

LANDSDOWNE PARK

Lansdowne Park (not sure if that is the official name) in Almonte

Lansdowne Park is a 15 acre land trust park that was deeded to the town of Almonte on 2 Sep 1884. It consists of two parcels of land each of which was transferred for the fee of \$1. Both deeds for these parcels of land specifically state:

"To have and to hold unto the said parties of the Third Part for the uses and purposes of a Public Park for the inhabitants of the said Town of Almonte"

The first parcel consists of 8 acres and was donated by Bennett Rosamond. In addition to his very successful textile business, he was active in municipal affairs, as a township councillor and reeve and in the 1880s as mayor of Almonte. He was chairman of the Board of Education. He donated to the town a hospital, named after himself, supported St Paul's Church (Anglican), and was involved in a plan to conserve the upper waters of the Mississippi. He was first elected to the House of Commons in an 1891 by-election for the riding of Lanark North. A Conservative, he was re-elected in 1896 and 1900.

The second parcel consists of 7 acres and was donated by Joseph Jamieson and his wife Elizabeth (nee Carss) and George Carss and his wife Elizabeth (nee Webster). Joseph Jamieson, a lawyer, was also a prominent member of the community. He served as reeve for Almonte, warden for Lanark County and chairman of the board of license commissioners for North Lanark. Jamieson ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the House of Commons in the 1878 federal election and an 1880 by-election. He resigned his seat in December 1891 after being named junior county judge for Wellington County. George Carss, Master Tailor, was also a prominent citizen. Carss St, which is one street south of Lansdowne was named after him.