

Experience the **SPENCER ADVENTURE**



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← Cambridge

HWY #6 North Waterdown →

Brock Road

NO EXIT  
Cramer Road

**CHRISTIE LAKE**

Christie Lake

'Round the Lake Trail

Crooks' Hollow Road

Spencer Creek

Crooks' Hollow Road

Kerby Ave.

**GREENSVILLE**

Harvest Road

Logie's Creek

**Tew Falls**

**Webster Falls**

**SPENCER GORGE/  
WEBSTER FALLS**

**Dundas Peak**

**DUNDAS**

**2 CHRISTIE LAKE DAM**

The Christie Lake Dam was completed in 1971 and is the largest flood control structure in the Hamilton Conservation Authority's watershed. Built to reduce flooding in Dundas, it also provides low flow augmentation in dry summers and creates a vibrant habitat for recreation and wildlife. The reservoir covers approximately 60 hectares and contains enough water to fill more than 900 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

**3 DARNLEY CASCADE**

The Darnley Cascade is a four metre tall, 22 metre wide, washboard curtain cascade. Water flows from the Spencer Creek into Crooks' Hollow, which was founded by James Crooks, a Scottish immigrant who came to the area in 1805.

**5 MORDEN'S HISTORY AND DAM**

George Morden arrived in Upper Canada in 1797 from Pennsylvania, and was granted land near Greensville. George's son Jonathon, a sawyer by trade purchased 200 acres of land on the Spencer Creek and constructed the first sawmill on the Upper Spencer in 1801. He was able to force the water over a stone dam and through an opening called a "millrace". Several of the planks and stones used to hold back water at the millrace can still be seen. In the late 1850s, his son, James Morden, added a grist mill to the site. Both mills were destroyed by fire in 1905 and left in ruins.

**6 COCKBURN DAM AND MILL**

This dam was the fifth to be built on Spencer Creek: used first in 1825 to operate the Kerby sawmill, then in the 1860s for the Wentworth Hub, Spoke and Steam Bending Works which burned in 1879. The foundations were used to construct John Cockburn's saw and planing mill, and later a cider mill operated by Cockburn's son.

**7 CLARK'S BLANKET FACTORY**

This saw and grist mill was originally built by William Bullock at Bullock's Corner's in 1841. Bullock also constructed the British Hotel at the corners. Upon his death, the mill was leased to Matthew Langley and the three Clark brothers: William, James and Andrew in 1866. They converted the mills to manufacture woolen goods and cloths. This mill burned shortly afterwards but was rebuilt as a stone building, turning out woolen blankets until a heavy flood washed out the dam and the building in 1938. It was never rebuilt. The remains of the storehouse, however, have recently been converted to a wellness retreat and spa on the banks of the Spencer Creek.

**4 DARNLEY (STUTT'S) GRIST & PAPER MILLS**

Construction of the Darnley Grist Mill began in 1811 by James Crooks who named it after an ancestral hero, Lord Darnley of Scotland. The mill was originally square in shape, with three levels. The large wall across the centre of the present structure was at one time the outside wall of the mill. The mill contained four runs or sets of grindstones to produce various grades of flour or meal. After Crooks' death in 1860, the mill was sold to James Stutt and Robert Sanderson. In 1880, he added a steam boiler building to heat the water for papermaking and for auxiliary power. On July 9, 1885, the boiler exploded causing much damage and killing two men. The mill was rebuilt and operated until 1902 when William Stutt succeeded his father as owner. William Stutt leased out the mill to the Adams Cellboard Company and later, the Greensville Paper Company in the 1920s and 30s. In 1931, concrete was used to replace the wooden floors. In 1934, the mill was gutted by fire and left in ruins. HCA purchased the mill in 1969.

**1 VILLAGE OF CROOKS' HOLLOW**

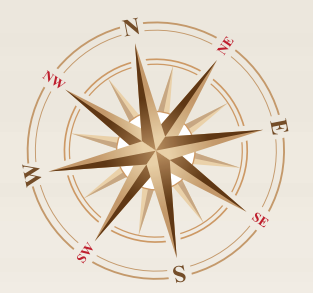
Across from the Darnley Mill is the location of several industries built by James Crooks from the 1820s to 1850s. Located where the small cottage is now, was the distillery that he built. Going up the road on the same side, he built a cooperage, a general store, a blacksmith shop, a hoe and scythe factory and a linseed oil company. Downstream from Crooks' Hollow Road he built a tannery and Canada's first paper mill in 1826. Up at the top of the waterfall, he built a sawmill. By 1850, "Crooks' Hollow" was the largest industrial community in Upper Canada, employing nearly 100 men.

**LEGEND**

- The Spencer Adventure Trail
- The Spencer Adventure Trail/Bruce Trail
- Bruce Trail - Main Trail
- Bruce Trail - Side Trail
- Trail on Private Land - Please respect
- Bicycle By-pass Route  
Cycling is not permitted on the Bruce Trail
- Parking Area
- Seasonal Washroom
- HCA Land - Conservation Area
- Water

**TRAIL LENGTHS**

- Christie Dam to Dundas Peak..... 5.4 km
- Christie Dam to Crooks Hollow..... 0.7 km
- Christie Dam to Webster Falls..... 2.8 km
- Webster Falls to Tew Falls..... 1.3 km
- Tew Falls to Dundas Peak..... 1.3 km



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Weir's Lane Dundas Valley Conservation Area

Bruce Trail - Waterdown →

CN Rail  
Bruce Trail

CN Rail

King Street West

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