

Brief history of the Boys Training School, Camp 30 and alternate uses on the site:

- 1.1 The 42.62 ha (105 acre) parcel at 2020 Lambs Road was formerly part of the Darch Farm prior to its donation to the Ontario government in the early 1920s by J. H. H. Jury for the purpose of establishing a boys training school. The northern 5.42 (13.4 acre) parcel is the southern portion of the farm at 2640 Lambs Road and not part of the Boys Training School or Camp 30.
- 1.2 The Boys Training School officially opened in August of 1925. Various buildings were constructed over the next several years, by the Government of Ontario. Archival records indicate that the cafeteria and first dormitory were built in 1925, a gymnasium and swimming pool in 1927, a large triple dorm in 1928 and a hospital in 1937.
- 1.3 During World War II the property was appropriated by the Department of National Defence and used as a German Prisoner of War camp, known as Camp 30. The Camp housed up to 800 detainees, many of which were German officers. There was an uprising at Camp 30 following the Dieppe raid in 1942 when an order was issued to shackle German POWs housed in camps across Canada. Historically recorded as the "Battle of Bowmanville", the uprising lasted for three days until it ended with the assistance of the Royal Canadian Ordinance Corps from Kingston. This uprising is the only known battle of its kind on Canadian soil and has national and international significance. Occupation of the Training School as Camp 30 ended in April of 1945.
- 1.4 After the war, use as a Training School resumed, name changes occurred and other changes, related to the philosophy of dealing with young offenders eventually saw the elimination of Training Schools in Ontario after 1979. The Province offered the property to the Municipality at fair market value in 1983. The Council of the day declined, citing acquisition cost, cost of maintenance, building renovation costs, other operational matters and the distance of the facility from Bowmanville's downtown.
- 1.5 Between 1983 and 2008 the property was used as different schools including St. Stephen's Catholic Secondary School. While the property was operated as a school from 1983-2008, the sports fields were leased by the Municipality and used by many of the recreational leagues in Clarington.
- 1.6 In 2007 the property was purchased by Lambs Road School Property Ltd. (Kaitlin/Fandor). Darul Uloom, an Islamic University, had owned the lands since 2004 and continued to operate until they relocated in October of 2008. The private sewage treatment system for the site failed and an order from the Ministry of the Environment meant costly repairs or replacement of the private system, or connection to the municipal sewage system. The site has been vacant since 2008.

- 1.7 In 2013 the site was declared a National Historic Site by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Based on the strength of the national designation Council authorized staff to assist with the formation of the Jury Lands Foundation.
- 1.8 The 2014 conditions survey and mothballing plan by Goldsmith Borgal & Company Ltd. Architects and a structural assessment by Ojdrovic Engineering Inc. indicated that the buildings are still in surprisingly good condition considering their exposure to environmental conditions and vandalism.
- 1.9 In 2015 a trail license agreement to allow for the extension of a walking trail from Sprucewood Drive to the campus and south to Concession Street was entered into between the owners and Municipality. In 2016 an agreement was reached with the property owners regarding lands that would upon development of adjacent parcels be turned over the Municipality as parkland. The community vision work has “impacted” this agreement. The property owners have repeatedly stated that they will convey some portion of their lands in advance of any development approvals to allow the Jury Lands Foundation to commence fundraising. In exchange for the conveyance, the Municipality would provide parkland (or community benefit charge) credits. Despite their assurances, no lands have been conveyed.