

Town of Essex

HERITAGE WEEK

Essex Centre: 150 Years

Let's celebrate 150 years of settlement in Essex Centre! Colour your way through the monumental buildings, culturally significant locations, and the unique history of our beautiful town.



Essex Train Station

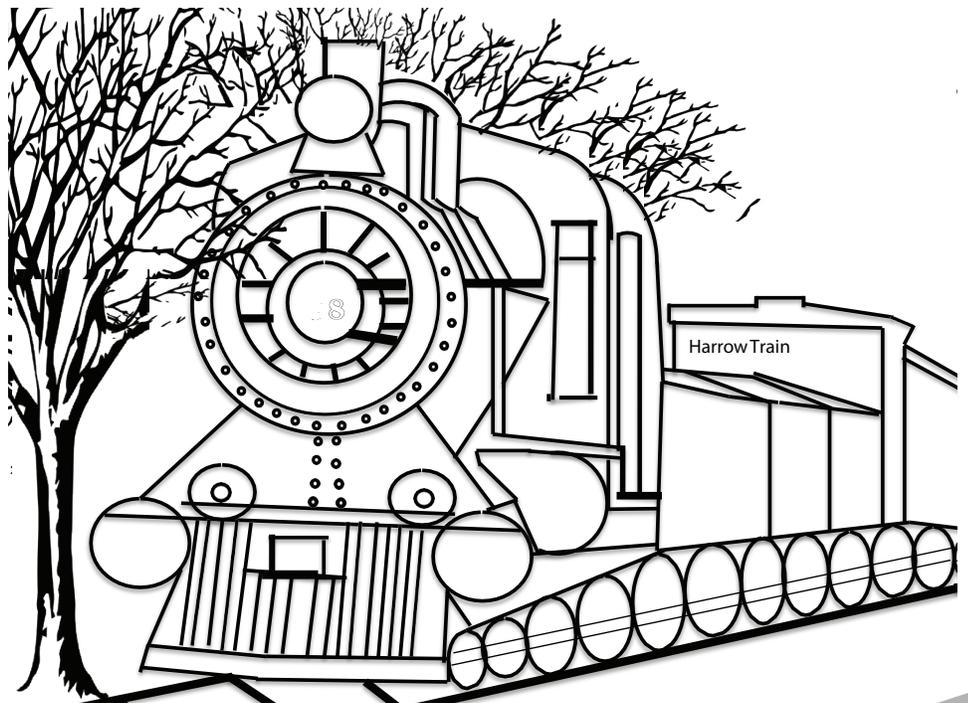
The Station was built in 1887, so that people could get to other towns. In 1907 the Essex Train was carrying dynamite to Amherstburg. When it stopped on the tracks in Essex Centre, the dynamite began to drip onto the tracks and suddenly exploded.

The explosion was so big that it damaged the Essex Train Station and broke nearly every window in town. Luckily the people of Essex came together and re-built the train station and made it look like new again.

Harrow Train

The Harrow Railway was built in 1888 by Mr. Hiram Walker. He built the railway to bring hay, animals and people to Windsor. At the time, riders only had to pay 5 cents to take the train.

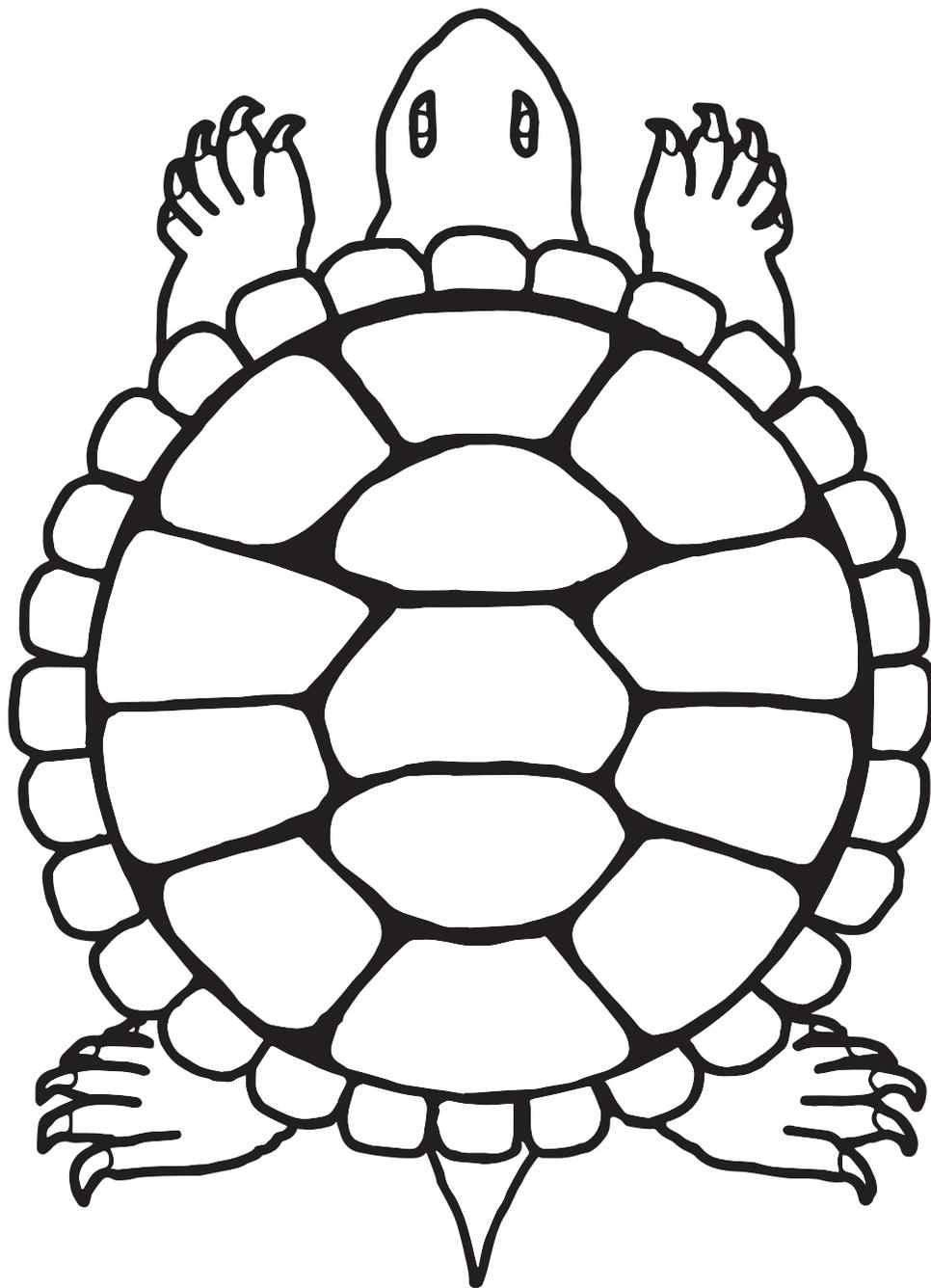
In 1991 the tracks were removed and it is now used as a walking path from Windsor to Leamington.



essex

Turtle Island

The turtle is an important and powerful animal whose symbol is seen in almost every Native American tribe. In fact, the land that is now known as the USA and Canada is frequently referred to by Native American peoples as "Turtle Island" because of the many origin stories involving the turtle. The turtle symbol often represents the Earth, motherhood and Mother Earth. Southwestern images of turtles; such as those seen in Hopi and Navajo artwork, also symbolize water which is an essential element for life in the desert.



Artist Jaxon Anderson

John R Park Homestead

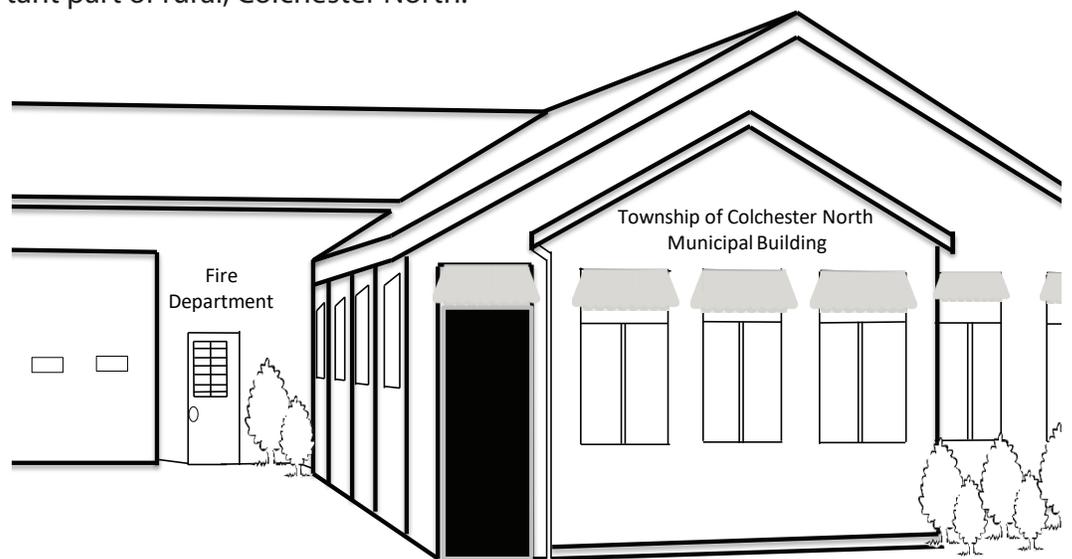
In 1842 John R Park built his homestead for his wife and six children. They had horses, cows, chickens, and pigs. In these days, many people who traveled on Lake Erie stopped at the Homestead to buy animals, grains and wood.



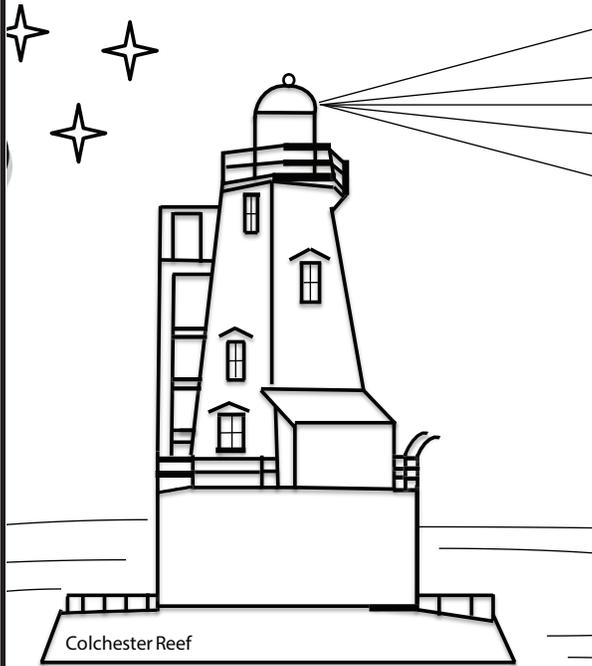
Colchester North Municipal Building

In 1879, Colchester divided into two separate townships, Colchester North and Colchester South. The two were brought together again in 1999 when they were both amalgamated into the Town of Essex. Farming was, and remains an important part of rural, Colchester North.

The Colchester North Municipal Building, which once served as a town hall, is located on County Road 12 (Gesto) and is currently used by the Development Services Department.



Colchester Reef Lighthouse



The Colchester Reef Lighthouse was built in 1885 to warn passing ships about the shallow reef below. The bright light shone on Lake Erie and allowed ships to see where they were going.



Loom The loom was used to make clothing and bedding. Before the wool was woven by hand. The loom was invented in 1804 by a man in England named Jacquard Loom.

St. Clements Roman Catholic Church

St. Clements Roman Catholic Church in McGregor was built in 1903. The original Church was built in 1880, but they had to build a new one when it became too small for the number of churchgoers. The church is 118 years old.



U.N. Rights of a Child
June 2nd

It was agreed way back in the year '59
Since adults have rights I should have mine

U.N.'s 'Rights of a Child' is very long too
To start you off we'll name just a few

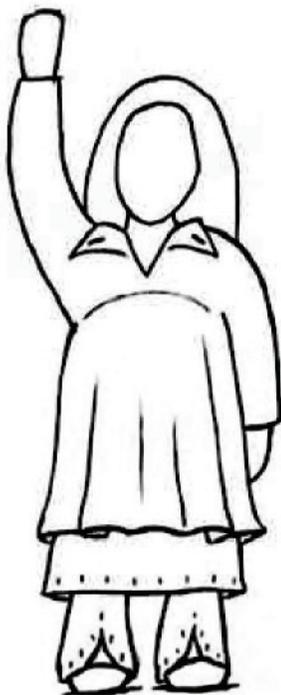
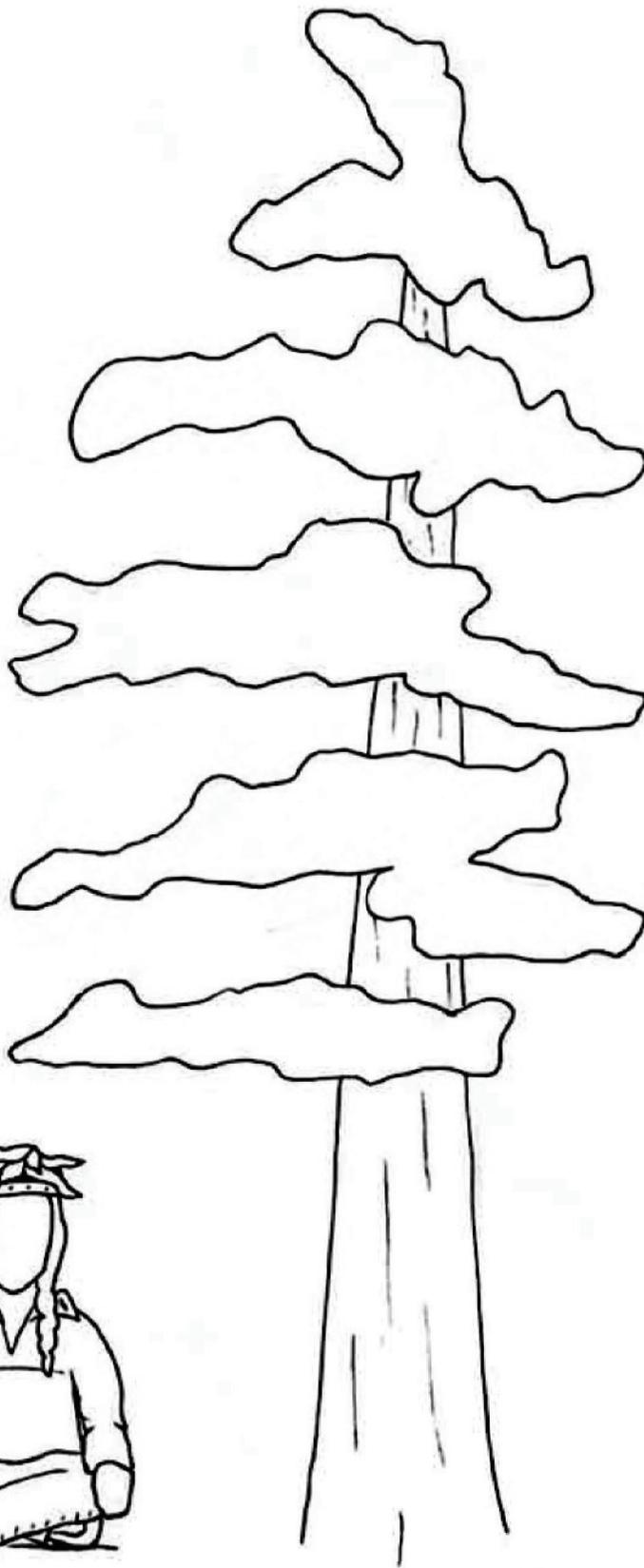
To be safe & to learn, be heard & to play
Be able to grow & have a safe home to stay

Access to health & nutrition for growth
A doctor or dentist? I should have both

I have a right to my name & nation of birth
A right to be free, for my young years on earth

A right to clean air? And water to drink?
If you're polluting the earth
Please stop and think

Each year on June 2nd
We need you to say
'Right of a Child'
On our own special day!

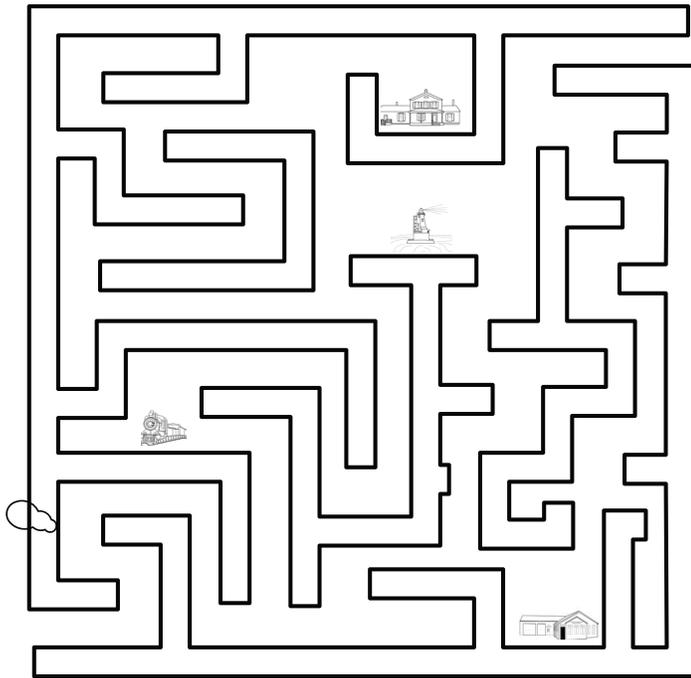
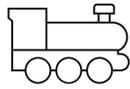


Written by: Elizabeth Doxtater ©

Artist: Summer Hill ©

Direct the Train Through the Town of Essex

Start Here

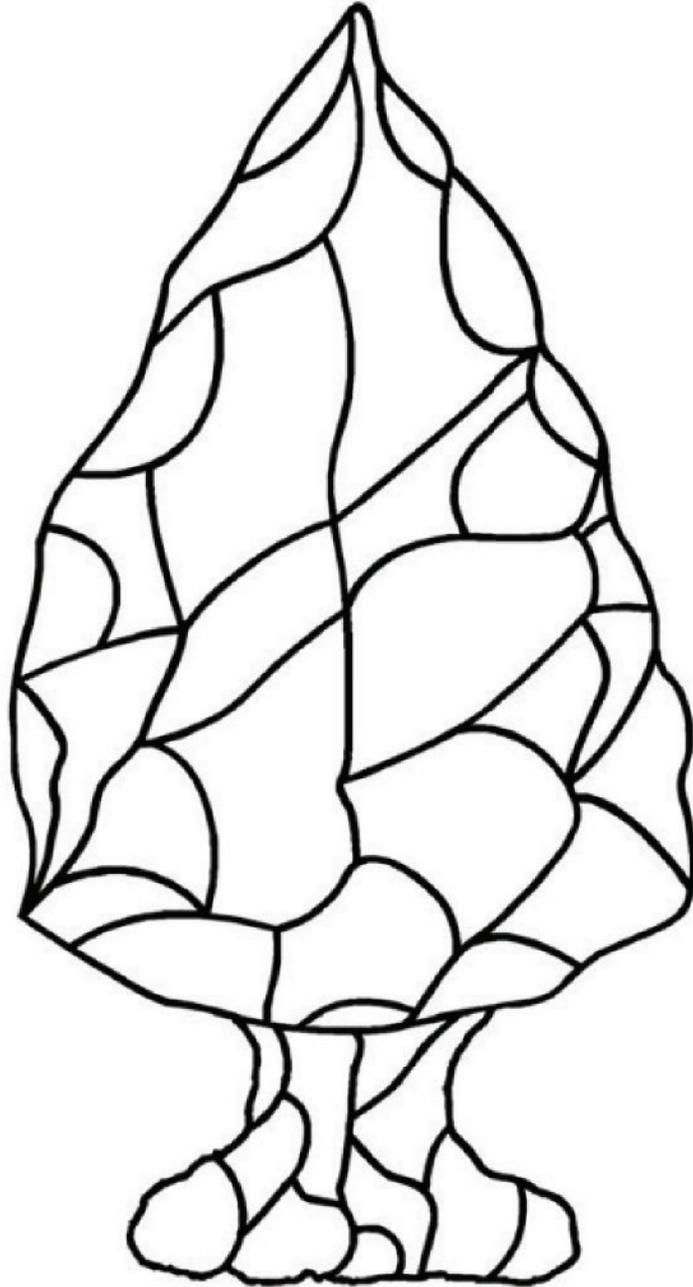


End Here

Word Search

- Essex
- Harrow
- McGregor
- John R Park
- Dynamite
- Train
- Town
- Track
- Ice Cream
- Beach
- Shop
- Tourism

L H G I H A R R O E S S E X H K I E R J S A
 K A J D H D A N F O D M S O V W R H I N V
 K N X H V S I E T O U R I S M O N D O N J V
 T O W N K O W I R U S N A M C M N S D G B
 E J A L S O J D N K S L E O R T U N D M A K
 S J B N F N D M C G R E G O R N N W W Q K
 S I C E C R E A M W L S L C O I M N S H G E
 B E U C B U R Y A H E G S B N K B R E L O
 D Y N A M I T E B S G W Y E H R K S I F U E
 N A B N G J F K R O I E J O H N R P A R K N
 S L V B R I L V N F I V H A L U F V A L K B
 C K J E O C R L U B V L K B N A L N S H O P
 T R A I N W B E V E N V I H V R E B V F K B
 V L K D F N V I L E R B H T R A C K F N R P
 V N E R I V N O U R E T R A I N J B E A C H



Arrow Head

Essex County was once a dense forest that was used as a hunting ground by Indigenous peoples. They used arrowheads made of stone and flint when hunting for food. Arrowheads and other tools have been discovered in farmers' fields.

For Teachers, Parents and Guardians

The Essex Municipal Heritage Committee has developed this colouring book in recognition of Heritage Week and to give local students a chance to learn more about our community's heritage sites and diverse history.

We encourage you to explore these local sites with your class, family, and loved ones.

The Essex Train Station, 87 Station Street, in Essex Centre:

The Train Station is a heritage designated site. In 1907, a box car loaded with 5000 pounds of dynamite exploded just yards from the building. Visit the Station to learn more about how it shaped the community of Essex.

Carnegie Building, 18 Gordon Avenue, in Essex Centre:

The Carnegie building is a designated site. It opened in 1914 and served as the local library for over 100 years.

John R. Park Homestead, 915 County Road 50 East, in Colchester:

The John R. Park Homestead is a designated site. A visit to this living history museum will take you back in time to the 1850s.

Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village (CTMHV), 6155 Arner Townline:

The CTMHV contains one of the finest collections of classic, antique and vintage vehicles in southern Canada. Its heritage village contains a collection of over 20 buildings from the early 1800s, up to the 1930s. For more information visit their website www.ctmhv.com or call (519) 776-6909.

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society (HEIRS), 243 McAfee Street, Harrow Ontario:

Incorporated in 1971, HEIRS specializes in the local history of Harrow and Colchester. Its volunteers are available to assist with research and genealogy projects. For more information visit their website at www.heirs.ca or call (519) 738-3700.

Essex Community Historical Research Society (ECHRS), 18 Gordon Avenue, Essex Centre:

Incorporated in 2006, ECHRS specializes in the local history of Essex Centre. Its volunteers are available to assist with research and genealogy projects. For more information visit their website at www.echrs.org or call (519) 962-9597

For more information regarding our local history please visit our website at www.essex.ca/heritageweek

The logo for the Town of Essex, featuring the word "essex" in a lowercase, white, sans-serif font with a stylized 'x' that has a curved tail.

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