

GEORGE BLAKER
A MISSISSAUGA OF THE
OJIBWA/CHIPPEWA
ALDERVILLE FIRST NATION RESERVE

George Blaker was born about 1820, very likely attended the Methodist Missionary School which opened in 1826 at Grape Island and would have transferred with the group to the Alderville First Nation Reserve in 1837.

He may also have attended Cobourg College, in Cobourg, later known as Victoria College and then Cobourg University.

In 1854 at the age of 36 and with a family of five, he was accepted on trial by the Methodist Conference of Belleville and assigned to the first of several mission locations to his own people.

This was a hard life; at one point, having been assigned to the Pic River, he and his family were found in very poor physical health, having subsisted on little more than fish for three months during the winter.

In 1866, the Rev, George Blaker and the American Wesleyan Methodists parted company, and he relocated to Alderville where he spent the remainder of his days. The reasons for the separation are not known.

George continued to serve his people on the Reserve acting time and again as secretary, and eventually, as the eldest living member he gave sworn statements to the authorities which were crucial to the claims of the Mississauga relative to their original hunting grounds, and many years later resulting in quite substantial financial settlements for the Alderville First Nation.

He died in 1909 at the age of 89.

There is no marker on his grave.