935  
   ~ wife Saran M (Daidee) Sept. 2nd. 19...  
   Henry W. Lewis 1879 19...  
     wife C. Curtis *MARRIED 1914*  
     W. Lewis (adt.) Aug 5th. 1923  
     children of W. Lewis:::  
       Martha  
       Warren  
       Mary  
       Mathew

- Margaret F. Lewis 1881 194  
 husband Strickland (Detroit)
- 6: WILLIAM LEWIS *D* Dec. 13th 1862. Jan. 18...

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  - 7: Catharine Eliza Lewis Sept. 15th 1845 Aug. 18...

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  - 8: Charles W. Lewis Oct. 9th. 1847 19...  
 wife Isabelle N. Warren 1858 19...

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  - Charles Grant Lewis son Aug. 18 1888 - Nov. 6th. 18

Grandfather of Bill Lewis : Niagara Blvd. Fort Erie: George Lewis (Helen Warren)  
 Father Henry Lewis: (cassandra Curtis)