

WAGON CROSSING

43.5129, 72.1334 W

Look at the stream here. Its banks are low on both sides and the stream bed is flat with many small stones. This shallow portion of Skinner Brook is believed to have been the access point from the old Route 10 to the North Grantham Fairgrounds.

Agricultural fairs were popular in the late 19th and early 20th century. A fair was a day in the fall when farmers and 4-H Club members would bring pies, preserves, vegetables, sheep, cattle, horses, and chickens to show and sell with the best earning prizes. Grantham was an agricultural community then with several fairgrounds managed by the Blue Mountain Grange, which was organized

in 1874. In 1947 the Grange purchased 6.5 acres in the middle of what is now Brookside Park and created the North Grantham fairground. The new fairground was used for only a few years. The last known fair occurred in 1951, but the grounds



continued to be used by the Boy Scouts until at least 1962 when a Jamboree was held there. The accompanying pictures, showing the 1951 fair, were provided by the Grantham Historical Society. With the construction of I-89 in 1968 and the disappearance of most of the farms in the community, the fairground fell into disuse.