

**The
Community
That
Hope
Built**

Written by Joyce Shadd Middleton

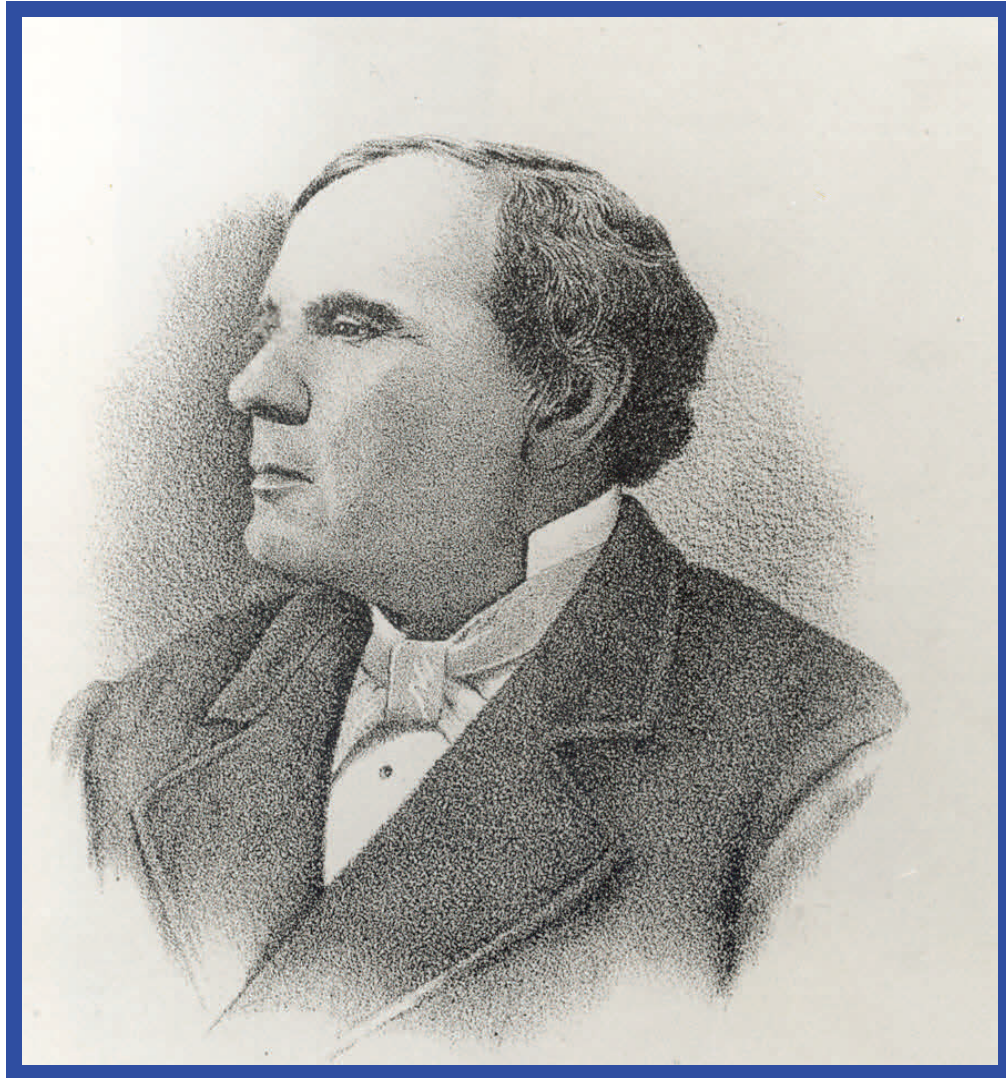
Narrated by Shannon Prince

This is the community
That hope built.



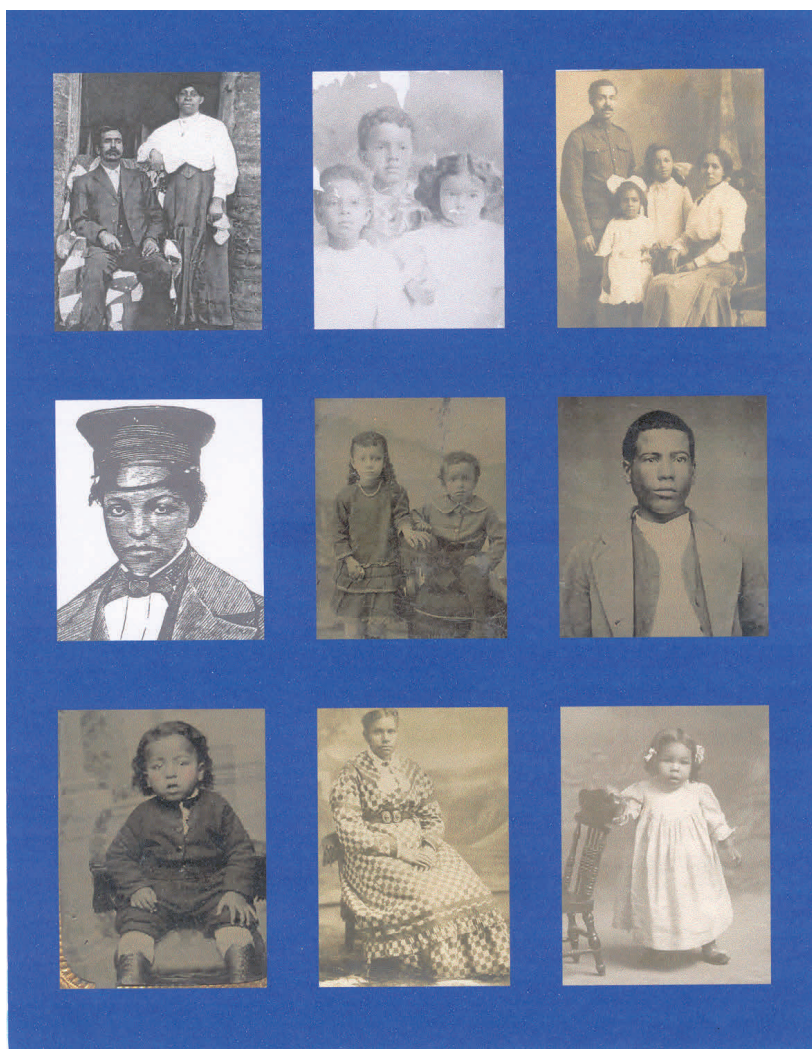
*The Buxton Community was started in 1849.
It gave hope to the people who came to find freedom.*

This is the man
That started the community
That hope built.



Rev. William King started the community of Buxton when he brought his 15 slaves to give them their freedom.

These are the people
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



*Runaway slaves and free people of colour came to
Buxton to find freedom.*

This is the road that the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



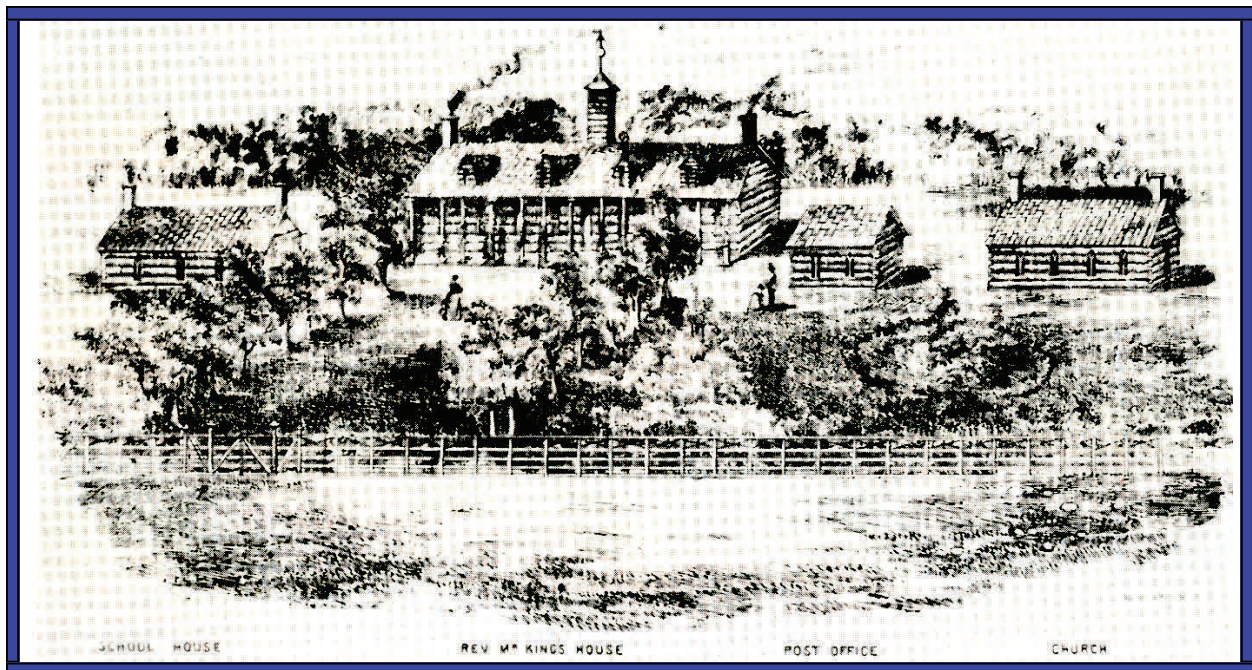
Some of the people that came to Buxton to find freedom came on the Underground Railroad. These people were helped. Many others came on their own. Some were coming to find freedom. Others came to find a better life.

This is the land at the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



The new settlers were able to buy land to start a farm. Many had to go to work first to get the money to pay for the land.

This is the village in the centre of the land
At the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



At the centre of the community stood Rev. King's home. The people built a church, school, post office, pearl ash and potash factory, brickyard, carpenter's shop, grist and saw mill, and a hotel.

This is the cabin beyond the village
In the centre of the land
At the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



There were rules for building the homes in the community. They had to be the right size and have the correct number of rooms. They had to have a porch, a fireplace, and a flower and vegetable garden.

This is a family that lived in a cabin
Beyond the village
In the centre of the land
At the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



Everyone in the family had to help out. There was much work to do. They had to clear the land, plant and harvest the crops, dig the ditches, take care of the animals, prepare the food, and help neighbours when they needed help.

This is the church where the family prayed
That lived in a cabin
Beyond the village
In the centre of the land
At the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



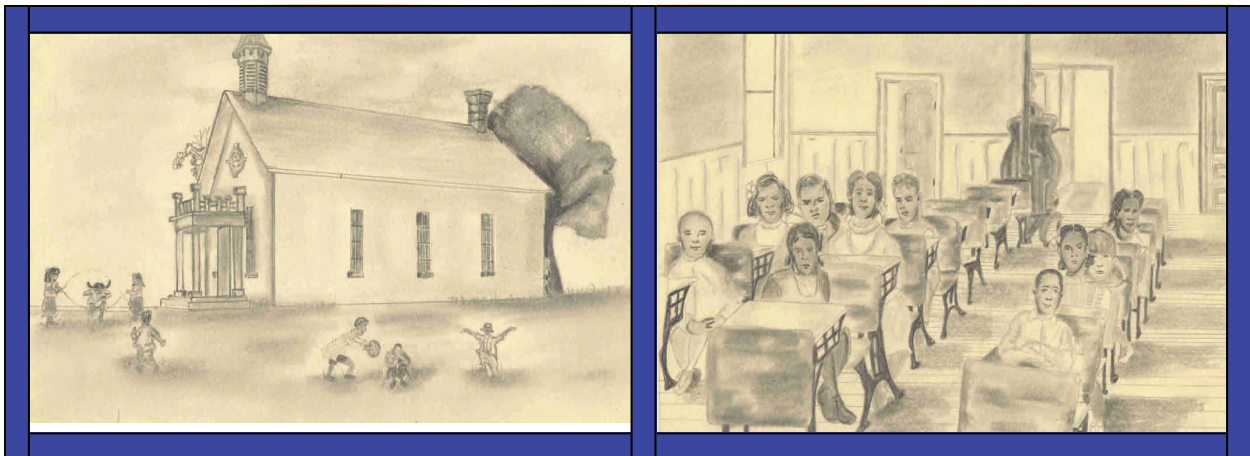
Their faith had been very important to them in slavery. Going to church was still a special time for the people when they reached Buxton. They had a Baptist Church, a Methodist Church, and the Buxton Mission Church.

This is the bell that rang in the church
Where the family prayed
That lived in a cabin
Beyond the village
In the centre of the land
At the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



The bell was a special gift from the people of colour in Pittsburgh in the United States. It was hung first in the mission school and then moved to the church after it was built. It rang every time another person reached freedom in Buxton.

This is the school down the road from the bell
That rang in the church
Where the family prayed
That lived in a cabin
Beyond the village
In the centre of the land
At the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



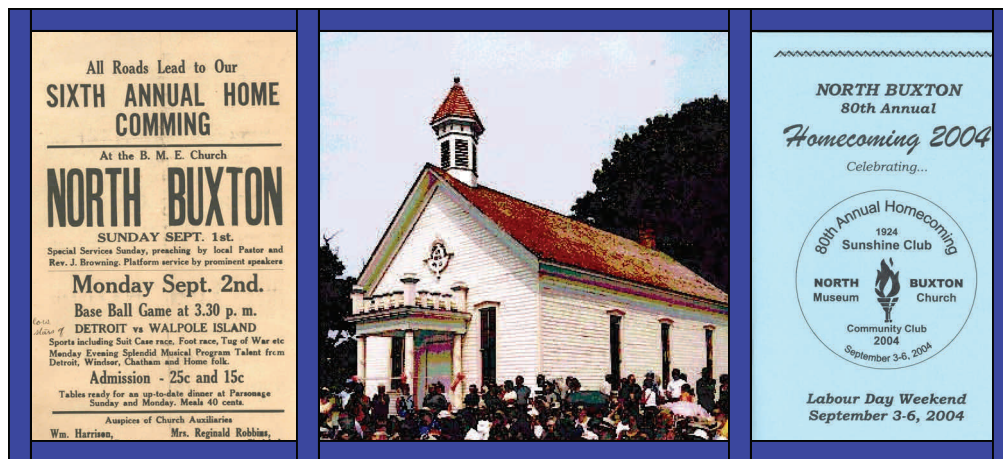
The people who came to Buxton had not been allowed to learn to read or write. Going to school was very important to them in their new community. Buxton was known for its excellent schools. Many people came to Buxton just to go to the Buxton school.

These are the grandchildren of the people who
Went to the school
Down the road from the bell
That rang in the church
Where the family prayed
That lived in a cabin
Beyond the village
In the centre of the land
At the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



Many people left the community after slavery was ended in the United States. The people who stayed in Buxton still farmed the land and went to the churches and schools that their grandparents built. Some of their children left Buxton when they grew up and some stayed in the community.

This is the Homecoming celebration
Of the grandchildren of the people
Who went to the school
Down the road from the bell
That rang in the church
Where the family prayed
That lived in a cabin
Beyond the village
In the centre of the land
At the end of the road
That the people followed
That came to find freedom
That went to the man
That started the community
That hope built.



The Homecoming Celebration started in 1924, and is held on Labour Day weekend every year.

The people who came to Buxton to find freedom,
also found happiness.



The families and friends of the people who have left Buxton come back to visit and celebrate at each Homecoming in The Community That Hope Built.

In Buxton they had
Something to love,
Something to do,
and Something to hope for.



*“The Community That Hope Built”
Was created exclusively for
Buxton National Historic Site & Museum*



In 1999 Buxton celebrated its
150th ANNIVERSARY



*It was also recognized by the Canadian government
as*

THE BUXTON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE