

# OHS BULLETIN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ISSUE 197

DECEMBER 2015

## OLD DURHAM ROAD PIONEER CEMETERY REACHES MILESTONE ACHIEVEMENT

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ELIZABETH DOWDESWELL  
ON HAND FOR HISTORIC PAVILION DEDICATION



Photo - Rob Levery

Seen here at the pavilion dedication ceremony, from left to right, are: Donna Atkinson (Ontario Trillium Foundation); Brenda Miller (descendant and secretary of the ODRPCC); Helen Miller (descendant); the Honourable Jean Augustine (former Fairness Commissioner of Ontario); Lt. Governor of Ontario; Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Amber MacKinnon (daughter of the late Les MacKinnon; first president of the ODRPCC and long-time OHS member).

**Daniel Dishaw**

Communications & Outreach Coordinator

Ontario Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell was on hand for the dedication of a beautiful new pavilion designed to honour the resting place of Old Durham Road's 19th century Black pioneers. The cemetery served as the first burial ground for non-native settlers to the area—who began arriving in large numbers by 1849, immediately after Durham Road was surveyed and divided into 50-acre lots. Many of these pioneers arrived in the Canadian countryside seeking freedom from slavery in the United States. It is believed that the grounds were used for burials up until the 1880s.

After falling into disrepair in the late 19th century, the cemetery was abandoned. Ploughed over to make room for potato crops in the 1930s,

'OLD DURHAM ROAD CEMETERY' CONTINUED ON PAGE 4...

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## THE OHS IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEW PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

FREE CONSULTATION TO CREATE YOUR OHS LEGACY  
THROUGH A TAX-EFFICIENT PLAN



The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) is pleased to announce our new Planned Giving Program. Through this program, OHS members across the province can plan their financial futures with the assistance of industry experts, building in donations or bequests to the OHS, if they are felt to be appropriate.

As an OHS member, you already understand the Society's important work. Now you have an opportunity to support that work and receive professional personal financial guidance, through our new Planned Giving Program. With the support of two Sun Life Financial advisors, Aviva Huberman and Andrew Sheppard, you can join our efforts to preserve and respect Ontario's history in a manner that makes financial sense for you. Our program partners will help you devise the planned giving mechanism that's right for you—both in your lifetime and beyond.

Aviva, Andrew, and their team will help you build a financial plan to ensure that your own financial interests are respected, and OHS contributions are considered. These financial plans would otherwise cost approximately \$5,000 to complete. However, through this program, we are offering this service to OHS members for free, with the understanding that if it is determined that donating is in your best financial interest, the OHS will be part of that plan.

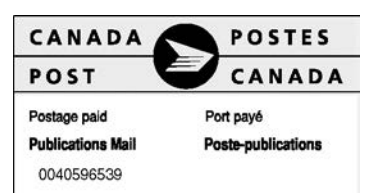
### About Our Planned Giving Program Partners:

Aviva Huberman is a long-time OHS member. Educated in art history, and experienced as a historical interpreter and guide at both Black Creek Pioneer Village and the Gibson House Museum, she fully appreciates the OHS's role in sustaining Ontario's history. As a financial advisor with Sun Life Financial, Aviva brings together her two worlds for the benefit of both the OHS and its supporters. Aviva is a public speaker and has been the recipient of numerous awards that recognize her contributions to financial services. Aviva currently sits on the Board of Advocis, The Financial Advisors Association of Canada, Toronto Chapter, as the Chair of Advocacy.

Andrew Sheppard, President of Sheppard Financial Services Inc., is a highly successful financial advisor with Sun Life Financial, and a Top of the Table member of the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT). With his office in Toronto's historic Flatiron Building, Andrew's clients benefit from his expertise in tax-efficient wealth strategies and holistic planning. Andrew dedicates much of his focus toward philanthropy.

'PLANNED GIVING' CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...

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PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Joe Stafford, President  
president@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca

With this report I would like to provide an update on some of the Ontario Historical Society’s (OHS) recent activities and initiatives dedicated to stimulating the heritage sector within our province.

It is of great importance to continue our efforts to promote the educational initiatives of the OHS if we wish to appeal to Ontario youth. The Student Publishing Program, with its two goals of promoting the study of local history in Ontario high schools and encouraging students to become involved in the OHS, is now posted on our website. School boards from across the province have been contacted, and the program will be piloted in a select number of schools in January 2016. We will be asking the teachers involved to provide us with feedback to ensure that we are offering the best program possible. For more information, please visit the Programs section of our website.

Secondly, we are thrilled to be welcoming two new groups into the OHS family. Our Board of Directors recently approved their applications for incorporation, so please join me in welcoming the Buddies of the Brill (BOTB) and the Thunder Bay Railway Historical Society (TBRHS). The purpose of the BOTB is to bring together persons committed to the preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, and display of transit objects related to the City of Thunder Bay and the former cities of Port Arthur, Ontario, and Fort William, Ontario. Their objective is to establish a permanent display of two restored Brill Trolley buses, one in the livery colours of Port Arthur and the other in the colours of Fort William with related artifacts. The TBRHS was formed to advance education by improving the public’s understanding and awareness of railway history in the region. They will also seek to acquire and protect railway assets in the region. Congratulations to both groups on your recent incorporation, and thank you for all of your hard work and dedication in preserving Ontario’s culture and heritage.

On that note, I would like to discuss the Society’s involvement in the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport’s (MTCS) first Culture Strategy for Ontario. The Ministry’s objective is to establish a vision for culture across the province, and they asked that Ontarians submit their own suggestions for a Culture Strategy by December 7, 2015. The MTCS held eleven town hall meetings to facilitate community discussion. Not only did the OHS submit its own list of recommendations to the Ministry, we were also well represented by Board Members and staff at several of the town hall meetings. I personally attended the Kingston meeting, while our Executive Director, Rob Levery, shared his thoughts at the Markham meeting. The Society also circulated a high-priority press release in October to inform our membership of the opportunity to participate and have their voices heard. As always, we are working tirelessly to promote and protect Ontario’s diverse heritage.

I would like to congratulate OHS Past President Brian Osborne on receiving the 2015 Massey Medal—the Royal Canadian Geographical Society’s (RCGS) annual award recognizing outstanding career achievements in the exploration, development, or description of the geography of Canada. After a long, celebrated career as a teacher, scholar, and dedicated heritage volunteer, Brian has earned the respect of his colleagues and friends from across the province. Congratulations, Brian!

Finally, I am very pleased to announce that long-time OHS member and volunteer John Rae has recently received the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act’s 10th Anniversary Champion Award. This one-time award recognizes outstanding individuals who demonstrate leadership, passion, and commitment in the promotion of accessibility and inclusiveness in their community. For many years, John has worked tirelessly to promote best practices in accessibility and inclusion within Ontario’s diverse heritage community. As an OHS volunteer, John has led a series of workshops, webinars, tours, and discussions to help keep our membership informed about the changing landscape in Ontario’s accessibility services and programming. John has also written a seven-part annual series for the *OHS Bulletin* entitled “Access Beyond the Ramp,” where he writes about accessibility challenges, and successes, in the Ontario heritage sector. Congratulations, John!



Photo - Lisa Hunter

John Rae visiting the Westfield Heritage Village in 2013.

“ I believe in promoting increased access to our museums, art galleries, and heritage properties across the province. Full inclusion involves being able to participate fully as volunteers, patrons, and staff. ”

–John Rae

In closing, on behalf of the entire executive of the OHS, I would like to thank all of our members, volunteers, and affiliated organizations for their relentless efforts to preserve, defend, and promote the heritage of Ontario.

...‘PLANNED GIVING’ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Create an OHS Legacy That’s Tax Efficient

Take advantage of this new opportunity to both give and receive. There are multiple donation structures, and this program will help you implement the one that works to your financial advantage.

For further information, please contact Aviva at aviva.huberman@sunlife.com or 416-366-8771 x 2375.

WELCOME  
NEW MEMBERS

Since  
September 2015

- Arthur Colussi
- Peter Okonski
- Rod Millard
- Janet Batchelor
- Heather Lavallee
- Terry Alderson
- Richard L. Hess
- Buddies of the Brill
- Thunder Bay Railway Historical Society

THANK YOU  
DONORS!

- Linda Ambrose
- Rosemary Ambrose
- Robert & Virginia Atkins
- Janet Batchelor
- Jean Cochrane
- Paul R. King
- W.A. (Dale) Wilson
- Joan Miles
- Rod Millard
- Gabriele Scardellato
- Joy Davis
- Allan Sherwin
- Glenn Wright
- Pleasance & Charles Crawford
- Helen & Aarne Juhola
- Robert Banks
- Alan Shiels
- Brian Winter
- David & Janet Bumstead



Photo - Rob Levery

The OHS attended the AGM of the Friends of Auchmar at the Scottish Rite, Hamilton, October 29, 2015. The Friends of Auchmar were incorporated through affiliation with the OHS in October 2012. Pictured here are (left to right:) Robin McKee, Vice Chair, Friends of Auchmar; Diane Gower Dent, Chair, Friends of Auchmar; and Alexander Temporale, Principal, ATA Architects Inc., who gave the keynote address entitled “Adaptive-Reuse of the Bell-Gairdner Estate Mississauga—Reclaiming The Past!”. This presentation demonstrated how the Adaptive-Reuse of the Bell-Gairdner Estate, owned by the City of Mississauga, could serve as a precedent for the Adaptive-Reuse of the Auchmar Estate, and ensure that the Auchmar Estate remains in public ownership of the City of Hamilton.



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Rob Leverty**, Executive Director  
rleverty@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca

First of all, I want to thank all of you who have supported OHS in so many different ways in 2015. Thank you for renewing your membership to the Society, for your subscription to *Ontario History*, for your financial donations, and to the volunteers for your donated time and expertise.

This year our volunteers have already donated over 10,000 hours of service in support of OHS.

As many of you know, the Society's provincial funding was dramatically reduced in 1996 and its annual core operating grant has been frozen ever since, so we depend on your support.

In the last number of years, the Society has also benefitted from the incredible generosity of our former members. The late Dr. Jean Burnet bequeathed \$25,000 to the OHS Cemetery Defence Fund, and many of her books to the OHS Library.

In 2012, we were informed that the Last Testament and Will of long-time member Helen Marie Smibert had gifted to the Society a legacy of shares valued at \$20,755. The family of the late Dr. Jane Irwin donated a valuable collection of books. In late 2013, the Estate of Ruth E. Day gave over \$100,000 to the Society for its work in Northern Ontario.

This year the Estate of Mary Carmelina Campanella left a bequest of \$2,000 and a "Knight in Suit of Armour." The latter is now strategically located in the entrance hall of the John McKenzie House and is doing an admirable job as our new night watchman.

The OHS has no debts or liabilities; however, the Society does depend more and more on the income and dividends from all of these bequests. For example, income from the Ruth E. Day Northern Ontario Fund helps to offset some of our expenses serving members in Northern Ontario. I can assure you that this is deeply appreciated.

The OHS did not actively encourage any of these remarkable and timely gifts. In fact, in the last 127 years, the Society has never had a planned giving program, as many other charities do.

A few years ago, Aviva Huberman, a financial advisor at Sun Life Financial, invited me for breakfast. Aviva is also a long-time OHS member and subscriber to *Ontario History*. We talked about the need to plan for the OHS' financial future so that the Society could better serve, in the coming decades, its expanding grassroots membership across Ontario.

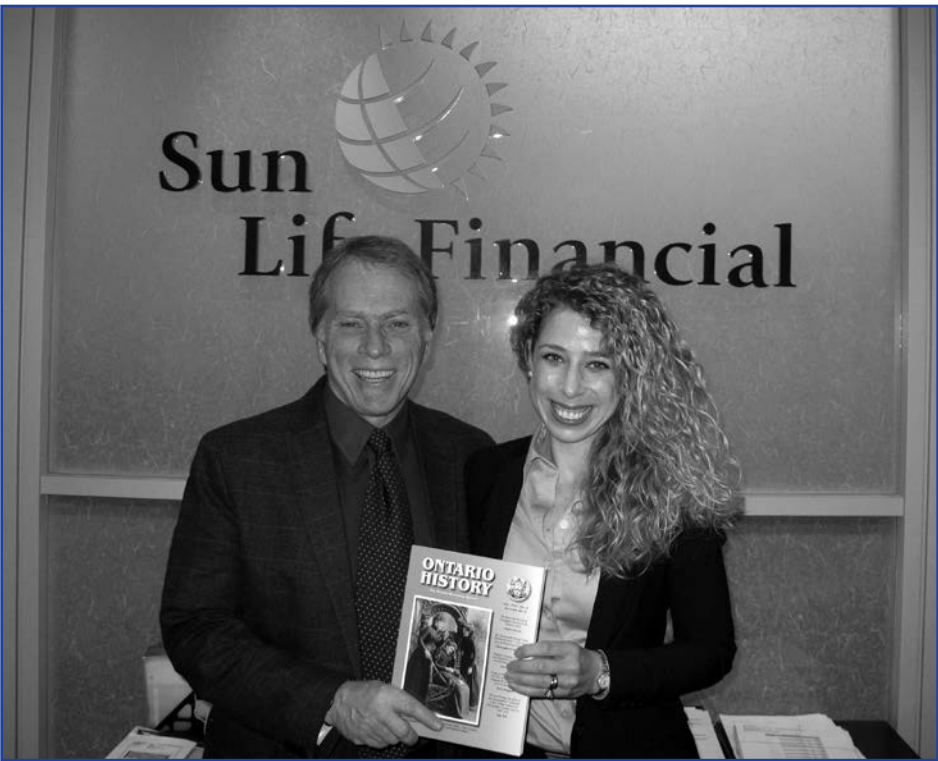


Photo - Tyler Delmore

OHS Executive Director, Rob Leverty, poses for a photo with Aviva Huberman, Financial Advisor at Sun Life Financial, our new Planned Giving Program partner. For more details on the program, please contact Aviva at [aviva.huberman@sunlife.com](mailto:aviva.huberman@sunlife.com) or 416-366-8771 x 2375.

I have always been impressed by Aviva's passion for history, which also runs in her family. I often ask about her father Marvin, who now has a private law practice. From 1995 to 1997, Marvin Huberman was one of three Provincial Hearing Officers on the Tribunal that heard the OHS and the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) appeal against the Province of Ontario's order to relocate the Clendennen Cemetery in Markham for private real estate development. In a historic decision released in 1999, the Tribunal ruled unanimously that the OHS and the OGS represented the *public interest* and that the cemetery should remain in its original location.

After many other meetings and discussions with Aviva, her colleague Andrew Sheppard, OHS Past President Brad Rudachyk, and OHS Treasurer Bob Leech—including a presentation to the OHS Board of Directors—the new OHS/Sun Life Financial Planned Giving Program has been approved.

Sun Life Financial is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. It has a long and distinguished history in estate and financial planning services. Sun Life continues to focus on helping Canadians achieve lifetime financial security. A strong, effective, and democratic voice for Ontario's history in the 21st century also needs a solid, secure, and independent financial foundation.

It remains a great honour and an incredible privilege to work on your behalf. Thanks for your encouragement and support. My best wishes and good health to you in 2016!

# NOMINATE EXCELLENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY WITH OHS HONOURS AND AWARDS

THE OHS WILL  
BE ACCEPTING  
NOMINATIONS FOR  
ITS 2015



HONOURS  
AND AWARDS  
PROGRAM UNTIL  
JANUARY 15

Do you know of a volunteer or professional working tirelessly to preserve and promote your local history?

Are you inspired by an excellent program, service, or exhibit offered by a local heritage organization, museum, or other institution?

Have you recently come across a book on Ontario's history that stands above the rest?

Recognize excellence in your heritage community today. Visit [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/awards](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/awards) or call 1.866.955.2755 to learn how.



Photo - Daniel Dishaw

On October 2, the OHS welcomed a team of volunteers from Deloitte to our headquarters in the John McKenzie House in Willowdale. Deloitte has been volunteering with the OHS for several years now as part of their Impact Day program. With their help, the historic Coach House of the John McKenzie House received a fresh coat of paint. Thank you, Deloitte! Pictured above (from left to right) are Basil Al-Azem, John M. Kim, Shelley He, Elisse Basque, and Heather Anderson of the OHS.



## CEMETERY NEWS

**Marjorie Stuart**, Column Editor  
marjstuart@sympatico.ca

The Historic Banwell Road Black Cemetery, sometimes known as “Smith Cemetery,” has received provincial heritage designation. The cemetery is located in an area once known as the Banwell Road Settlement in Sandwich South Township, now Town of Tecumseh, in Essex County. The area was settled in the 1820s as Black Americans moved north across the border to escape slavery in the United States. Five gravestones mark the burial site, but it is estimated that there were approximately 100 graves in this cemetery. In 1850, the trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of the Town of Sandwich purchased 200 acres of this land. Five acres were set aside for a church and cemetery. Washington Smith, who was active in the community, fought in the 1837 Rebellion. George Morris and William Jones were listed as Black militia men serving in Caldwell’s Rangers in 1837. They are believed to be interred there along with James F. Ross, who died in 1908. The Ontario heritage plaque marks the burial ground, but also tells the story of the courage and dedication of those that fled the United States and settled in the area.

The Town of Clearwater voted unanimously to designate Bethel Union Cemetery for its cultural and historical significance under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The cemetery is located in former Sunnidale Township, Simcoe County. Some of the first settlers of the community, known as Silver Shoe Settlement, were Black. They too were former slaves, or the descendants of slaves, who arrived in Upper Canada via the Underground Railroad. They settled in well and quickly established themselves within the community. The exact date of establishment of the Silver Shoe Burial Ground is not known. In 1885, the cemetery became a part of Sunnidale Union Cemetery. In 1997, the name was changed to Bethel Union Cemetery to avoid confusion with nearby Sunnidale Pioneer Cemetery. The Silver

Shoe Historical Society has worked tirelessly with the Township to maintain the cemetery for nearly twenty years. Bethel Union Cemetery is unique—it was an interracial, multicultural, and non-denominational cemetery from its inception in a time when cemeteries were often “unofficially” segregated. The descendants of the Black Canadians who settled in the Silver Shoe Settlement are proud of their roots and their contributions to the community and they strive to preserve this important part of Canadian history. The Silver Shoe Historical Society incorporated through affiliation with the OHS in 2007.



Photo - Rob Leverty

Several members of the Silvershoe Historical Society (SSHS) flank their Founder and Executive Director, Janie Cooper-Wilson (standing fourth from the right), following their Deputation to Clearview Township Council, in Stayner, on October 26, 2015. Congratulations to Clearview’s new Mayor, Christopher Vanderkruz, and his Council for their milestone decision to designate Bethel Union Pioneer Cemetery (aka Sunnidale Union Cemetery) as a historical site of provincial significance. OHS Executive Director, Robert Leverty, was on hand to deliver his endorsement of the SSHS Application. The SSHS began the restoration of this cemetery in 1997, and has hosted a Memorial Candlelight Service, annually for the last 18 years.

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE OHS CEMETERY DEFENCE FUND

THE OHS IS COMMITTED TO DEFENDING THREATENED CEMETERIES  
ACROSS THE PROVINCE, BUT WE CAN’T DO IT ALONE.  
ALL DONORS WILL RECEIVE A CHARITABLE TAX RECEIPT

...‘OLD DURHAM ROAD CEMETERY’ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the significance of the landscape would go unacknowledged for over half a century until a group of local citizens took notice in 1989. The group conducted a thorough search of the area and found only four headstones in a rock pile in a field to the north. The headstones belonged to: James Washington, who died at the age of 42 in 1856; Christopher Simons, who died at the age of 18 in 1854; James Handy, who died at the age of 95 in 1863; and Ellen Handy, who died at the age of 16 in 1856. When the community group realized the significance of the site, they formed a committee, the Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee (ODRPCC), and set out to protect the area by registering the cemetery with the Ontario government. The committee then began making arrangements to have the landowner transfer possession of the property to the former Township of Artemesia, now part of Grey Highlands. Once the ownership was transferred, the ODRPCC installed a commemorative granite monument and secured the stones in a display case. Then Lieutenant Governor, Lincoln Alexander, officiated at the dedication ceremony.

Up until this past summer, the four surviving stones were kept in the plexiglass display case, which had deteriorated significantly since its construction in 1990. The ODRPCC wanted to find a more permanent solution and, in 2014, the decision was made to commission a commemorative pavilion dedicated to the preservation of Old Durham Road’s history.

The ODRPCC applied for, and received, an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant of \$38,000. A design competition was held and Toronto architect Daniel B. McNeil submitted the winning vision. The contractor, Lorne Grierson, of GBL Construction, worked very closely with the architect to create a superb final product. The 100-sq-ft. concrete pavilion was designed to better protect the four surviving headstones from the Old Durham Road Cemetery. Engraved on the ceiling of the pavilion are the names of more than two dozen pioneer families who settled the area in the mid-19th century. The new pavilion was designed to evoke memories of cemetery dead houses, roadside

chapels, and rural structures such as log cabins and covered bridges. It faces due north, paying homage to the long and arduous journey to freedom undertaken by the settlers who followed Polaris, the North Star.

“This entire cemetery experience was to give recognition, and promote awareness of a history lost, and people forgotten.”

—Carolynn Wilson, Former ODRPCC President

Over 200 people attended the unveiling on a beautiful day in September. The Lieutenant Governor, Elizabeth Dowdeswell, was the guest of honour, twenty-five years after her predecessor, Lincoln Alexander, helped the ODRPCC take the first step toward this impressive achievement. Joining Lieutenant Governor Dowdeswell were Former Fairness Commissioner, the Honourable Jean Augustine, and former ODRPCC President, Carolynn Wilson. All three women spoke about the importance of the cemetery’s recognition and what it represents for Ontario’s cultural history. In her keynote speech, Carolynn Wilson had this to say about the event, “This entire cemetery experience was to give recognition and promote awareness of a history lost, and people forgotten. It is no longer just the concern of a committee. It has become a community achievement.”

To get in touch with the ODRPCC, please contact Dr. Naomi Norquay (President of the ODRPCC) at [NNorquay@edu.yorku.ca](mailto:NNorquay@edu.yorku.ca).

The ODRPCC incorporated through affiliation with the Ontario Historical Society in 1999.



Photo - Sara Norquay

The names of more than two dozen families are engraved along the ceiling of the pavilion to honour the pioneers who first settled the area in the mid-19th century.



Photo - Sara Norquay

Headstones from the original Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery awaiting installation in the new pavilion. These stones belonged to Ellen Handy and James Washington.



## MUSEUM NEWS

**Dr. John Carter**, Column Editor  
drjohncarter@bell.net

Good museums are aware of changing visitor trends, the challenges of ever growing collections, and the need to upgrade and expand physical sites. To do this successfully, long-term plans become the vehicle for growth and expansion.

Jane Foster's article (below) explains this process at the Lennox and Addington County Museum and Archives. Continued growth from the 1970s and more than ten years of planning have resulted in a recently completed \$5-million infrastructure improvement. Officially opened on August 23, 2014, both the museum and the archives have been vastly enhanced and improved. Visit the site in Napanee to see these positive results. Plaudits to County Council for fully supporting this initiative. Always good to have the local municipal government behind such improvements!

Collections record management, while central to museum functions, is rarely highlighted by institutions. The following are two noteworthy

examples that you should know about. At Grey Roots in Owen Sound, their entire collection of three dimensional historical objects is now ready for viewing online. A digital home for more than 15,000 artifacts was made available on November 2. This has been a goal of the museum for years. The project began in 2008, and was completed this past summer. Researchers and visitors can now access the permanent collection online for free. Congratulations to Sim Salata and her team on this accomplishment.

The Bruce County Veteran's Memorial Website was recently launched at the Bruce County Museum in Southampton. This memorial site includes relevant information about individuals with a connection to Bruce County, who served in a military capacity during wartime or peace. The Bruce County Public Library, Bruce County Branches of the Royal Canadian Legion, and the Bruce County Historical Society all partnered to make this website a reality. For more information about this innovative project, contact archivist Anne-Marie Collins at [archives@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:archives@brucecounty.on.ca). A job well done by the staff and volunteers at both sites!

In museum news from Gananoque, Linda Mainse has retired as Executive Director of the Arthur Childs Heritage Museum after 18 years of dedicated service in various capacities. Joanne van Dreumel is the new Executive Director. The 1000 Islands Boat Museum has just completed its first successful season. Suzanne Richter is the Director of Strategic Planning at this site. Congratulations to Linda, Joanne, and Suzanne. Let's hear about your Museum News/Museum Milestones. Contact me at [drjohncarter@bell.net](mailto:drjohncarter@bell.net).

## FACILITY UPGRADES AT LENNOX AND ADDINGTON MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

**Jane Foster**, Manager  
Lennox and Addington County Museum & Archives

In 1864, a County Court House and Jail were constructed just off the Napanee River. A century later, when the jail had been decommissioned in favour of the new Regional Detention Centre, County Council moved to convert the County Jail into a Museum and Archives facility. It was in 1974 that Kingston Architect Wilfred Sorenson and the McConnell Construction Company were commissioned to oversee the renovations. Though some elements of the original jailhouse were retained, the building underwent a thorough modernization process. All of the window bars and cell blocks were removed, giving the structure a slightly less formidable façade.

a bright modern foyer and reception area. The new design features an attractive combination of aluminum, porcelain tile, glass, and cherrywood cabinets. The corridor adjoining the new wing to the foyer retains the textured stone walls.



Photo - Lennox and Addington M&A

The former courtyard stone walls are exposed in the program room.

To complement the architectural rendering of the addition, the County of Lennox and Addington made significant upgrades throughout the original museum as well. The main floor gallery walls were resurfaced and the 1970s track lighting system was upgraded to an LED system. Hanging systems for art exhibition were installed in the corridors and the program room. Artifact storage was reconsolidated on the second floor while additional storage for large artifacts is provided in the lower level of the addition. Two elevators facilitate staff access to the artifact storage vaults.

In 2014, museum personnel were busy designing and installing a variety of displays to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Great War, and the County's 150th anniversary. The 150th anniversary celebrations for the County of Lennox and Addington—which featured performances by Natalie McMaster and Donnell Leahy—drew between 3,000-4,000 attendees.

Since its opening, the museum has established itself as a hub for community education, offering various outreach programs, such as "Tuesday Nights at the Museum" and "Museum Kids." The 5 million dollar infrastructure improvements undertaken by Lennox and Addington County Council will ensure that the documentary and material heritage of the county will be preserved for future generations. As County CAO Larry Keech recently stated, "The Museum and Archives project is a legacy for the future."

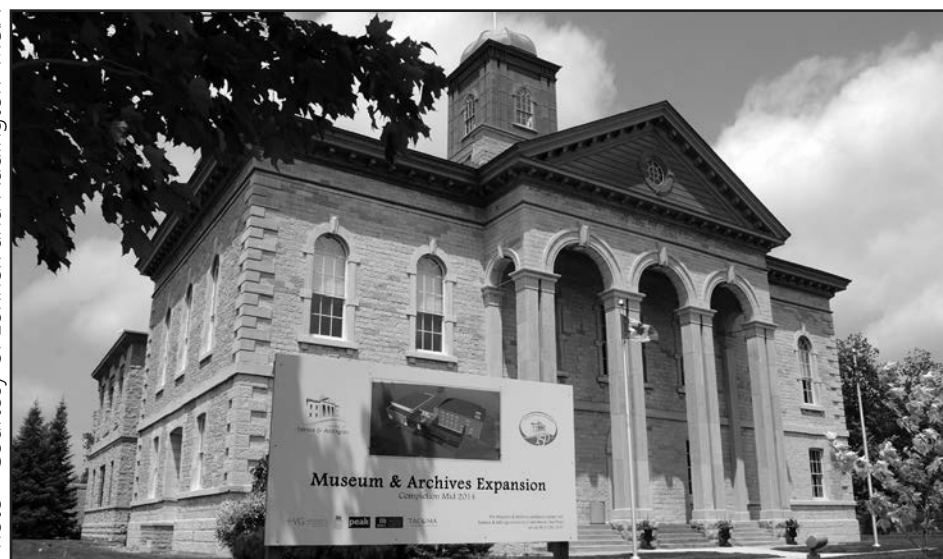


Photo - Courtesy of Lennox and Addington M&A

The old County Court House and Jail, built in 1864.

The Lennox and Addington Historical Society (LAHS) moved its collections into the newly renovated building. A studio/workshop space was created on the second floor and a curatorial workshop was installed in the former jailhouse kitchen. Shelves were mounted behind one of the heavy wooden jail doors to house the LAHS's significant archival holdings, which date back to the 18th and 19th centuries. The collection has grown significantly since the 1970s, thanks to proactive collections development. Growth in the archives, spurred by municipal amalgamations in 1998, forced the museum to create more artifact storage on the main floor. As new collections moved into the display areas, the museum's display and program functions were integrated.

In 2013, after more than a decade of planning, the County of Lennox and Addington—in partnership with Ventin Group Architects and Peak Engineering—began constructing a new 10,000-square-foot archives wing. The new addition integrates the Museum and Archives into the Court House campus. The external architecture was designed so as not to detract from the beautiful façade of the original building. The 1970s addition within the north courtyard was demolished, and replaced with



Photo - Lennox and Addington M&A

This spacious new Reading Room in the Archives Wing is home to the local history and genealogical reference collections.



## ACROSS THE PROVINCE

### Dorothy Duncan

Former OHS Executive Director

The Chimczuk Museum is Windsor's newest museum, thanks to the generosity of Joseph Chimczuk. Born in the Ukraine in 1897, Chimczuk left the City of Windsor one million dollars for a museum, archives, and library at the time of his death in 1991. That sum has now swelled to over three million dollars, and the City has developed a plan to expand Windsor's Community Museum onto the ground floor of the 401 Riverside Drive West Building. Well done, Windsor!

Congratulations to Community Archivist Sharon White on her retirement after 30 years of service in provincial and local archives. The Hastings County Historical Society also reports that their donation of \$251,000 for the furnishing and equipping of the County Archives was delivered this year.

The Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior Inc. (CLLS) is proud to announce that the Porphyry Lighthouse Station is ready to take bookings for the 2016 season. Photographers, bird watchers, rock hounds, driftwood collectors, and avid adventurers will delight in this experience. Whether you are an individual, a family, or belong to a group, you can make a booking for an hour, a day, or overnight by emailing CLLS at [clls@morvision.on.ca](mailto:clls@morvision.on.ca).

"Home for the Holidays" is the current exhibit at the Aylmer-Malahide Museum and Archives. It focuses on the Victorian home, and the customs and traditions of the holiday season. For more information, call 519-773-9723.

The Brampton Historical Society is pleased to announce another local success story. The Wilkinson/Lundy Farmhouse, a fixture on Queen Street West, which is designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, has been moved about 100 yards west to a double lot and restored as a home for the buyer. The Brampton Historical Society is now looking to book speakers for their 2016 programs. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at a local church at 7:00 pm. Please email Monica Polley for more details: [monica.polley@rogers.com](mailto:monica.polley@rogers.com).

Are you looking for holiday gifts? How about a book? *Ruritania on the Rideau* by Garry Toffoli is a romantic adventure thriller set in modern Canada—with a historic underpinning. For more information, call 416-469-0851. How about a calendar? The townships of Beckwith, Drummond/North Elmsley, Perth, and Tay Valley have created a 200th Anniversary of Settlement calendar that is for sale. Email [lanarklog@sympatico.ca](mailto:lanarklog@sympatico.ca) for details. Or, what about a visit to your local museum or historical society to find out what unique items they have for sale? During your visit, be sure to check out their upcoming events...

## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 13: Children's Old Fashioned Christmas at Scugog Shores Museum Village in Port Perry from 11:00 am. to 3:00 pm. This event is hosted by Lake Scugog Historical Society. For more details, please call 905-985-8698, Ext. 103.

December 16: Ramara Historical Society will host a Potluck Dinner at 6 pm. in Udney Community Centre, followed by Country Music, a Silent Auction, and a Bucket Draw. For more details, please email Cathy Westcott at [westcott.cathy963@gmail.com](mailto:westcott.cathy963@gmail.com).

December 18: Enjoy a Georgian Christmas Supper hosted by the York Regency Society at 7 pm. at Jane Austen's Regency Table at Montgomery's Inn, Etobicoke. Call 416-578-1031 before December 11 to book your spots.

January 7: "Family Reminiscences 1914-1918" will be hosted by the Glengarry Historical Society. On February 4, they will also host the "History of Maple Syrup," with Gary Ivens. Both meetings will be held at 7:30 pm. at the Church-on-the-Hill, Alexandria. For more details, please call 613-209-0202.

January 16: The group discussion, "2016, A Year of New Discoveries in Genealogy," will be held at 10:30 am. at the Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group Library, Petawawa. The event will be hosted by the Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group. For more details, please call 613-735-6664.

January 26: "Winston Churchill and Mackenzie King" with Terry Reardon at 7:30 pm in the Bendale Library. The event will be hosted by the Scarborough Historical Society. For more details, visit their website at [www.scarboroughhistorical.ca](http://www.scarboroughhistorical.ca).

January 26: Ron Manfield on piano with a Tribute to Black History Month (tentative), and Liz (Elizabeth Gilan) Muir's "Riverdale, East of

the Don," at 7 pm., hosted by the East York Historical Society at the John S. Ridout auditorium of S. Walter Stewart Library in East York. For more details, please call 416-801-6274.

January 31: Black History Month Kick-Off Brunch at the North Building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, hosted by Ontario Black History Society. For more information, please call 416-867-9420.

February 2: "Recovering 19th Century Black Voices" with Jennifer Harris at 7:30 pm. at the Black Heritage Society, 83 Essex Street, Guelph.

February 6, 7: The Antique and Nostalgia Show and Sale, Port Perry Arena, hosted by the Lake Scugog Historical Society. For more information, please call 905-985-0936.

February 10: "History of Ontario Fences" with Rob Burnett, hosted by Esquesing Historical Society at 7:30 pm. at Knox Presbyterian Church, Georgetown.

...FOR MORE EVENT INFO, SEE OUR HERITAGE EVENTS CALENDAR ON THE OHS HOMEPAGE



As part of OHS Reach stakeholder consultations, OHS Reach Project Manager, Sarah McCabe (second from the right) was delighted to meet with the New Sudbury Historical Society (incorporated by the OHS in 2012). The group has been collecting stories and photographs, and will launch their new community history book, *New Sudbury: Not as New as You Think*, in late November. Standing, from left to right, are Sudbury Ward 12 Councillor Joscelyne Landry-Altmann and Doris Floriani, and, sitting, NSHS President Arthemise Camirand-Peterson, OHS Director Jim Fortin, OHS Reach Project Manager Sarah McCabe, and NSHS Board Member George MacKay.



During her recent trip to Thunder Bay, OHS Reach Project Manager Sarah McCabe attended the 4th Annual Military Symposium at Lakehead University. Lakehead History MA Candidate, Jenna Kirker, helped with the *Ontario History* journal sales.

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF HISTORIC JOHN MCKENZIE HOUSE

Since signing a twenty-five year lease with the city of Toronto in 1993, the OHS has worked to preserve this historic landmark of the Willowdale community, raising over \$500,000 in support of its restoration.

In 2013, the OHS worked with the City of Toronto and the Ontario Heritage Trust to secure a heritage conservation easement for the John McKenzie House, guaranteeing its protection for generations to come. As we continue to upgrade and maintain the house, we need your support. All donations will receive charitable tax-receipts.



Photo - Alison Little

Historic John McKenzie House in Willowdale, Ontario, now functions as the Ontario Historical Society's headquarters.



## THE HARMONY COLLABORATION

**Joanne Bidini**

The Harmony Collaboration Board of Directors

The Harmony Collaboration was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization through affiliation with the Ontario Historical Society in March 2015. Our primary mission is to foster an appreciation of the Kiinwi Dabaadjmowin (“Our Story”) Mural. This mural is a significant cultural heritage asset of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, and is permanently located in the Lloyd S. King Elementary School on the New Credit First Nation, R.R. #6, Hagersville, Ontario. The mural, created by Aboriginal artists—both aspiring and professional—is a visual depiction of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation’s history, from the First Fire of Creation to modern times. Volunteers from the community guided the development of the content, which was obtained through both oral and published histories. The mural was painted directly on the walls of the school library, and was completed in 2002.

Photo - Kaytee Dalton



A panel of the Kiinwi Dabaadjmowin (“Our Story”) Mural, depicting the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation’s history, from the First Fire of Creation to modern times. Mural artists included Coordinator Philip Cote, Tracey Anthony, Rebecca Baird, and the students and aspiring artists of Lloyd S. King Elementary School in New Credit.

The Harmony Collaboration’s objectives are to create two new bodies of work that will help increase public awareness, and facilitate a greater understanding of the mural and its story.

The first of these two projects will be a music theatre performance in collaboration with the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation and other Ontario artists. The full production will take place in July 2017, and will incorporate visual, musical, and performing arts. The production’s central theme is the quest for restoring harmony in the world. It will include the Anishnaabemowin language. The wisdom contained in the mural’s content will be expressed through music and dance. The audience will experience the story from the perspective of a child who is being guided and taught by his grandmother.

The production includes the development of new music, lyrics, choreography, and stage sets. The Harmony Collaboration has commissioned a diverse group of talented artists to work on the production. The development

Photo - Cathy Bidini



The music theatre production includes the development of new music, lyrics, choreography and stage sets, created by artists commissioned by The Harmony Collaboration. Pictured above are Composer Nancy Walker and Lyricist Steven Campbell at the first Harmony Story workshop held in July 2015 at Meadowvale Theatre in Mississauga.

of this production (working title: *The Harmony Story*) is supported by pre-production workshops. These workshops will help promote public awareness of the project in advance of the full production.

Secondly, Harmony is developing an exhibition of the large-scale charcoal study sketches which together form an outline for the mural. Harmony will have the study sketches framed and conserved for archival quality display (as funding allows), thus creating a portable representation of the mural. The framed charcoal sketches—and the accompanying educational materials—will remain the property of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, and will be exhibited in public places, community centres, churches, and educational institutions throughout Ontario.



Photo - Joanne Bidini

The mural artists created stunning large-scale charcoal study sketches in preparation for the painting. The Harmony Collaboration is launching a project to restore and frame the charcoal studies, for independent exhibition at community venues across Ontario.



Photo - Kaytee Dalton

A panel of the completed mural, as shown in the charcoal drawing above.

The Harmony Collaboration acknowledges that we live and work on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. We gratefully dedicate our efforts to them.

For further information, or to join Harmony’s volunteer team, please contact: Norma Morassutti, The Harmony Collaboration Board of Directors, [harmony.collaboration@bell.net](mailto:harmony.collaboration@bell.net).





# LANDSCAPE OF NATIONS COMMEMORATIVE MEMORIAL

**Dennis Martel**, Committee Member  
Working Group, Landscape of Nations Memorial Committee  
martelassociates@gmail.com

On September 1, 2015, First Nations representatives, political dignitaries, and a host of civic-minded folk met under the leafy canopy of trees atop Queenston Heights Park, overlooking the Niagara River. They had gathered to break ground for a memorial garden commemorating an event that had defined the future of Canada 200 years earlier.

As part of the celebration, a white pine—symbolic of the traditional Tree of Peace of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy—was planted as a long overdue acknowledgement of the significant contributions the Confederacy made to a young Canada.

When the Landscape of Nations memorial opens in June 2016, it will do more than just acknowledge the sacrifices of the Six Nations (Haudenosaunee) and First Nations Allies; it will also make a lasting contribution to public education in Canada by focusing on the themes of peace, reconciliation, mutual respect, and affirmation. The memorial will serve to educate and inform generations of visitors from all corners of the world.



Photo - Tony Chisholm

The Bundling of Arrows celebration is completed at the ground breaking ceremony for the Landscape of Nations memorial.

By October 13, 1812, war had arrived on the Niagara frontier. Before day's end, Major General Isaac Brock and his aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Colonel John Macdonell, were both mortally wounded on the battlefield. Many others, including First Nations soldiers, would die on the heights overlooking the tiny hamlet of Queenston. With the surrender of the American forces, an invasion had been resisted, but the critical role of the Indigenous peoples in shaping the outcome of this battle, and indeed the War of 1812 itself, would unfortunately be overlooked for seven generations.

While knowledge of the War of 1812 is common to many Canadians, it is less well-known that those years also witnessed a terrible schism among the six member-nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. The great peace of the confederacy had been shattered during the American War of Independence when the Oneida and Tuscarora had sided with the Americans, and portions of the Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, and Mohawk had remained faithful, under Joseph Brant, to the Crown.



Photo - Tony Chisholm

Artist Raymond Skye displaying one of his figure designs for the memorial.

Landscape of Nations is therefore significant on two levels. By acknowledging the contribution of First Nations forces to this critical battle and other engagements throughout the war, it represents the reversal a historic omission. The memorial also honours the Council of Peace and Reconciliation held in 1815.

The Niagara Parks Commission generously contributed land for this public artwork within the Battlefield of Queenston Heights, a Canadian National Historic Site. Visitors to Landscape of Nations will enter between bronze figures of John Norton and John Brant, the two Mohawk military captains who led their men against the invading forces occupying the heights. A path of paving stones representing the Two Row Wampum, leads from a turtle, representing Turtle Island, through a metal framed structure symbolizing a traditional longhouse. It continues toward the Memory Circle—eight locally sourced limestone walls placed around an inner circle of stones and sweet grass. The path winds among seven earthen drumlins, each representing an allied First Nation. The path ends at a great white pine, symbolic of the peace that formed the Iroquois Confederacy. The Memory Circle itself is enclosed within the earthworks of an artillery redan constructed during the War of 1812. The entire installation creates an enveloping and reflective experience for visitors, and provides a compelling contrast to the imposing imperial column dedicated to General Brock just a few yards away.



Photo - Tony Chisholm

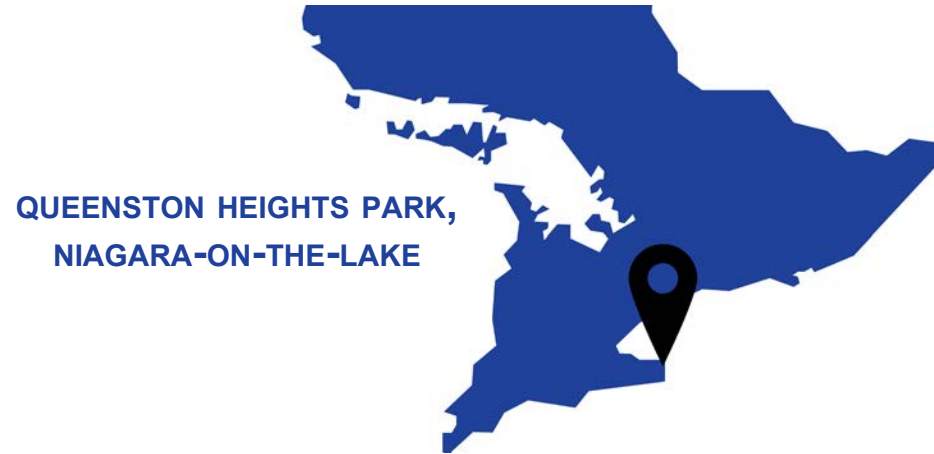
The two memorial designers, Tom Ridout (left) and Raymond Skye (right)

The creative vision and artistic collaboration between Tom Ridout (Fleisher Ridout Partnership Inc.) and Raymond Skye (Six Nations) has resulted in an extraordinary design that informs, educates, and inspires. The artists have created a contemplative landscape atop one of Canada's most beautiful geologic features—the Niagara Escarpment. It will serve as a welcoming and contemplative destination for generations of future Canadians.

The Working Group of the Niagara-on-the-Lake War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee sees Landscape of Nations as a legacy project with historical and perpetual value. It is hoped that future generations will gaze upon it, reflecting on the meaning and the outcomes of the War of 1812.

The Working Group gratefully acknowledges the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake for its important in-kind financial contribution and ongoing support. The Working Group also received considerable financial support from the federal government through the Canadian Heritage Legacy Fund, and numerous other generous corporate and individual donors, for whom the Working Group is deeply thankful.

For further information and to support this project, please go to [www.landscapeofnations.com](http://www.landscapeofnations.com).





## BARRY PENHALE'S ONTARIO

### HORACE LAPP: MAESTRO OF ONTARIO MUSIC HISTORY

Barry Penhale

barry@naturalheritagebooks.com

If ever a Canadian musician was truly one-of-a-kind, it was Uxbridge-born orchestra leader, organist, composer, and pianist, Horace Lapp (1899–1986). Few, if any, in his field could match this multi-talented individual. Lapp's remarkable career began as a church organist and he continued performing well into his eighties. Early musical positions found Lapp in Beaverton, Ontario, as a church organist from 1917 to 1920, and later in Port Hope. Once equipped with practical experience, Lapp began piano studies at the Toronto Conservatory of Music under the watchful eye of the classical pianist, Alberto Guerrero. He then added organ studies with church organist and composer, Healey Willan. During this period, Lapp remained financially solvent as pianist in the Luigi Romanelli Orchestra, one of the various Romanelli bands then dominating the Toronto scene. Musicians could count on a payday if they got "in" with the Romanelli family. Lapp's ambition, however, called for more, and he soon became an accompanist for the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir.

Throughout his lifetime he cut a remarkable figure, his bearing ramrod straight, crowned by an amazing crop of hair that exaggerated his actual height. Horace Lapp, resplendent in white tails and always the consummate showman, attracted patrons to Toronto's Royal York Hotel with his orchestra for eight consecutive years, beginning in 1936. Many career highlights are found in his unpublished manuscript, where I encountered an intriguing story involving Ted Andrews, a member of Lapp's band. Having frequently arrived for work intoxicated, Andrews was given an ultimatum—stop drinking or find a new gig! Unwilling to surrender the bottle, Andrews gave his notice and left for England to try Vaudeville. Shortly afterward, Lapp received a cable, "Congratulate me. I married... a widow... She has a little girl—four-years-old—who is a good singer and works with us, her name is Julie. She'll slay them when she grows up. Regards, Ted." As Lapp noted, well before Julie Andrews achieved fame, her stepfather stopped drinking.



Photo - Barry Penhale Collection

Horace Lapp at the Wurlitzer Organ in Maple Leaf Gardens.

Never idle, Lapp was the organist on radio programs with the legendary Kate Aitken, at Toronto radio stations CFRB and CBC. During the 1950s, his fame soared as master of the mighty Wurlitzer organ, set high in the end zone at Maple Leaf Gardens in downtown Toronto—the landmark once known as the "Carlton Cashbox." It was the late Harold Ballard's decision to dismiss Horace Lapp and his Wurlitzer from the Gardens—tossed aside to make way for more seating! An entire generation of Toronto hockey fans will treasure the memories of Lapp's dramatic and often hilarious musical hijinks at the organ, most notably during fisticuffs at ice level.

By 1960 Horace Lapp was in demand as one of the last Canadian musicians to make a career of accompanying silent films. Enjoying a new lease on life, he recorded the soundtracks for thirty-seven Laurel and Hardy movies as part of a CBC-TV series that was distributed worldwide. Another boost late in his career developed out of his relationship with film critic Gerald Pratley. In 1968, Lapp was accompanying the screening of silent movies of historic importance at the Ontario Film Institute and at the Stratford Film Festival. On one occasion I found myself part of a Northeastern Ontario festival in the historic mining community of Cobalt. It was an honour to share the stage with Lapp, Pratley, singer Jodie Drake, and television personalities Fred Davis and Faye Dance. As always the ageless Horace Lapp delivered a showstopper of a performance.

A true giant of the Canadian music scene, Lapp would wear many musical hats, all leading to working with some of the biggest names in show business, including Mary Pickford, Gloria Swanson, and Sophie Tucker. From 1964 to 1967, Lapp produced annual shows at the CNE Bandshell, while also serving as the music director of the Eaton Choral Society, established in 1919 by the T. Eaton Company.

This reminder of the inimitable Horace Lapp would not be complete without mentioning the man's zany sense of humour. Only Lapp could have gotten away with dubbing Lady Eaton as "Duckie." When my friendship with Lapp began in the 1970s, he immediately labelled me "Kiddo." I can still imagine him on the phone saying, "Hello, Kiddo. It's your old friend, (pause) Hoar-ass"—often followed by an invitation to lunch at the Royal York Hotel. "It's on the boys, of course," referring to Stanley and Ollie of Laurel and Hardy fame.

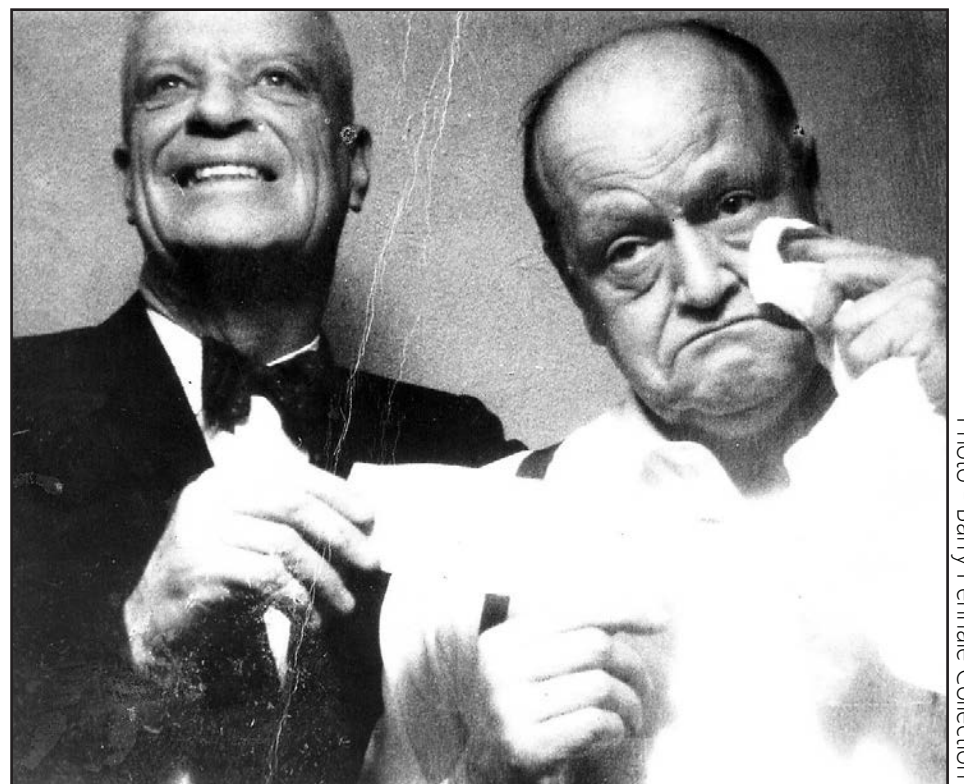


Photo - Barry Penhale Collection

This gag photo shows a supposedly weepy Leslie Bell as he hands a \$12,000 cheque to the grinning Horace Lapp as payment for Lapp's summer cottage. Bell was the noted conductor of the famed Leslie Bell Singers.

Lapp's home for years was "The Boathouse" of the first residence (Lynn Lodge) built outside of Toronto's city limits on Lakeshore Boulevard West by Toronto lawyer Frederick Barnard Fetherstonhaugh. Aging did not prevent Lapp from contact with friends, and his ritualistic Saturday morning excursions to the historic St. Lawrence Market kept him relentlessly engaged with the city. Just as Glenn Gould is remembered with a unique statue at CBC headquarters, it is my belief that Horace Lapp deserves similar recognition. I can see it now—a bushy-haired gentleman with a baton in one hand and a peameal bacon sandwich in the other—located, of course, just outside the St. Lawrence Market neighbourhood he knew so well. I think the old maestro would like that.





# 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW

## CONFERENCES & EVENTS

### May 14, 2015 - Cummer Plaque Dedication & Reception

The North York Historical Society (NYHS) collaborated with Heritage Toronto to produce a commemorative plaque honouring the Cummer family and their extensive contributions to the establishment of the Willowdale community in the early 19th century. The NYHS and the OHS hosted the reception at John McKenzie House.

### May 23–24, 2015 - Doors Open Toronto at John McKenzie House

The OHS welcomed over 600 people to the John McKenzie House during the two-day event. We introduced community members and new visitors to the historic Willowdale site, and discussed the valuable work being done by the OHS and its members all across Ontario.

### May 27, 2015 - Ontario History (Spring 2015) Launch with Herstories Café

Ontario History guest editor Rose Fine-Meyer and Herstories Café organizer hosted a talk with a group of contributors to the special Spring 2015 issue on Women and Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

### July 9, 2015 - Trinity Theatre Peer Leaders Program Visits OHS

The OHS hosts an annual workshop with students from the Trinity Theatre Peer Leaders program. This is a great opportunity for the OHS staff to discuss what it’s like to work for a not-for-profit in the heritage sector with a group of motivated students.

### October 22–24, 2015 - National Trust for Canada Annual Conference

OHS Executive Assistant Heather Anderson and OHS Reach Project Manager Sarah McCabe attended the three-day conference in Alberta. The National Council Meeting of Provincial and Territorial Heritage Organizations on October 22 was a great opportunity to share concerns and ideas with similar organizations from across the country.

### November 5–6, 2015 - Ontario Museums Association Annual Conference

OHS Board Members Allan Macdonnell and Kristin Ives attended the conference with OHS staff. We were pleased to discuss current issues in the Ontario museum sector with several of our member organizations from across the province.

## WEBINARS

In 2015, the OHS hosted five webinars as part of our ongoing Strengthening Ontario’s Heritage Webinar series. Three webinars were produced in partnership with Community Heritage Ontario, with speaker Wayne Morgan, on Municipal Heritage Committees and the Ontario Heritage Act. We also worked with Lauren Dart of Canadian Heritage on their Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage Program, and Edith George on the topic of heritage trees. All five 2015 webinars can be watched by OHS members on our website by following...

- [ONTARIOHISTORICALSOCIETY.CA](#)
- [EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS](#)
- [WEBINARS](#)

## OHS REACH

Since its launch at the OHS Annual General Meeting in June 2015, we are pleased to announce that the OHS Reach project has hit the ground running.

Project Manager Sarah McCabe has already visited five cities across Ontario to conduct stakeholder consultations, and learn more about the needs of our individual and organizational members. So far, she has visited Thunder Bay, Kitchener, Waterloo, Oakville, and Sudbury. Over the course of just six months, Sarah has met with over forty groups from across the province. She has also attended conferences in Montreal, Calgary, and New York to learn more about digital collections management and provincial heritage programming.

In November, OHS Reach launched a membership survey to learn more about the needs of our members, and how the OHS might better represent them through new services and programming. If you have not yet completed the survey, we encourage you to do so. For those without email addresses, we are in the process of mailing out surveys. Stay tuned for more updates!

## WELCOME NEW AFFILIATES

The OHS is unique in its ability to incorporate not-for-profit organizations in its own right. Since 1899, over 350 Ontario heritage organizations have incorporated through affiliation with the OHS. Since 2009, the Society has incorporated an unprecedented 75 not-for-profit historical organizations.

*Please join us in welcoming the following seven groups to the OHS:*

### Leslieville Historical Society (East Toronto)

Incorporated by the OHS in January of 2015, the Leslieville Historical Society is dedicated to preserving places of historical significance, to encourage the interaction between young and old, and to advance education and foster participation in the community by hosting a variety of events.

### The Harmony Collaboration (Hagersville)

Incorporated in March of 2015, the Harmony Collaboration’s primary mission is to foster an appreciation of the Kiinwi Dabaadjmowin (“Our Story”) Mural. This mural is a significant cultural heritage asset of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation

### Nottawasaga Lighthouse Preservation Society (Collingwood)

Incorporated in March of 2015, this preservation society is dedicated to ensuring that the heritage resources of the Nottawasaga Island Lighthouse are protected for future generations. These include the maintenance and restoration of the keeper’s residence.

### McNab & Distric Celtic Heritage Society (McNab/Braeside)

Incorporated in August of 2015, the McNab & District Celtic Heritage Society will support and promote the unique Celtic heritage in the Township of McNab/Braeside and the Ottawa Valley through education, community festivals, and events.

### Centre Lochiel Centre (Lochiel)

Incorporated in August of 2015, Centre Lochiel Centre will preserve and maintain the historic building, formerly known as St. Alexander’s Church (1851), located in Lochiel, for the use of the community.

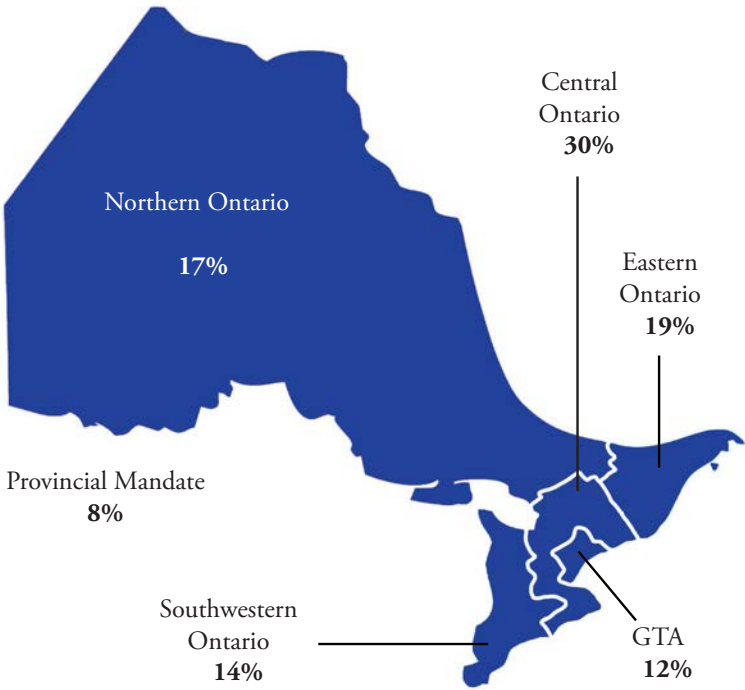
### Buddies of the Brill (Thunder Bay)

Incorporated in October of 2015, the Buddies are dedicated to the preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, and display of transit objects related to the City of Thunder Bay, and the former cities of Port Arthur, Ontario, and Fort William, Ontario.

### Thunder Bay Railway Historical Society (Thunder Bay)

Incorporated in October of 2015, the Thunder Bay Railway Historical Society was formed to advance education by improving the public’s understanding and awareness of railway history in the region.

## Incorporated Societies by Region 2009 – 2015



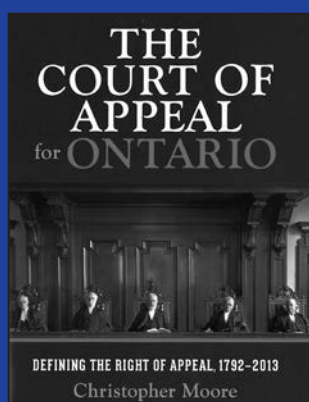


## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

Dr. Cynthia Comacchio  
ccomac5702@rogers.com

### ONTARIO INSTITUTIONS: POLITICAL CULTURE AND STATE FORMATION

When it comes to politics and the evolution of the state, Ontario has historically led the way, more often than not. As the most populous and most “modern” of the provinces, containing both the national capital and the nation’s largest metropolis, many of its institutions, legal, social, and economic, have served as models for other municipalities and other provinces...for good, or not-so-good.



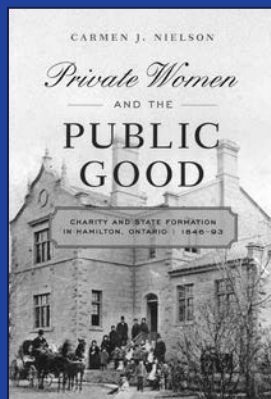
#### *The Court of Appeal for Ontario: Defining the Right of Appeal, 1792–2013*

CHRISTOPHER MOORE

Toronto: U of T Press, 2014  
Hardcover; 376 pp. \$55.00  
[www.utppublishing.com](http://www.utppublishing.com)

Christopher Moore is a renowned historian of Canada’s legal past, a complicated history that he is able to present in clear, well-contextualized, and readable terms. This latest study is a thorough history of the Court of Appeal for Ontario, in which he deftly follows the court’s trajectory from its late 18th century origins as a branch of the Lieutenant Governor’s Executive Council, to the recent years when, in light of the 1982 Charter of Rights and Freedoms passed by Pierre Trudeau’s Liberal government, the provincial court began to wield significant national influence.

The author’s stated objective is clear: he aims “to follow changing ideas of what appeal has meant, and how the Court of Appeal for Ontario has evolved and changed since the late 18th century, and how these changes reflected ideas about the law and changes in Canadian society as well” (xviii–xix). Despite the breadth of this goal, he achieves it remarkably well. A sophisticated institutional study, Moore’s work brings to life the historic issues and the contemporary politics that shaped the Court, while also revealing much about the (sometimes contentious) personalities behind—and in front of—those particular issues and politics. Among the most “colourful” and historic of the major figures spanning this two-century time frame are John Beverly Robinson, Oliver Mowat, Bora Laskin, and Bertha Wilson. The biographical sketches that frame most of the chapters, however, are not just about personalities, but about the important ways in which particular Chief Justices and political leaders shaped and reshaped legal interpretations and the right of appeal in the province and, ultimately, nation-wide. Moreover, this is not merely a celebratory account, despite the fact that it is an official history; Moore is critical of the longstanding patronage appointments. A number of appendices, including one that sketches the biographies of all court members, round out a comprehensive and informative account of a central institution in our legal history that, of course, remains central in our own time.



#### *Private Women and the Public Good: Charity and State Formation in Hamilton, Ontario, 1846–93*

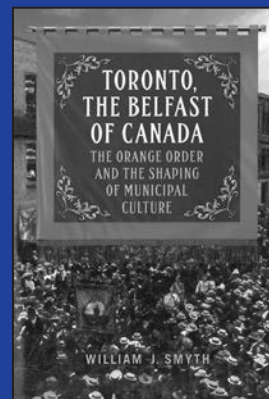
CARMEN J. NIELSON

Vancouver: UBC Press, 2015  
Paperback; 166 pp. \$24.95  
[www.ubcpress.ca](http://www.ubcpress.ca)

By means of a focused case study of Hamilton’s Ladies’ Benevolent Society in relation to its most important project, the city’s orphan asylum, Carmen Nielson provides an in-depth analysis of the group’s half-century

of concentrated efforts on behalf of poor, neglected, and abandoned orphaned children in a city that was, in many ways, a prototype of early industrialization and its negative social repercussions. Probing the Society’s rich internal records as well as public [largely newspaper] discourses about it and the orphanage, Nielson effectively uncovers the complex workings of class and gender within this context of intensive socioeconomic change. Laid out clearly is the traditional sense of obligation and duty on the part of middle-class women to assist in the care and comfort of the marginalized—particularly women and children. Also evident in her discussion is the way in which this “traditional” preindustrial obligation both supported, and at times, brought into question, the newer model of feminine participation in social reform—the “maternal feminism” that saw women rally for the vote in order to better perform their “social housekeeping” work. If their capacity for care, especially where unfortunate children were concerned, was somehow biological, an innate maternal impulse, this would be the basis of their citizenship. These debates took form within the larger context of the urban-based, middle-class, largely Protestant civic reform movement that was the Social Gospel, in which women were key players.

Entwined with these social trends that saw women take more active public roles, despite the restrictions that remained due to patriarchal authority, were changing ideas about the ideal childhood, hence the ideal child, and the growing public concern for the many children who, for reasons of class and race-based poverty, could not aspire to those ideals. The author effectively demonstrates how the legal regulations that privileged men ultimately restricted the Ladies’ Society from exerting day-to-day influence in the asylum’s administration, much less lasting impact on the asylum itself. As Nielson concludes, the “technologies of government,” particularly as concerned the asylum’s act of incorporation, “re-imposed male and state authority” and thereby “mitigated female administrative control” (71). Her story clearly indicates, how, within the context of a masculine state, unenfranchised women could only go so far toward the betterment of society and to the children’s lot in it.



#### *Toronto, The Belfast of Canada: The Orange Order and the Shaping of Municipal Culture*

WILLIAM J. SMYTH

Toronto: U of T Press, 2015  
Paperback; 306 pp. \$29.95  
[www.utppublishing.com](http://www.utppublishing.com)

William Smyth’s discussion of late Victorian municipal culture in Toronto deftly demonstrates, or perhaps re-demonstrates, just how thoroughly entrenched the Irish Protestant Orange Order was in city politics: so much so that Toronto was readily acknowledged to be the “Belfast of Canada.” It is astonishing that a city now known for its multiculturalism—in fact, as an international model for cultural diversity and tolerance—should have a solid century of racially defined intolerant roots that saw the consistent election of Orange mayors and the riotous annual celebration of the Battle of the Boyne as its symbolic marking. Smyth delves deeply into Lodge membership lists, census data, and municipal records to detail how this militant brand of Protestantism, monarchism, and, ultimately, an especially emphatic imperialist nationalism that arose in the late 19th century could dominate city politics until the mid-20th century, despite two world wars and various waves of immigration that changed the British-Protestant face of Toronto forevermore. As the acknowledged expert on Orangeism in Ontario, Smyth is particularly well-placed to explore and expose its Toronto manifestations, and this study does so with scholarly rigour and clarity.

### ALSO NEW AND NOTEWORTHY



#### *For Want of a Lighthouse: Building the Lighthouses of Eastern Lake Ontario, 1828–1914*


MARC SEGUIN

Bloomington: Trafford Pub., 2015  
Paperback; 566 pp. \$32.44  
[www.bookstore.trafford.com](http://www.bookstore.trafford.com)

Marc Seguin reminds us in this impressively researched study that lighthouses were among the foremost technologies that supported local



navigation for a considerable part of the province's past. The author's discussion is impressive in its range and depth; it is hard to believe that he could have left any stone unturned in piecing together the history of lighthouse construction in Eastern Ontario during the near-century that spanned canal and railway building, industrial development, expanding immigration, urbanization, Confederation, the dawn of a new century, and the beginnings of the "war to end all wars." Throughout this period of intensive socioeconomic modernization, a network of more than 40 lighthouses served to ensure safe passage through the waters of the particularly challenging 70-mile stretch of eastern Lake Ontario, where the irregular shape of the Prince Edward County peninsula confronted mariners with numerous natural dangers. The quantity of shipwrecks along one narrow underground ridge qualified that area as the "graveyard of Lake Ontario." The author delves into the people and politics in a study that features more than 100 maps and photographs. Seguin also discusses the preservation of the few remaining lighthouses, and has generously committed all profits from the sale of this book to that important heritage campaign.



*"Well, Gentlemen! This would be one very fine day for de grand object"\* Polish Soldiers in Defense of Canada in the War of 1812*

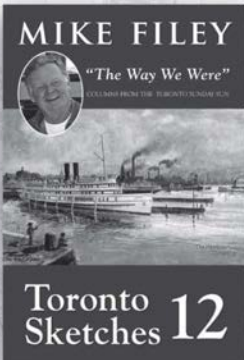
**STAN SKRZESZEWSKI AND AMANDA JANKOWSKI**

London: Skrzyszewski, 2015  
Paperback; 82 pp. \$15.00  
stan874@gmail.com

With all that we have read, seen, and heard about the War of 1812 as we have celebrated its bicentennial over the past several years, there is still seemingly always something new to uncover. In this sprightly little book, Stan Skrzyszewski (with assistance from Amanda Jankowski) presents what he has rightly classified as "a form of resistance to [the] forgetful grand narrative" that focuses wholeheartedly on the British and American sides. The author has chronicled the remarkable story of the Polish soldiers who served the British in order to save the British North American provinces from American conquest—and also to fight for an independent Poland, which no longer existed as a political entity after the defeat of the Kościuszko uprising in 1794. There were more than 500 in the De Watteville Regiment alone. The authors provide a comprehensive list of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the regiment, stating name, place of birth, and place and age at enlistment, as well as a list of 11 soldiers who served in the De Meuron Regiment. These largely unrecognized soldiers were instrumental in a number of significant battles, particularly in the attacks on Oswego and Fort Erie. This is a remarkable story, and one that War of 1812 scholars will want to pursue.

## STROLL THROUGH THE OLD TOWN

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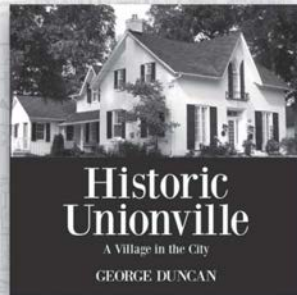


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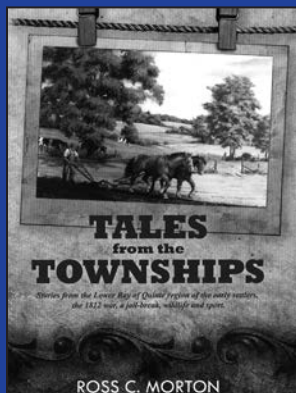


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*Tales from the Townships:  
Stories from the Lower Bay of Quinte  
region of the early settlers, the 1812 war,  
a jail-break, wildlife and sport*

**ROSS C. MORTON**

Ross Morton Books, 2014  
Paperback; 100 pp. \$16.50  
www.rossmorton.ca

The subtitle of Ross Morton's lively recounting of *Tales from the Townships* reveals much about the nature of this entertaining book: "Stories from the Lower Bay of Quinte region of the early settlers, the 1812 war, a jail-break, wildlife and sport." Born in Dryden, Ontario, in 1925, Ross Morton and his family settled on a farm in Eastern Ontario when he was a young child. After enlisting in the Royal Canadian Air Force and serving as a crew member for the RAF, he resettled his family in the Quinte region in 1954. This collection is a personal, eclectic, and endearing series of "snapshots" from the past, as they pertain to the Lower Bay of Quinte. The author's clear enjoyment of these stories is infectious; they are retold engagingly and with much aplomb. Also a talented photographer, he supplies most of the book's images.



*Ontario Garlic: The Story from  
Farm to Festival*

**PETER MCCLUSKY**

Toronto: Arcadia Publishing/  
The History Press, 2015  
Paperback; 176 pp. \$24.99  
www.arcadiapublishing.com

Peter McClusky is well-known to Ontario's garlic-lovers; he is, in fact, founder and director of the fabulous Toronto Garlic Festival, happily serving up garlic-inspired excitement to crowds of them every year. This comprehensive book details the history of garlic in this province, from its 19th century uses as part of the doctor's very limited medicine chest, through its denigration once it became associated with European immigrants, to its recent rehabilitation in a far more multicultural society with distinctly more adventurous tastes in food. At the same time, garlic has also re-entered the medical sphere, both mainstream and alternative, as an herbal aid to good health. Featuring a quick historical overview that commences in central Asia, with growing advice and some 40 recipes, this book will make a wonderful addition to any foodie's kitchen bookshelf.

The *OHS Bulletin* is the newsletter of the Ontario Historical Society (OHS).

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**Wednesday, February 4, 2016.**

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institutions and non-member individuals for \$31.50; and to non-member organizations and institutions for \$42. Membership inquiries should be directed to Christina Perfetto at members@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca.

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