



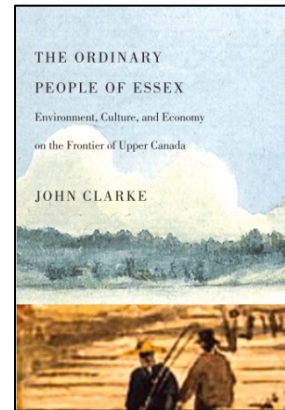
Author of Study of Agricultural Practices and Land Use in Early Canada Recognized with Heritage Award

OHS J. J. Talman Award presented June 14, 2014
O'Connor House, North York, Ontario

For Immediate Release

In 1967, The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) established an awards program to recognize individuals, organizations, corporations, and authors who have contributed significantly to the preservation and promotion of Ontario's heritage.

Dr. Ian Radforth, Chair of the Honours and Awards Committee of the OHS, is pleased to announce that the 2013 J. J. Talman Award, which recognizes the best book on Ontario's social, economic, political, or cultural history published in the past three years, was awarded to John Clarke for his study [The Ordinary People of Essex: Environment, Culture, and Economy on the Frontier of Upper Canada](#) (McGill-Queen's University Press).



[The Ordinary People of Essex](#) is a superb analysis of how Ontario's nineteenth-century settlers were actors pursuing individual, family, and culturally determined scripts in their interaction with the environment, culture, and economy. Clarke deftly uses a dizzying array of source material – including census returns, family histories, and government records – to demonstrate both that local conditions had a profound impact on how frontier society in Upper Canada developed and that the culture of this society was far from static.



The study is an exceptionally thorough history that will be hard to surpass not only for its content, but also for its contribution to our knowledge of the social, economic, and political history of Upper Canada's frontier society.

The award was presented at the annual meeting of The Ontario Historical Society at the historic O'Connor House in North York.

John Clarke is a Distinguished Research Professor at Carleton University and a recent recipient of the Canadian Association of Geographers' award for service to Ontario geography.

Founded in 1888, The Ontario Historical Society is a non-profit corporation and registered charity dedicated to increasing an appreciation of Ontario's history and preserving its heritage for people of all ages and cultural backgrounds. To learn more about the OHS's Honours and Awards, or to submit a nomination, please visit www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/awards or contact the Society's offices by telephone or e-mail.

The Ontario Historical Society

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McGill-Queen's University Press

[The Ordinary People of Essex](http://www.mqup.ca)
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