

This narrative history of a Residential School was researched and produced by the Government of Canada as part of its response to litigation and the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has not verified the content of this document. It is provided here for reference purposes only. Documented incidents of sexual and physical abuse are based on the documentary record and do not take into account survivor testimony.



You are welcome to contact the NCTR if you wish to add, comment on, or challenge any versions of the history presented herein.

**Mohawk Institute Indian Residential School
IAP School Narrative**

NAME IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (Schedule E/F)

Mohawk Institute

OTHER NAMES KNOWN AS (AKAs)

1885	Mohawk Institution (Industrial and Normal School) [TAY-003490-0001, pg. 2]
1885 to 1893	Mohawk Institute and Indian Normal School [TAY-004417, pg. 10; TAY-004425, pg. 7]
1885 to 1921	Mohawk Institution [TAY-001631; TAY-000068-0003]
1885 to 1970	Mohawk Institute [TAY-003492; TAY-004745]
1922	Brantford Institute [TAY-000081-0000]
1924 to 1968	Mohawk Indian Residential School [TAY-004458; TAY-002862]
1968 to 1970	Mohawk Student Residence [TAY-063288; TAY-001135]

LOCATION

The IRS was situated on 9.93 acres of land on Lot Five of the Eagle's Nest Tract in Brantford, Ontario. The IRS land was surrounded by the Six Nations Indian Reserve No. 40, and it became part of the reserve upon the closure of the IRS [TAY-000959-0005; TAY-004650-0001; TAY-001653-0000; TAY-001657-0000; TAY-001657-0001].

PROVINCE/TERRITORY

Ontario

OPERATING DATES AS AN INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

These dates represent the time during which the Government of Canada was responsible for the operation of the Indian Residential School, excluding any periods of closure.

July 1, 1885 to June 27, 1970

OPERATING DATES CONTEXT

In July 1885, the federal government began to provide financial support for the Mohawk IRS. Beginning July 1, 1891, the federal government provided per capita grants for the IRS [TAY-000138, pg. 4-5; TAY-003492]. The administration of the classroom block and residence was separated effective September 1, 1968, and the IRS became known as the Mohawk Student Residence [CJC-000611-0000; CJC-000611-0001; BAX-000911-0000; BAX-000911-0001; TAY-004752-0002; TAY-001955-0000]. The four-classroom block continued to operate until June 1970. The IRS closed on June 27, 1970 [TAY-001149-0001, pg. 2; TAY-002015; TAY-001434].

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

Anglican Church

- 1885 to 1920 The Company for the Propagation of the Gospel in New England, commonly known as the New England Company. [TAY-000051; TAY-000058; TAY-001661;
- 1921 to 1922 The Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada (MSCC) [TAY-000055; TAY-000058; TAY-001661; TAY-000061; TAY-000073; TAY-000082-0000; TAY-000084; TAY-000089; TAY-000090; TAY-000092].
- 1943 to 1952 The Diocese of Huron of The Church of England in Canada. The Diocese acted in an advisory capacity at the IRS. The Mohawk Institute Advisory Committee was established by the Archbishop of Huron and existed from 1947 to 1952 [TAY-001192, pg. 2; TAY-000185; TAY-001193; TAY-001273; TAY-001284; TAY-001294; TAY-001345; TAY-001292].

In January 1921, the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada was reportedly operating the IRS, subject to terms agreed between the New England Company and the Bishop of Huron. Though the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada had planned to assume responsibility for the operation of the IRS, it declined the offer in September 1922. The federal government became responsible for the operation of the IRS in 1922 and leased the IRS buildings and land from the New England Company until 1965 [TAY-000055; TAY-000058; TAY-001661; TAY-000061; TAY-000073; TAY-000082-0000; TAY-000084; TAY-000089; TAY-000090; TAY-000092; TAY-000095; TAY-000079; TAY-000116; TAY-000117; TAY-000167-0000; TAY-000175-0000; TAY-000175-0001; TAY-001653-0000; TAY-001434].

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

Date	Event	Document Reference
July 1, 1885	The federal government began to provide financial support to the Mohawk IRS. At this time, the New England Company began to accept other than Six Nations Indians at the IRS.	TAY-001631 TAY-001974, pg. 7 TAY-000138, pg. 3-4 TAY-003492
July 1, 1891	The federal government began to provide per capita grants for the IRS.	TAY-000051 TAY-000138, pg. 5
April to June 1903	The main IRS building burned down on April 19. The barns at the IRS burned down on May 7. The boys' playhouse at the IRS was destroyed by fire on June 21. The playhouse had served as the boys' dormitory since the destruction of the main IRS building in April. Students were found responsible for setting all three fires.	TAY-003535 TAY-004436, pg. 2 TAY-001647 TAY-000138, pg. 5 TAY-001233 TAY-003519 TAY-003524 TAY-003528 TAY-003531
October 1904	The construction of the new main IRS building and outbuildings was completed. The new IRS building was occupied by October.	TAY-000138, pg. 5 TAY-001647
1911	The federal government and the Company for the Propagation of the Gospel in New England (the New England Company) signed an agreement for the	TAY-000050

	operation of the IRS.	
1920	While retaining ownership of the IRS lands and buildings, the New England Company proposed to transfer responsibility for the operation of the IRS to either the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada or the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron.	TAY-000051 TAY-000052 TAY-000053 TAY-000054 TAY-000055 TAY-000056 TAY-000057 TAY-003607-0000 TAY-003607-0001 TAY-003612
January 1921	Effective January 1, the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada was reportedly operating the IRS, subject "to the terms of transfer agreed upon" between the New England Company and the Bishop of Huron. The Board of Management of the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada recommended leasing the IRS to the federal government, and transfer of the management and administration of the IRS to the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada.	TAY-000058 TAY-001661 TAY-000061 TAY-000062 TAY-001660 TAY-000067-0000 TAY-000067-0007
1922	The federal government leased the IRS buildings, 10 acres of land on which the IRS was situated and adjacent land from the New England Company for a period of 21 years, effective January 2, 1922 to January 2, 1943. Though the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada had planned to take over the operation of the IRS, it declined the offer in writing on September 15. The federal government then became responsible for the operation of the IRS. The New England Company contributed funds annually for the general maintenance of the IRS until 1943.	TAY-000073 TAY-000077 TAY-000080 TAY-000082-0000 TAY-000084 TAY-000089 TAY-000090 TAY-000091 TAY-000092 TAY-000095 TAY-000104 TAY-001659 TAY-000079 TAY-000116 TAY-000117 TAY-000167-0000 TAY-000175-0000 TAY-0000391
1943 to 1946; 1947	There was no federal government lease of the IRS buildings and land from January 2, 1943 to December 31, 1945. In February 1947, a new 21 year lease (retroactive to January 1, 1946) was signed. The federal government continued to be responsible for the maintenance and management of the IRS. The Chapel on the IRS grounds was to remain for the exclusive use of the New England Company.	TAY-000164 TAY-000167-0000 TAY-000167-0001 TAY-000175-0000 TAY-000175-0001 TAY-002260-0000 TAY-002260-0001 TAY-000220 TAY-000211 TAY-000342 TAY-000337-0000 TAY-000337-0001 TAY-000337-0002 TAY-001655-0000
January to October 1955	A fire on January 27, 1955 destroyed two barns, killing a large part of the IRS livestock and destroying the feed. The barn was rebuilt and completed on October 6, 1955.	TAY-003768 TAY-003772-0000 TAY-003772-0001 TAY-003790-0003
August 30, 1965	The IRS land and buildings owned by the New England Company were sold to the federal government.	TAY-004650-0000 TAY-004650-0001 TAY-001653-0000 TAY-001653-0001 TAY-001657-0000 TAY-001657-0001

September 1, 1968 to June 1970	The administration of the classroom block and residence was separated effective September 1, 1968. The four-classroom block continued to operate until June 1970.	CJC-000611-0000 CJC-000611-0001 BAX-000911-0000 BAX-000911-0001 TAY-004752-0002 TAY-001149-0001, pg. 2; TAY-002015 TAY-001434
June 27, 1970	The Mohawk IRS closed.	TAY-002015
1970 to 1971	By agreement with the Six Nations Council, the federal government maintained a small staff for custodial care from July 1, 1970 to March 31, 1971.	TAY-001181-0000 TAY-001181-0002 TAY-001187 TAY-001163 TAY-004753

EDUCATION OF STUDENTS

Grades taught at the Indian residential school

School Years	Grades offered	Document Reference
1885/86 to 1892/93	No information found	
1893/94 to 1902/03	1 to 6	TAY-004426, pg. 2 TAY-004428, pg. 3 TAY-004429, pg. 2 TAY-004431, pg. 3 TAY-004432, pg. 3 TAY-004435, pg. 3 TAY-004436, pg. 3
1903/04	2 to 6	TAY-004437, pg. 3
1904/05 to 1928/29	1 to 6	TAY-004438, pg. 6 TAY-004441, pg. 3 TAY-004442, pg. 3 TAY-004463, pg. 2
1929/30 to 1938/39	1 to 9	TAY-004464, pg.11 TAY-004473, pg. 3
1939/40 to 1946/47	No information found	
1947/48 to 1951/52	1 to 8, High School	TAY-001741, pg. 7 TAY-001743, pg. 8 TAY-001747, pg. 8 TAY-001751, pg. 8 TAY-001755, pg. 8
1952/53 to 1953/54	1 to 8	TAY-002700 TAY-002705
1954/55	Pre-School, 1 to 8	TAY-002717 TAY-002725
1955/56	Pre-School, 1 to 8 (to December 1955) Pre-School, 1 to 8, 11 to 12 (beginning January 1956)	TAY-002729 TAY-002731 TAY-002732 TAY-002734
1956/57	Kindergarten, 1 to 8, 12	TAY-002741 TAY-002742
1957/58 to 1958/59	Kindergarten, 1 to 8	TAY-002750 TAY-002758
1959/60 to 1960/61	Beginner, 1 to 8, Home Economics	TAY-001868 TAY-002769 TAY-000781 TAY-000844 TAY-002785 TAY-002780
1961/62	Kindergarten, 1 to 8	TAY-002791 TAY-002792
1962/63	Kindergarten/Primary, 1 to 7	TAY-002802

1963/64	Pre 1, 1 to 7	TAY-002814
1964/65 to 1967/68	Pre 1, 1 to 8	TAY-005078 TAY-002834 TAY-002844 TAY-002853
1968/69	1 to 8	TAY-001956-0001
1969/70	Beginner, 1 to 9	TAY-001960

Other Schools Attended by Residents

School Years	Name of School	Location	Administration	Grades	Document
1885	Brantford High School	Brantford, Ontario	Not specified	Not specified	TAY-000138, pg. 4
1953/54	Brantford Collegiate	Brantford, Ontario	Not specified	9 to 10	TAY-002709 TAY-002714
1954/55	Brantford Collegiate Institute (B.C.I.)	Brantford, Ontario	Not specified	9 to 10	TAY-002717 TAY-002725
1955/56 to 1957/58	Pauline Johnson Collegiate	Brantford, Ontario	Not specified	9 to 10	TAY-002729 TAY-002731 TAY-002734 TAY-002738 TAY-002747 TAY-002750 TAY-002757
1958/59 to 1959/60	Pauline Johnson Collegiate	Brantford, Ontario	Not specified	Not specified	TAY-002758 TAY-002769 TAY-002779
1961/62	Belleview Public School; Pauline Johnson Collegiate	Brantford, Ontario	Not specified	5 to 10	TAY-002791 TAY-002792
1962/63	Belleview Public School; Brantford Collegiate Institute; Pauline Johnson Collegiate	Brantford, Ontario	Not specified	5 to 9	TAY-002802
1963/64	Brantford Public School	Brantford, Ontario	Not specified	6 to 8	TAY-000974

GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

School Years	Number of Residents	If applicable, day scholars	Document Reference
1885	90	No information found	TAY-004417, pg. 3
1886	89	No information found	TAY-004418, pg. 9
1887	90	No information found	TAY-004419, pg. 9
1888	89	No information found	TAY-004420, pg. 10
1889	89	No information found	TAY-004421, pg. 2
1890	92	No information found	TAY-004422, pg. 5
1891	90	No information found	TAY-004423, pg. 5
1892	93	No information found	TAY-004424, pg. 4
1893	95	No information found	TAY-004425, pg. 2
1893/94	107	No information found	TAY-004426, pg. 2
1894/95	115	No information found	TAY-004427, pg. 7

1895/96	125	No information found	TAY-004428, pg. 3
1896/97	133	No information found	TAY-004429, pg. 2
1897/98	127	No information found	TAY-004430, pg. 2
1898/99	133	No information found	TAY-004431, pg. 3
1899/00	125	No information found	TAY-004432, pg. 3
1900/01	125	No information found	TAY-004433, pg. 3
1901/02	130	No information found	TAY-004435, pg. 3
1902/03	120	No information found	TAY-004436, pg. 3
1903/04	79	No information found	TAY-004437, pg. 2
1904/05	108	No information found	TAY-004438, pg. 5
1905/06	112	No information found	TAY-004439, pg. 3
1906/07	109	No information found	TAY-004440, pg. 3
1907/08	115	No information found	TAY-004441, pg. 3
1908/09	121	No information found	TAY-004442, pg. 3
1909/10	124	No information found	TAY-004443, pg. 14
1910/11	122	No information found	TAY-004444, pg. 13
1911/12	123	No information found	TAY-004445, pg. 12
1912/13	126	No information found	TAY-004446, pg. 10
1913/14	132	No information found	TAY-004447, pg. 2
1914/15	137	No information found	TAY-004448, pg. 2
1915/16	144	No information found	TAY-004449, pg. 2
1916/17	132	No information found	TAY-004450, pg. 3
1917/18	140	No information found	TAY-004451, pg. 5
1918/19	149	No information found	TAY-004452
1919/20	134	No information found	TAY-004453
1920/21	129	No information found	TAY-004454
1921/22	127	No information found	TAY-004456
1922/23	136	No information found	TAY-004457, pg. 2
1923/24	131	No information found	TAY-004458
1924/25	143	No information found	TAY-004459
1925/26	142	No information found	TAY-004460
1926/27	139	No information found	TAY-004461, pg. 5
1927/28	136	No information found	TAY-004462, pg. 5
1928/29	135	No information found	TAY-004463
1929/30	156	No information found	TAY-004464, pg. 11
1930/31	182	No information found	TAY-004465
1931/32	182	No information found	TAY-004466
1932/33	154	No information found	TAY-004467
1933/34	155	No information found	TAY-004468
1934/35	148	No information found	TAY-004469
1935/36	153	No information found	TAY-004470, pg. 6
1936/37	156	No information found	TAY-004471
1937/38	167	No information found	TAY-004472
1938/39	166	No information found	TAY-004473
1939/40	No information found	No information found	
1940/41	130	No information found	TAY-002213
1941/42	136	No information found	TAY-002225
1942/43	132	No information found	TAY-002240
1943/44	118	No information found	TAY-002251

1944/45	116	No information found	TAY-002272
1945/46	116	No information found	TAY-002292-0000
1946/47	149	No information found	TAY-002304-0000
1947/48	191	No information found	TAY-001739, pg. 9
1948/49	183	No information found	TAY-001743, pg. 8
1949/50	200	No information found	TAY-001747, pg. 8
1950/51	184	No information found	TAY-001751, pg. 8
1951/52	197	No information found	TAY-001755, pg. 8
1952/53	201	No information found	TAY-002011, pg. 8
1953/54	171	No information found	TAY-002710
1954/55	168	No information found	TAY-002724
1955/56	168	No information found	TAY-002734
1956/57	165	No information found	TAY-002741
1957/58	160	No information found	TAY-002750
1958/59	164	No information found	TAY-000644, pg. 1
1959/60	150	No information found	TAY-000691, pg. 1
1960/61	146	No information found	TAY-000793, pg. 1
1961/62	140	No information found	TAY-000876, pg. 1
1962/63	163	No information found	TAY-001827-0002, pg. 1
1963/64	157	No information found	TAY-001835-0002, pg. 1
1964/65	161	No information found	TAY-001837, pg. 1
1965/66	123	No information found	TAY-001841-0001, pg. 1
1966/67	151	No information found	TAY-001951, pg. 1
1967/68	154	No information found	TAY-001953-0002, pg. 1
1968/69	125	No information found	TAY-001958, pg. 1
1969/70	97	No information found	TAY-001961

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

School Years	Special Programs Offered	Document Reference
1896	The Cadet Corps of the IRS participated in a military review on Dominion Day.	TAY-000138, pg. 5
1908	Students participated in the Cadet Corps at the IRS.	TAY-004441, pg. 3
1920	Students participated in the Cadet Corps at the IRS.	TAY-003597
1920	Hockey, football, basketball, baseball, lacrosse, and track events were sports played at the IRS.	TAY-000138, pg. 7
1930	Girl Guides and Cadet Corps were organizations at the IRS.	TAY-000138, pg. 7
1950	A party was held for IRS pupils by the local Rotary Club.	TAY-003332
1963	<p>Girl Guides and Scouts held a parade service at the IRS chapel.</p> <p>The following were activities at the IRS: softball, medicine ball throw, volley ball, relays, running broad jump, standing broad jump, chinning, pushups, skipping, piano, potato race, sack race, weight lifting, hockey, Cubs, Sea Cadets and</p>	TAY-000998, pg. 18, 21-23

	Navy League.	
--	--------------	--

INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Date	Event	Document Reference
1885	<p>The IRS was situated on Lot Five, Eagle’s Nest Tract, in Brantford, Ontario. The IRS also used the Babcock Lot, the Mohawk Farm (Manual Labour Farm), and the Mohawk Parsonage (Glebe Lot).</p> <p>The 20 acre Babcock Lot comprised the east portion of Lot Two, Eagle’s Nest Tract. The parcel was removed from the IRS’ land inventory in 1903.</p> <p>The Manual Labour Farm comprised approximately 200 acres on the whole of Lot Five, Eagle’s Nest Tract, and was held under License of Occupation granted to the New England Company in 1859.</p> <p>The 220 acre Mohawk Parsonage (Glebe Lot) was located to the north of the Manual Labour Farm. The size of the Mohawk Parsonage lot used by the IRS was described as 200 acres in 1898; 186 acres in 1901; and 176 acres in 1908.</p>	<p>TAY-000959-0005 TAY-003424, pg. 3,7 TAY-003423 TAY-004435, pg. 2 TAY-004436, pg. 2 TAY-001974, pg. 7 TAY-004430, pg. 2 TAY-004433, pg. 2 TAY-004441, pg. 2 TAY-001655-0001 TAY-001182 TAY-001965 TAY-001966 TAY-000138, pg. 3-4 TAY-001970, pg. 3</p>
1886	A wing for the Principal’s residence was added to the north-west part of the main IRS building.	TAY-004293-0001
1891	A wing was added to the south-east side of the main IRS building for a Junior classroom, dormitories for girls and a girls’ playroom.	TAY-004293-0001
1893 to 1894	Renovations to the main IRS building included a playroom for girls, a large classroom, dormitories and an officer’s room.	<p>TAY-004425, pg. 3 TAY-004426, pg. 3</p>
1896	<p>In the basement of the main IRS building was the girls’ playroom, boot-room, clothes room, lavatories, kitchen and dining rooms. Two classrooms, a sewing room, officers’ quarters, a visiting room and offices were located on the first floor. On the second floor were dormitories and sick rooms. The west wing of the building contained the Superintendent’s (Principal’s) residence. The third floor was used as a hospital for contagious diseases, when necessary.</p> <p>The IRS site also contained a detached two storey brick laundry building, as well as a detached playhouse for the boys containing a dressing room and washrooms, and reading and play-rooms.</p> <p>Farm buildings at the IRS were extensive, having enough space for 60 cattle and 20 horses.</p> <p>The IRS grounds at the time comprised 451 acres, divided as follows: 16 acres were occupied by the IRS buildings, play and ornamental grounds; 9.5 acres by orchard and kitchen gardens; 240 acres of ploughed lands; 160 acres of permanent pasture, bush, etc.; 16.5 acres brick-yard (rented); and 9 acres of roads, a right of way and creek.</p>	TAY-004428, pg. 2-3
1903	A new cottage was built on the IRS grounds for the gardener.	TAY-004436, pg.3
April to June 1903	The main IRS building burned down on April 19, 1903.	<p>TAY-003535 TAY-004436, pg. 2</p>

	<p>The barns at the IRS burned down on May 7.</p> <p>The boys' playhouse at the IRS was destroyed by fire on June 21. The playhouse had served as the boys' dormitory since the destruction of the main IRS building in April.</p> <p>Students were found responsible for setting all three fires.</p>	<p>TAY-001647 TAY-000138, pg. 5 TAY-001233 TAY-003519 TAY-003524 TAY-003528 TAY-003531</p>
October 1904	<p>The reconstruction of the new main IRS building, boys' playhouse, laundry, dairy and barns was completed; the new IRS building was occupied by October.</p>	<p>TAY-004437, pg. 2 TAY-004438, pg. 5 TAY-000138, pg. 5</p>
1905	<p>The new two storey high main IRS building measured 79' x 42', with two wings measuring 60' x 36.5' each, a basement and attic. The basement in the main building included food storage, dining rooms for staff, the boiler room, girls' clothing rooms and a lavatory. On the first floor were offices, a sewing room, and room for female staff. The second floor contained the Superintendent's or Principal's residence and two sick rooms.</p> <p>The basement in the north wing of the main IRS building contained the kitchen and dining halls. The first floor contained a classroom, master's room, and farm men's rooms. The second floor housed the boys' dormitory.</p> <p>The basement in the south wing contained the girls' play-room, boot-room and washrooms. On the first floor was a classroom and assembly room, and on the second floor was the girls' dormitory.</p> <p>Other buildings at the IRS site included: a boys' play-house; a laundry; dairy; barn and cow stable; silo; hog pens; horse and cattle stables; carpenter's shop; implement house; drive house; wagon shed; poultry house; two greenhouses; and, an ice house.</p>	<p>TAY-004438, pg. 5</p>
1912 to 1918	<p>By 1912, 37 acres of the Mohawk Parsonage (Glebe Lot) had been disposed of by expropriations under the Canadian Railway Act. Another 183 acres was sold to the federal government in 1918.</p>	<p>TAY-001974, pg. 7</p>
1922	<p>A large wing housing the dining hall for students, the kitchen, the laundry and a boiler room was added to the rear part of the main IRS building.</p>	<p>TAY-002113 TAY-000138, pg. 6 TAY-004293-0001</p>
January 2, 1922 to January 2, 1943	<p>The New England Company's License of Occupation of the 200 acre Manual Labour Farm was nullified in January 1922, restoring the land to Reserve status held in trust for the Six Nations Band. The federal government was ordered to pay rent to the Band for use of the land, so long as it was used for IRS purposes.</p> <p>90 acres of the Mohawk Parsonage (Glebe Lot) were still in use for IRS purposes.</p> <p>The New England Company leased the IRS buildings, the 10 acres situated on Lot Five in the Eagle's Nest tract and the adjacent land in the Brantford Township to the federal government.</p>	<p>TAY-003447 TAY-000411 TAY-000138, pg. 6 TAY-000134 TAY-001977 TAY-001981, pg. 3 TAY-000079</p>
1929	<p>Two new dormitories were built on the third floor of</p>	<p>TAY-002148-0000</p>

	the main IRS building.	
January 2, 1943 to December 31, 1945	After the expiration of the 21-year lease, there was no federal government lease of the IRS property from January 2, 1943 to December 31, 1945.	TAY-000164 TAY-000167-0000 TAY-000167-0001 TAY-000175-0000 TAY-000175-0001 TAY-002260-0000 TAY-002260-0001 TAY-000220 TAY-000211
January 1, 1946	Beginning January 1, 1946, and for up to 21 years, the federal government leased from the New England Company the IRS buildings, the 10 acres of land on Lot Five in the Eagle's Nest Tract on which the buildings were situated, and the adjacent land in the Brantford Township. The chapel and grounds on which it stood were exempt from the lease, and they were for the exclusive use of the New England Company.	TAY-000342 TAY-000337-0000 TAY-000337-0001 TAY-000337-0002 TAY-001655-0000 TAY-000164 TAY-001977
October 1947 to September 1948	By October 1947, a building from the former No. 20 Basic Training Centre army camp had been moved adjacent to the main IRS building for use as extra classroom space and recreation rooms. The classroom was in use by May 1948, after renovations had been completed. During the summer of 1948, another two army huts were added to the first hut and converted into additional classrooms. By September 1948, the detached army hut three classroom block was in operation at the IRS.	TAY-002315 TAY-002318-0002, pg. 3 TAY-002327 TAY-001634-0003 TAY-003236 TAY-002329-0000 TAY-002329-0001 TAY-062071 TAY-000358, pg. 4 TAY-000359 TAY-062074
October 1949 to 1953	By October 1949, the chapel building from a former army camp had been moved to the IRS grounds. The chapel building was federal government property. Though the initial plan was to use the chapel building for either staff quarters or the Principal's residence, the building was eventually converted into a two classroom block. By November 1953 all classroom instruction at the IRS was held in the former military buildings. Five classrooms at the IRS were in operation at that time. The army hut two classroom block was located at the front of the IRS grounds, close to the intersection of Mohawk Street and the entrance road to the main IRS building. The army hut three classroom block, added to the IRS in 1947/48, was located adjacent to the main IRS building.	TAY-002349 TAY-002350 TAY-000367 TAY-002354 TAY-000368 TAY-000369 TAY-001312 TAY-003304 TAY-003332 TAY-003369-0000 TAY-003369-0001 TAY-003373 TAY-003376 TAY-003381 TAY-003383 TAY-003384 TAY-003385-0000 TAY-003385-0001 TAY-003754-0001, pg. 2 TAY-002705 TAY-062074 TAY-004087, pg. 2
March 1950	A Grand Jury reviewing conditions at the IRS found that there were structural deficiencies with the main IRS building and noted concerns with the fire safety and alarm systems.	TAY-000382 TAY-000383 TAY-003316-0000 TAY-003316-0001
1950 to 1951	The Principal's new residence was situated a few yards from the main IRS building, on Six Nations Reserve land.	TAY-003307 TAY-001734-0002 TAY-001035 TAY-004137

	The address of the residence was noted as 180 Mohawk Street, Brantford in 1970.	TAY-004045 TAY-004752-0002 TAY-062074 TAY-062057
January to October 1955	A fire on January 27 destroyed two barns, killing a large part of the IRS livestock and destroying feed. The barn was rebuilt and completed on October 6.	TAY-003768 TAY-003772-0000 TAY-003772-0001 TAY-003790-0003
1956	An IRS site plan noted that the army hut three classroom block adjacent to the main IRS building was "to be dismantled."	TAY-062074
1958	Playrooms and storage rooms were located in the basement of the main IRS building. The main floor contained a recreation room and offices. Dormitories were located on both the second and third floors.	TAY-004042
1958 to 1959	A new classroom block with manual training and home economics facilities was completed for the 1958/59 school year. One classroom was still in operation in the army hut two classroom block or "the old building at the road."	TAY-000507 TAY-004042 TAY-000593 TAY-000613
1959 to 1960	The army hut three classroom block formerly situated adjacent to the main IRS building was no longer on the IRS grounds. One classroom was still in use in the army hut two classroom block.	TAY-062074 TAY-004500 TAY-004506-0001, pg. 6
February 1960	The buildings at the IRS included a residence and dormitory building, a four classroom block, a two classroom block, a Principal's residence, two frame barns, and an implement shed. The residence and dormitory building had three storeys, plus a basement and roof space. The following rooms were located in the basement: boys' and girls' playrooms, a maintenance shop, storage room, boiler room, an incinerator room, a kitchen, a dining room, and a laundry facility. The following rooms were located on the first floor: boys' and girls' reading rooms, the principal's office, six staff bedrooms, a dispensary and infirmary, a sewing room, and a staff dining room. The second floor had dormitories for 40 boys and 48 girls, and eight staff rooms. The third floor has dormitories for 44 boys and 40 girls, and storage for bedding and clothing. A one-storey classroom block had four classrooms, a domestic science room, a manual training room, and a gymnasium. Another one-story classroom block was a converted former army hut and had two classrooms. By February 1960, only one classroom was in use. One barn was for cows and the other barn was for pigs.	TAY-004506-0001
1960 to 1961	A new kitchen in the main IRS building was built during the 1960/61 school year. During the construction and until the middle of January 1961, the residents ate their meals in the boys' reading room.	TAY-000846, pg. 21

1963	A fire occurred at the IRS but it was quickly suppressed by the sprinkler system. Mainly water damage occurred.	TAY-004597
August 30, 1965	The IRS buildings and 9.93 acres of land on part of Lot Five in the Eagle's Nest Tract were sold by the New England Company to the federal government.	TAY-001653-0000 TAY-001653-0001 TAY-001657-0000 TAY-001657-0001 TAY-004650-0000 TAY-004650-0001
1966	By 1966, the army hut two classroom block was not among the buildings in use for the IRS, nor was the block pictured on a site plan of the IRS grounds.	TAY-003037 TAY-062057
1970	Buildings associated with at the IRS in June 1970 were listed as follows: a four storey main IRS brick building containing six dormitories, two dining rooms and a laundry; a one storey four classroom block with auditorium, home economics room and two industrial arts rooms; the Administrator's residence; two other residences; a barn; a cow barn, and pig pen.	TAY-004752-0002

PHOTOS, PLANS AND LAYOUT

Date	Description	Document Reference
Undated	First floor plan of alterations and additions to the IRS.	TAY-062059
Undated	Attic floor plan of alterations and additions to the IRS.	TAY-062060
Undated	North elevation plan of alterations and additions to the IRS.	TAY-062067
Undated	Basement plan of alterations and additions to the IRS.	TAY-062068
Undated	Ground floor plan of alterations and additions to the IRS.	TAY-062069
1836	Sketch showing parcel of land leased and including Mohawk Parsonage Lot and Mission "School" Lot.	TAY-003423
1843	Plan of the Mohawk IRS lot at Mohawk Village, Grand River Township.	TAY-003417
1846	Plan of the Eagle's Nest and adjacent lands in the Township of Brantford.	TAY-001527
1846	Plan of part of the Eagle's Nest and adjacent lands in the Township of Brantford.	TAY-001528
1903	Plan of the northern section of the Manual Labour Farm and the old IRS lot.	TAY-003527-0001
1904	Plan of New England Company Lands at Grand River.	TAY-003429-0001
1920	Land survey of Indian Lands and various parcels of land in the Brantford area.	TAY-003478
1922	Plan of Lot Five, Eagle's Nest Tract, Township of Brantford, including 9.93 acre IRS Lot, Glebe Lot, and Mohawk Church and cemetery.	TAY-001526
1929	Rough sketch of Babcock lot, Manual Labour Farm and Glebe Farm.	TAY-005417-0001
1948	Plan of the IRS buildings and grounds.	TAY-000359
1948	IRS plot plan and building plan.	TAY-062071
1948	Pictures of the interior of the main IRS building and classroom building.	TAY-000358
1949	Electrical plans of various floors for the IRS, showing layout of IRS rooms.	TAY-000356
1949	Plan of alterations to the IRS.	TAY-003295
1950	Ground floor and first floor plan of the IRS.	TAY-062058
1950	Floor plans of the IRS.	TAY-000384 TAY-003476-0001

		TAY-003476-0002
1954	Blueprints of alterations to the IRS.	TAY-003826-0003
1956	The IRS site plan.	TAY-062074
1956	The IRS floor plan.	TAY-062072
1956	The IRS elevation and site plan.	TAY-062073
1958	The IRS basement floor plan.	TAY-062061
1958	First, second and third floor plans of the IRS.	TAY-062062
1960	Blueprints of the IRS.	TAY-003807
1960	Plan of the IRS grounds and buildings.	TAY-004500
1960	Basement floor plans of alterations and additions to the IRS.	TAY-062063 TAY-062064
1960	Sketch of the IRS dormitories.	TAY-000777-0001
1960	Photographs of new dryers and heater in laundry room, children's dining room, walk in freezer, and North elevation of the IRS.	TAY-004537-0001
1961	Plan of alterations and additions to the IRS, phase 2.	TAY-062065
1963	Plan, Eagles Nest Tract, Six Nations Indian Reserve No. 40.	TAY-000959-0005
Circa 1964	Plan, Lot Five, Eagles Nest Tract, showing IRS lot and other streets.	TAY-004758-0002 TAY-004774-0002
1964	Plan of part of Lot Five, Eagles Nest Tract, and Six Nations Indian Reserve 40.	TAY-004646
1964	Plan of subdivision of part of Lot Five, Eagle's Nest Tract, and Six Nations Indian Reserve No. 40.	TAY-000997 TAY-004655
1964	Part of plan of easement and roads associated with IRS lands.	TAY-004654-0003
1966	Proposed concrete curbing and asphalt paving of driveways and parking areas of the IRS, showing the location of the Principal's residence, classroom block, IRS main building, etc.	TAY-062057
1967	Plan of parcel divisions of the IRS land and buildings.	TAY-004700 TAY-004772-0002
1967	Plan of resurvey of part of Lot Five and part of Lot B, Eagle's Nest Tract.	TAY-004701
1970	Phase out schedule with descriptions of the IRS buildings and land.	TAY-001149-0001
1971	Diagram of the IRS premises.	TAY-003069-0001
1971	Plan of Lot Five, Eagle's Nest Tract, showing the former IRS buildings to be transferred to the Six Nations Band.	TAY-004767-0002

DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

To date, we are aware of one conviction for physical abuse at the Mohawk IRS.

1913/14 Two former residents charged the Principal for cutting off their hair, imprisonment, provision of bad food, and one resident also alleged he was liable for a whipping received at the IRS. The case was tried on March 31, 1914, and The Brantford Expositor reported that the Principal was fined and damages of \$400.00 were awarded for two of the claims. The claims for whipping and imprisonment in a cell were upheld [TAY-001777; TAY-001778; TAY-001779; TAY-001780; TAY-001781-0000; TAY-001781-0001; TAY-001800; TAY-001782; TAY-001783; TAY-001788; TAY-001789; TAY-001792; TAY-001795; TAY-001796; TAY-001797].

The following suggestions of abuse, listed chronologically, comprise all known identifiable complaints and/or allegations received by government officials and all available information regarding the follow-up and outcome.

Incidents (Sexual)

No information found.

Incidents (Physical)

Mohawk Institute IRS

- 1937 A lawyer lodged a complaint on behalf of an IRS resident, regarding a staff member allegedly punishing the student so harshly that his body was covered in bruises. Though the federal government was critical of the staff member's handling of the situation, it was determined that the strap in question could not have been responsible for the noted bruising. The teacher who administered the punishment stated that the pupil was struck with the strap four times on each hand [TAY-003111-0000; TAY-003111-0001; TAY-003112; TAY-003113; TAY-003114; TAY-003116-0000; TAY-003116-0001; TAY-003117-0000; TAY-003117-0001; TAY-003117-0002; TAY-003118; TAY-003119; TAY-003120-0000; TAY-003120-0001; TAY-003121; TAY-003122].
- 1951 Complaints from parents regarding insufficient food, too much corporal punishment, and harsh treatment of the children at the Mohawk IRS were investigated. A representative from the Church stated that conditions at the IRS were fine with respect to food and clothing, but discipline was stricter than at other Indian Residential Schools [TAY-001338; TAY-001339].
- 1955 A parent complained about her daughter's strapping by the Mohawk IRS Principal. It was reported that upon examination, there were no marks on her arms and shoulders. The Principal said that he gave her two strokes of the strap for misbehavior. The girl and her sibling were discharged from the IRS [TAY-000453].
- 1965 A former IRS pupil from 1942 to 1947 described his experience at the IRS as one fraught with disgraceful food, beatings, and other mistreatment at the hands of the IRS staff. The former pupil noted witnessing Indian children having their face rubbed in human excrement and urine as punishment for bed wetting [TAY-001046].

Incidents (Student on Student)

- 1942 to 1947 A former pupil at the Mohawk IRS stated that the older boys bullied the younger boys, who were like "slaves". The former pupil also noted that younger boys were forced into "homosexual contact" by older boys [TAY-001046, pg. 3].
- 1947 It was reported that a staff member caught two boys "in the act of homosexual." Two older pupils had restrained a younger pupil while the remainder of the boys in the dormitory reputedly watched. Subsequent correspondence included guidelines for administering corporal punishment and measures that could be taken to improve living conditions at the Mohawk IRS [TAY-000349, pg. 2; TAY-000350; TAY-000358].
- 1964 A Mohawk IRS student was allegedly caught stealing and had caused a car accident while away from the IRS. A report also stated that the student was later caught with a twelve year old female student on one occasion, and had also "been chased out of the smaller boys' beds" on other occasions [TAY-002250-0000; TAY-002250-0001; TAY-002250-0002].

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 1902 Three deaths occurred during 1902, one from acute Bright's disease, one from pneumonia and one from congestion of the lungs [TAY-004435, pg. 3].
- 1907 Over 40 cases of the measles and the grippe occurred at the IRS in January and February. One student died from bronchial pneumonia [TAY-004440, pg. 4].

Last updated May 31, 2013

- 1918 An influenza epidemic occurred at the IRS [TAY-003573; TAY-003575].
- 1920 There was a Scarlet Fever epidemic at the IRS [TAY-002423-0000].
- 1948 Outbreaks of chickenpox, mumps, and measles occurred during the first half of the year [TAY-000355].
- 1962 IRS pupils attended “Bread and Cheese Activities” on the Six Nations Reserve “each year” in May. No information was found concerning how many years these activities took place [TAY-004583].
- 1963 The Cosmopolitan Club of Brantford invited thirty IRS children to their Christmas party. The Zion Church invited 25 senior girls from the IRS to a party at their church [TAY-000998, pg. 8].
- 1968 IRS students took a trip to the Exhibition Grounds in Toronto during the year [TAY-004726-0000].

PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

Name	Position	Tenure Dates
Reverend Robert Ashton	Principal Chaplain of the Mohawk Chapel	1885 to 1911 1885 to 1915
A. Nelles Ashton	Principal	1911 to 1914
Alice M. Boyce	Acting Principal	1914 to 1915
Reverend Cyril M. Turnell	Principal	1915 to 1918
Alice M. Boyce	Principal	1918 to 1922
Sidney Rogers	Principal	1922 to 1929
Reverend Horace W. Snell	Principal, and Chaplain of Mohawk Chapel	1929 to 1945
Reverend Canon William John Zimmerman	Principal/Administrator, and Chaplain of Mohawk Chapel	August 1945 to 1970

EXTERNAL CONTEXT

- 1960 to 1961 Camps for Mohawk IRS pupils who could not return home for the summer holidays were held on Christian Island (on Georgian Bay). The camp was staffed by members of the IRS staff who were not otherwise on holidays [TAY-000729; TAY-000732-0001; TAY-000737-0000; TAY-001883; TAY-000738; TAY-000825; TAY-000826; TAY-000757-0001; TAY-000835].
- 1962 Pupils who could not return home for the summer holidays were sent to the Huron Church Camp in Bayfield, Ontario. The ten-day camp was affiliated with the Anglican Church [TAY-000897; TAY-000898].

Narrative Completed: November 13, 2012
Narrative Updated: May 31, 2013

The original school narrative document produced by Canada also contains a number of records that have been separated pending review.



National Centre for
Truth and Reconciliation
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA