Gilford circa 1853

Gilford began with the opening of the Northern Railway's station in 1853. The village soon expanded: Thomas Maconchie established a saw mill to process trees uprooted in farmers' land clearance; a Post Office followed in 1854, a Methodist church in 1861 and a school (S.S. #16) in 1868. The Community Hall was built in 1874. At one time there were two dressmakers, a cement contractor, a butter-maker, four hotels and several other mills in the village.





