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TORNADO PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

1. DATE AND TIME *May 31, 1985* *1835 COT*

2. LOCATION OR PATH (attach map) *Stirling, Ont*

3. PATH LENGTH  NOT KNOWN  <1mi;  1-4mi;  5-10mi;  11-50mi;  LENGTH IF >50mi

4. PATH WIDTH *15m* 5. TORNADO PART OF SQUALL LINE?  YES;  NO;  UNKNOWN:

6. ANY UNUSUAL COLORATION?  YES;  NO;  UNKNOWN

7. ANY UNUSUAL SOUND?  YES;  NO;  UNKNOWN

8. IF ANSWER TO 6 OR 7 YES, ELABORATE;  
*6) Yellow-purple 7) loud noise*

9. LIST ANY ASSOCIATED PHENOMENA  
(Such as hail, vivid lightning heavy rain, no rain, etc.)

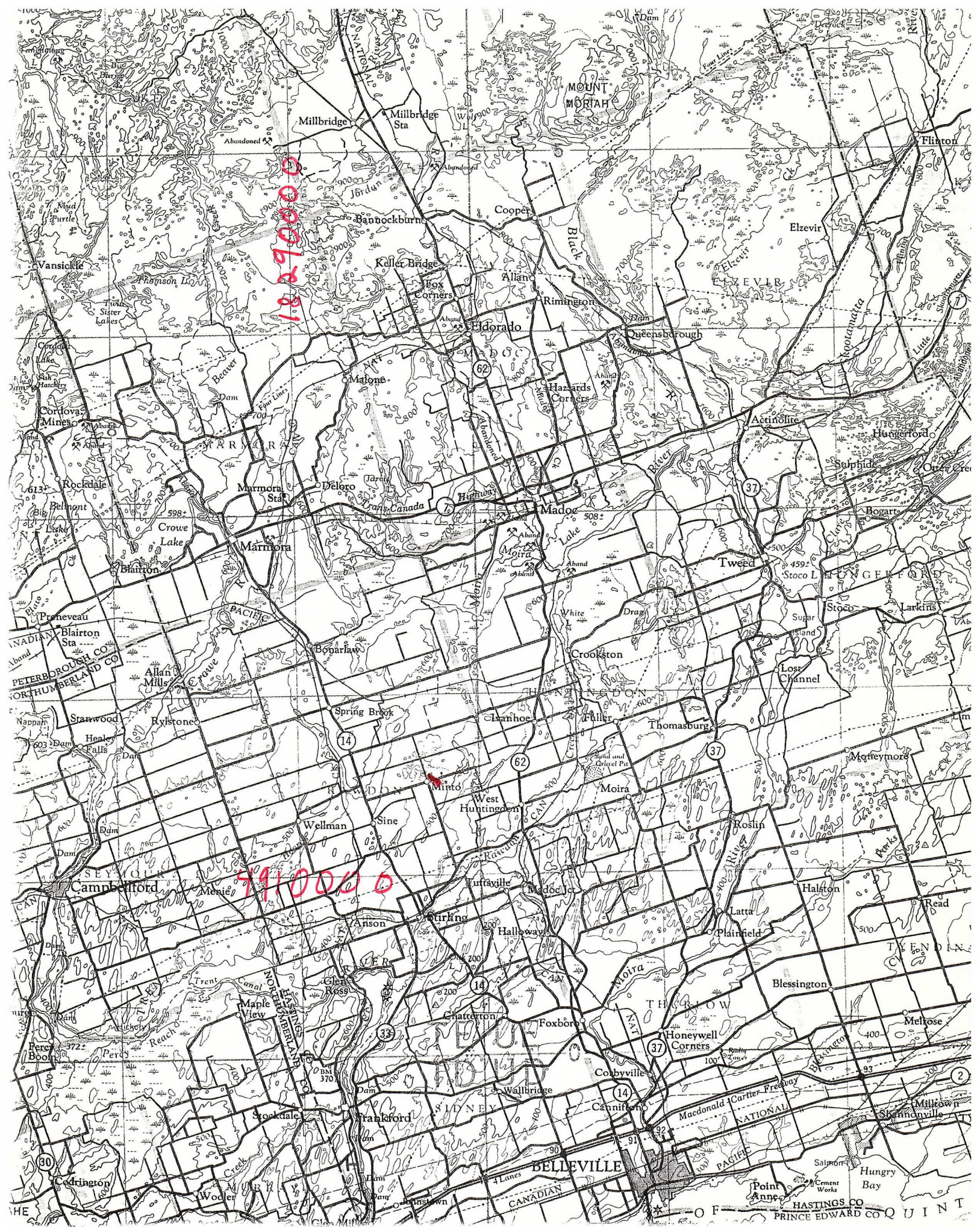
10. TOTAL DAMAGE ESTIMATE *\$ several hundred thousand* 11. TOTAL DEATHS

12. TOTAL INJURED 13. TOTAL HOMELESS

14. LIST ALL REFERENCES  
*1) Tom Woods RR #1 Stirling (613) 395-3611*

15. SUMMARIZE REMARKS PERTAINING TO (a) FUNNEL; (b) INTERESTING OR CAPRICIOUS EVENTS.  
*a) funnel black in colour*  
  
*b) Tom Woods - barn destroyed + house damaged.  
Lot. 6 - Concession 5, Rawdon Township 1/4 mile  
East of RR to*  
  
*T.O. 18297125  
4915300*  
  
*L.O. 18297725  
~~4917880~~  
5050*





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# The Intelligencer

BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1965

Tom Woods RR 1 Stirling  
(613) 395-3611  
Bruce Perrault RR 1 Stirling.

## Quinte district escapes the worst

By PENNY GORDON  
Staff Reporter

The Quinte area all but escaped the brunt of Friday's devastating storms that wreaked havoc on several southcentral Ontario communities.

In Belleville there were blackouts and street-flooding, but no serious incidents.

A twister touched down in the Minto area of Rawdon Township and two barns, belonging to Tom Woods and Bruce Perrault, RR 1, Stirling, were destroyed. Cattle in the Perrault barn are reported trapped and a crane was required to rescue them. An old house in the area was also reported damaged.

Meanwhile, the storm front, which spawned tornados, torrential rains and gale-force winds as it moved east across the province, passed north of the Quinte area with heavy wind damage also reported in Haliburton and areas north of Bancroft.

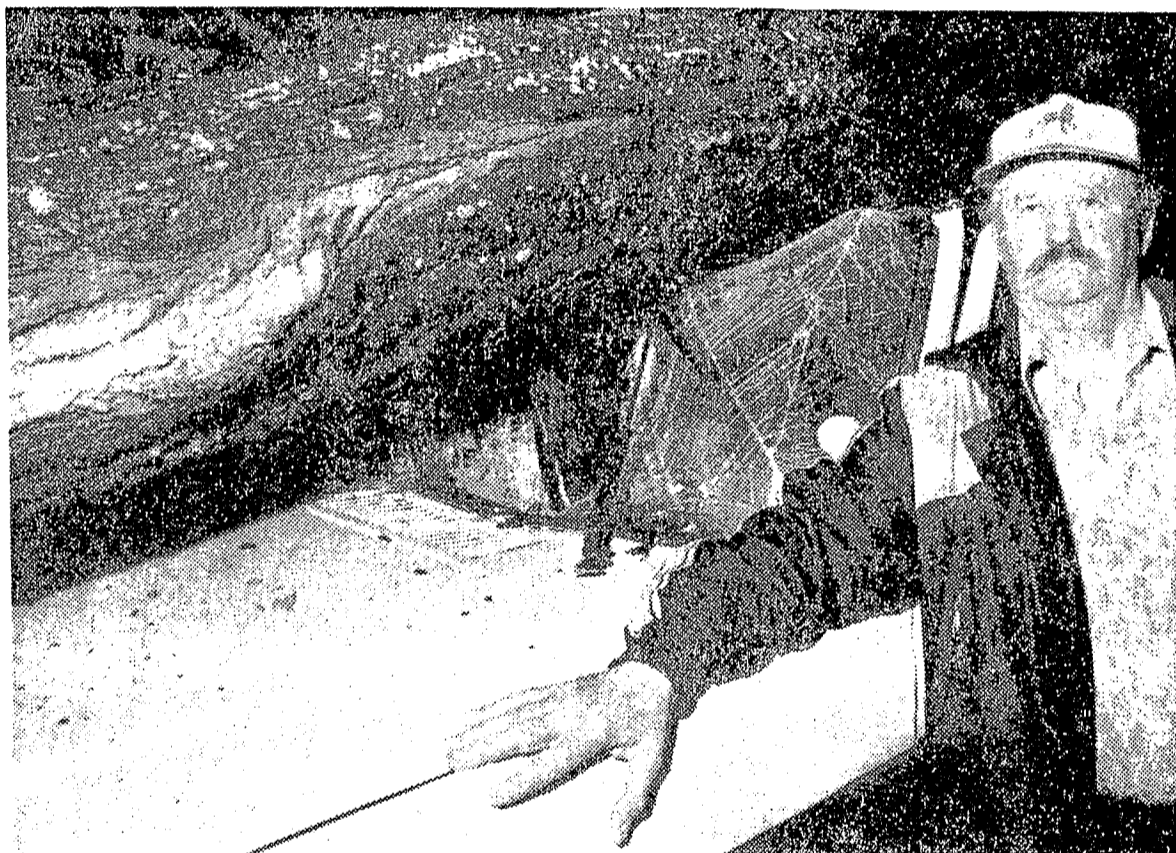
Power and communication lines were interrupted throughout the storm, creating confusion in some areas. At one point, the Bancroft and Apsley detachments of the OPP were looking for a plane reported missing in the Harcourt area, west of Bancroft.

Search and rescue at CFB Trenton later revealed the pilot had merely failed to file a flight plan and was at home.

The weather office at CFB Trenton reported a record 39.8 mm of rain fell in a short time, breaking the previous one-day record of 31 mm in 1950. Winds gusted to 70 kph locally.

At the height of the storm, an Oshawa man narrowly escaped injury at the Quinte Raceway. Russell Merrill and his wife were shaken, but unharmed when a tree fell, crushing the roof of the truck they were sitting in.

There were temporary power outages throughout the city as wind knocked down hydro lines. Storm sewers were reported backed up in



Shaken but safe, Russell Merrill stands beside the pick-up truck in which minutes before he had been sitting with his wife June when a large tree, struck by lightning, crashed onto the vehicle, virtually

crushing its cab. Husband and wife both escaped without serious injury but were badly shaken. They had been at the Quinte Exhibition Raceway and were preparing to leave when the incident occurred as

they were parked between stables and track. Last night's racing was cancelled because of storm.

(Photo: Bill Whitelaw)

several areas, but city engineer Joe Angelo said there were no major back-ups. Those that did occur were handled by public works crews.

The heavy rain caused flooding on many roads, but there were no storm-related traffic accidents reported in the Quinte area.

In Belleville, a few trees were

blown over by the wind and branches littered lawns and roads. Several trees were reported down in the Tweed-Madoc area.

However, no storm damage was reported in Brighton and Picton. OPP also reported no damage, with little impact felt in Prince Edward County. The storm moved northeast and virtually missed the county.

The Quinte area started to feel effects of the storm around 4 p.m. when much of eastern Ontario plunged into darkness after Ontario Hydro's Bruce generating station went out as the storm already southwest Ontario. Rotating hydro blackouts resulted, lasting from minutes to an hour in most localities.



Splintered planks of wood are all that remain of an RR 1, Stirling, barn owned by Tom Woods after a twister touched down Friday night. The twister destroyed the barn, damaged a house and trailer at a house next door and then travelled across Concession 6 of Rawdon Township to destroy a

barn owned by Bruce Perrault. The twister resulted from a storm front that moved through much of southern and central Ontario during the day, leaving a trail of destruction. The Quinte area was virtually untouched by the storm except for the small twister's damage in the Minto area.

### *Near Stirling*

## Barn beams snapped by force of twister

By PENNY GORDON  
Staff Reporter

MINTO - Brenda Perrault watched in horror Friday night as the housing over her well—about 50 metres from her home—exploded.

All that remained was a battered tin roof several metres from the well and splinters of wood scattered over about half a hectare of land.

Within three minutes a 75-year-old barn located about 100 metres from the side of the house was flattened—huge beams snapped like matchsticks, she said.

A twister had struck.

Spawned from a storm front that ravaged communities in Ontario as it passed through, the big blow destroyed two barns near Stirling

and also damaged a house, a car and a trailer.

Perrault was alone in the house when the twister hit. She watched as dirt and wood and debris filled the air.

"I don't think people comprehend the force of nature," she said Saturday.

Luckily, the lower area of the barn where the stalls were located was untouched. The Perraults had just taken possession of a herd of purebred Red Angus cattle. On Saturday morning neighbors were on hand to shift some of the huge beams and debris to free the cows.

Watching the storm strike, said Perrault, was "incredible. It was over in a few minutes, leaving a trail of destruction and several hundred thousand dollars of estimated damage.

When Perrault and her husband went into the barn to survey the damage later, they found a litter of baby kittens "huddled against the wall".

The other barn, belonging to Tom Woods, was located about a kilometre east on Concession 6 of Rawdon Township. There, the twister had torn the barn apart, leaving a few splintered planks upright on the foundation. Immediately west of the barn, the home of Linda Campbell was damaged.

A tree a few metres in front of the house snapped off and landed about 100 metres away. Woods' car was damaged and a trailer was lifted in the air and dropped hundreds of metres away.

However, noted Campbell, a hockey stick just outside the house, was untouched, although parts of the house had ripped off like paper and a wheel on a child's bicycle had been torn off in the wind.

Nearby dog cages for the Campbell's sled dogs were untouched—the dogs unharmed.

Today, the three families are still cleaning up.

### *70 Apsley homes still without hydro*

BANCROFT - About 70 homes in the Apsley area are still without electricity today after Friday's storm knocked out power over an extensive area in North Hastings.

"At one point 7,000 customers in the Bancroft area were affected," says Norm Manning of the Ontario Hydro regional office.

The Bancroft area covers communities from Maynooth to Apsley to MacArthur's Mills and south of Bancroft.

The storm, says Manning, "just devastated" the Hydro's distribution system. Power outages were reported throughout the whole region, with the worst in the Bancroft area, he noted.

Damage was so extensive that crews worked all weekend to try and restore power in the North Hastings area. Additional help was brought in from Brockville and Ottawa.

Some of the areas affected, says Manning, are remote and involve lines that run across country.

BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO, MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1985

# The Intelligencer