



The Waterlot, known restaurant by outsiders.



Nith River dam, higher then usual.

My Town..... My Community My Identity

Meghan Doherty

Nested within the Region of Waterloo is the growing town of New Hamburg.

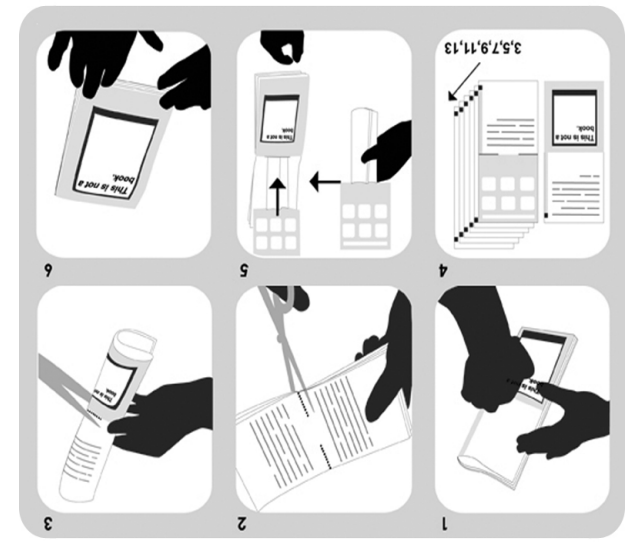


One can physically live in a community, but still not feel like one is a part of the community. The commonality amongst a group of people and a sense of belonging is what really makes a community.



Known for it's massive spring floods.

NH Feed mill, one of the oldest businesses, Police station and where Christmas tree light-up celebration is held.



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My Town..... My Community My Identity Meghan Doherty



This book documents the journey I took walking and driving around my hometown of New Hamburg and is a reflection of my community these past few days. The photos are paths in town I walked on as a child and places that had great meaning to me, as well as others. They are the common places that create bonds between people. Institutions where recreational and leisure activities take place such as sports, restaurants and hangout spots, education and learning such as schools, businesses and places of work, and faith and religious practices such as churches.



The journey starts on my front porch....

... the end of my journey!

This book represents my childhood in this community. Like many others in this town, every place in this community is attached to a personal memory or story. It is a place for meeting up with others and to share things I have in common with them. It, in turn, has formed my own identity. Who I am is a reflection of where I grew up. I am a "small town girl", who grew up in the small town world. This rural town is a community where everyone is linked and tied together in some way. As one grows in the community, the community grows within them.

This is the New Hamburg sign covered in snow, seen by people who pass by our community on the highway.



Nith River that runs through every part of this town, which made it a great starting point for a community.



... back home in my own backyard.

Overlooking the valley and Nith, where New Hamburg's core is located. Also Peterson's hill.



Across the train tracks, the old Grand Trunk Railways, which opened in 1845, lies now one of the three elementary schools in NH.

New Hamburg historical Grand Stand burnt down in 2007. Many activities have been watched from these stands including horse raising, baseball, Mennonite relief sale and fall fairs. Every child in this town has a memory here.



Old Brittany Restaurant and former family home



The old New Hamburg Arena recently replaced.



1860s and local funeral home.



NH has many different religious groups. This is the first and only Catholic church built in the

Fire station - Local art



Downtown core. Local businesses. This is a popular restaurant to the locals. Peel street.



Old Factory still in existence.

It has a rich heritage and is full of interesting history. This is what makes it so unique and ties people to this town. It is growing into a contemporary rural town with new developments and constant changes. New Hamburg is creating its newly formed identity which history will record.





Summer



The Nith River's waterwheel and Mill dam provided power for the first industries that opened in town.

New Hamburg Water Wheel



Huron street down town NH. Hotels were the main businesses for the first century of the community's life, starting in the 1850's. Local transportation consisted of horses.



Local Newspaper, other businesses and apartments keep the town prospering. Formerly Queens Hotel in 1800s.



Local bar or commercial Hotel, Eddly's.