

# OHS BULLETIN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Issue 178

MARCH 2011

## Archives of Ontario Extends Hours of Operation

The Archives of Ontario has extended its hours of operation. As of Tuesday, February 8, 2011, hours of service were extended on Tuesdays and Thursdays to 8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Services available during these hours include registration, assistance from reference archivists, access to self-service microfilm, microfiche and finding aids, viewing of previously ordered materials, and access to the exhibit

gallery. Requests for certifications, reproductions and copyright that are placed during extended hours will be sent for processing on the next business day.

Extending hours of operation allows the Archives to better meet customers' needs and showcase Ontario's public and private archival records to new audiences. For more information, visit [www.archives.gov.on.ca](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca)

## Ontario's Places of Worship Inventory – We Need Your Help!

The Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) launched Ontario's Places of Worship Inventory in September 2009. This online, province-wide inventory of religious properties is housed on the Trust's website at <http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/placesofworship>.

Places of worship are an important part of Ontario's diverse architectural and social history. They are often architectural landmarks within a community, provide important social services, and act as a cultural hub. The special edition of *Heritage Matters* enclosed with the *OHS Bulletin* provides background information about the inventory and highlights a range of heritage issues faced at these sites across the province.

Sites listed in the inventory are purpose-built religious structures designed for worship, located in Ontario and more than 25 years old. These include buildings that are no longer in religious use, as well as places of worship that have been converted to use by a faith other than the one that built it. Ontario's Places of Worship Inventory is

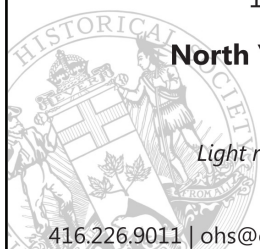
the only comprehensive listing of religious heritage properties with over 5,500 individual records and approximately 20,000 images. The inventory also includes research notes such as associated people, events, themes, architectural styles, and architect biographies.

The Trust has spent the past three years assembling information from across the province to document as many places of worship as possible, and develop this searchable database. With the basic information posted online, we welcome input from the public to both verify existing listings and provide new information. The Trust is looking to members of The Ontario Historical Society to help us fill in the gaps. Please visit the website and look for the places of worship in your community. Where information is missing such as the date of construction, the architect, or photographs, you can click on the feedback tab within the record or contact OHT researcher, Erin Semande by telephone at 416.314.5966 or by e-mail at [erin.semande@heritagetrust.on.ca](mailto:erin.semande@heritagetrust.on.ca)

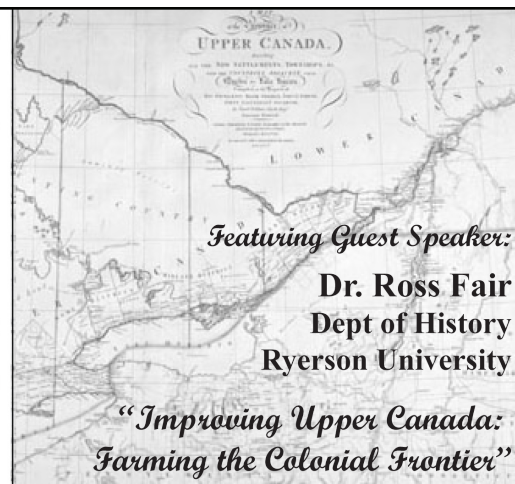
### The Ontario Historical Society's 2011 Annual General Meeting and Honours and Awards Ceremony

Saturday, June 4, 2011  
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**North York Memorial Hall**  
5110 Yonge Street  
Concourse Level  
*Light refreshments will be served*



R.S.V.P by May 24th  
416.226.9011 | [ohs@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:ohs@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)



## Rob Levery "Put Behind Bars" by Victoria County Historical Society

**Tom Mohr, Victoria County  
Historical Society**  
[mohr@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:mohr@utsc.utoronto.ca)

In November, OHS Executive Director Rob Levery toured the Olde Lindsay Jail and was put behind bars by the Victoria County Historical Society (VCHS), an OHS affiliate since 1976. This grand Italianate structure was built in 1863 of limestone and white brick and is distinguished by strong symmetrical, round-headed windows. Together with the adjoining courthouse, its opening marked the provisional independence of Victoria County. Initially planned to accommodate some 20 inmates, additions were added to the structure in 1982 allowing for over 80 prisoners. In 2003, it was closed and the building was returned to the City of Kawartha Lakes by the Province of Ontario.

At that point, the VCHS attained stewardship of the Jail and grounds for use as a regional museum and heritage centre. Its collection of some 12,000 artifacts was moved to the facility for storage as work commenced on converting the building and its infrastructure to a new kind of public institution. The outside walls and masonry have been repointed, the roof redone, and it has been brought up to current fire and building code requirements. The building envelope thus secured, a grand gallery has been constructed on the main floor, formerly the intake area for the jail. Accessibility requirements are being put in place allowing full public participation. Steel walls have been removed, brick and



stone restored, and exhibit space created in anticipation of an official opening in May 2011. This timing is particularly apt, as it coincides with both the holiday in Her Majesty's honour and the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the former County of Victoria, now the City of Kawartha Lakes.

The Jail will provide exhibits and programming reflecting crime and punishment, military history, First Nations heritage and the story of the county, through its vast collection of artifacts. Featured will be the McCrea collection of historical miniatures. Ultimately, the Olde Lindsay Jail will serve as an educational showcase, a destination for heritage tourism, as well as a point from which to direct visitors to the other rich heritage resources of the City of Kawartha Lakes.

For more information please visit [www.oldejailmuseum.com](http://www.oldejailmuseum.com) or e-mail Tom Mohr at [mohr@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:mohr@utsc.utoronto.ca)

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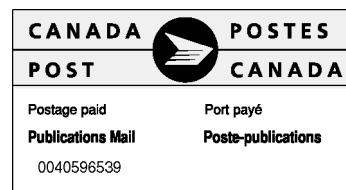
The Ontario  
Historical  
Society



Founded  
1888

[www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

**The Ontario Historical Society**  
34 Parkview Avenue  
Willowdale, Ontario  
M2N 3Y2





# President's Report

**Bob Leech, President**  
bleech@deloitte.ca

As it begins the task of evaluating the Society's activities and services in 2010, the OHS Board of Directors is pleased to report a very busy, prosperous and successful year of growth. I would like to extend warm wishes of appreciation to all those who contributed to the Society's success 2010 – including our members, volunteers, donors and partner organizations.

On February 21st, 2011 the Society held a successful Heritage Family Day Reception at the historic John McKenzie House during

which it was announced by Executive Director Rob Levery that the Book Review Editor for *Ontario History*, Dr. Thomas McIlwraith, will be stepping down after five years of volunteer service. Dr. McIlwraith ceremoniously passed over his editorial red pencil to Dr. Ronald Stagg, Professor of History at Ryerson University. The OHS Board of Directors would like to extend a very special thanks to Dr. McIlwraith for his hard work and dedication, and also extends a warm welcome to Dr. Stagg.

The OHS is pleased to announce that it has been approved for two program grants and would like to

take this opportunity to acknowledge the financial support of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture through the 2010-11 Museum and Technology Fund and the One-Time Special Funding Grant. These two funding opportunities were awarded to the Society in order to produce some War of 1812 Anniversary programming and to replace the outdated phone system currently used at the OHS offices.

Finally, I'd like to extend an invitation to the 2011 OHS Annual General Meeting and Honours and Awards Ceremony featuring Guest Speaker Dr. Ross Fair of the

Department of History at Ryerson University speaking on "Improving Upper Canada: Farming the Colonial Frontier". The event will be held at the North York Memorial Hall, which is located on the Concourse Level of 5110 Yonge Street. Please note that this year's AGM will *not* be held at the Council Chambers as it was last year – this event will be held in the building just north thereof. The event will be held on Saturday, June 4th, 2011 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. and light refreshments will be served – we sincerely hope you can attend!

# Executive Director's Report

**Rob Levery, Executive Director**  
rlevery@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca

I am very pleased to report that at its first meeting in 2011, the OHS Board of Directors incorporated five historical organizations. On February 26, 2011, the OHS incorporated as not-for-profit corporations in the Province of Ontario: Early Canada Association; Friends of Lincoln's History; Algoma 1812; Norfolk Arts Culture and Heritage Alliance; and Friends of Freeman Station.

In 2010, the OHS established a new milestone for itself by incorporating eleven historical organizations in one year. In the past fourteen months, OHS has incorporated sixteen not-for-profit corporations – over 30% of which are based in northern Ontario.

Congratulations to all our fellow citizens who have worked very hard, donating their time, skills and financial resources, to incorporate these non-profit corporations in their communities. All of these organizations are dedicated to preserving and promoting some aspect of Ontario's history.

Through articles and photos in this issue of the *OHS Bulletin*, we have highlighted and celebrated the numerous achievements of some of our members and affiliated societies. We salute your incredible work.

Last year, I joined descendants Cathy and Richard Hatt at The Legislative Assembly of Ontario to deliver petitions to Jim Brownell, MPP (Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry) opposing the relocation of the historic Cooley-Hatt Cemetery (c. 1786). Since 2005, OHS has closely monitored this cemetery and finally we have good news to report.

On January 5, 2011, D.R. Granger, Vice-Chair, Ontario Municipal Board, issued a written decision confirming that all parties and participants had agreed on a settlement of this dispute.

Vice-Chair Granger wrote, "... What wasn't contemplated was the discovery of a significant unmarked abandoned cemetery area dating back to the late 18th/early 19th century. Now known as the Hatt-Cooley Pioneer Cemetery, the archaeological experts

agree that the find represents one of the oldest cemeteries in the area that probably served the broader Ancaster settlement area at its beginnings. It represents a significant cultural heritage resource."

"The archaeological experts were unanimous in their satisfaction with the agreement reached that addresses the conservation/preservation of the cemetery; clarifies the definition of the boundary of the cemetery; and, addresses the process to address gravesites found beyond that boundary. The archaeological experts for the Applicant confirmed that in their several years of experience, the agreed proposal represents a very positive and an unusually positive outcome in the circumstance."

Because this cemetery is "un-approved", the descendants and the property owner now have to sign a site disposition agreement. Once this is completed, we will celebrate. I would like to thank all of you who signed our provincial petition to protect the Cooley-Hatt cemetery. We deeply appreciate your tremendous support.

When I first started working at OHS, the Society had eight full-time staff and I managed a provincial grant programme which funded local history projects. We now have three full-time staff and it's beyond our wildest dreams that the OHS could now possibly award grants to other organizations.

When I became your Executive Director, I promised that there would be "no deficits, no debts". Therefore, I am happy to report that in 2010 the OHS again recorded a small fiscal surplus. Since 2008, we have eliminated deficits, all debts and outstanding liabilities. I want to thank my colleagues Christina and Andrea, the Board of Directors, and our members, volunteers and donors who have helped us to restore the OHS' fiscal health while maintaining all our services and launching new initiatives.

The OHS Board of Directors has just approved a balanced budget for 2011. Although the Society must face new challenges and difficult decisions within a very tight budget, we remain committed to fiscal discipline, strict spending controls and prudent financial management.



Photo  
Doug Lavery

On February 15th, the OHS attended Peterborough Historical Society's (PHS) Annual General Meeting and presented Dennis Carter-Edwards, incoming PHS President (right), with last year's 2009-10 OHS Riddell Award, honouring the best article on Ontario's history in 2009 for his work, "The Rebellions of 1837/1838 and the Peterborough Region" which appeared in the Autumn 2009 Issue (Vol. CI, No. 2) of *Ontario History*. Congratulations to Dennis, a former OHS President, on his award and on his election to become the PHS President. The PHS incorporated through affiliation with the OHS in May 1997.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Algoma 1812  
Billy Armstrong  
Carolyn Beacroft  
Barbara Moore Better  
Chelsey Heritage  
Woodworking Museum  
Doug Cole  
Early Canada Association  
Friends of  
Freeman Station  
Christine Gonsalves  
Friends of  
Lincoln's History  
Pierre Leriche  
Lundy's Lane  
Historical Society  
Jean Miso  
National Historic Site  
Alliance for Ontario  
Norfolk Arts Culture  
and Heritage Alliance  
Planting Seeds of Hope  
Alicia Quinn  
Aviva Huberman Spodek

## DONORS

Mary Jane Asselstine  
Michael Bliss  
Richard Bolitho  
Jim Brownell  
Dorothy Duncan  
Lorne Ellington  
Ross Fair  
Geoff & Edith Geduld  
Huguenot  
Society of Canada  
Billy Laver  
Pierre Leriche  
Geoffrey Milburn  
James Miller  
Ann Rowan  
Gabe Scardellato  
Jan Shuckard  
John Sheehan  
Diana Taschereau  
Janet Tulloch  
Victoria Vonschilling



## Across the Province

The Waterloo Historical Society will celebrate 100 years of service to the community next year, and in recognition of the years 1912 and 2012, donations of \$12,000 to the Waterloo Region Museum and \$12,000 to the Kitchener Public Library have already been made by the Society. The Anniversary Committee reports many historical happenings in the planning stages including the joint Annual General Meeting with The Ontario Historical Society on June 8 and 9, 2012. Mark your calendar now!

Other anniversaries include Black Creek Pioneer Village that has enjoyed 50 years of growth and development, while the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto and the Norfolk Street United Church in Guelph are preparing to mark 175 years in 2011. One of the special events for the church is the current exhibit at the Guelph Civic Museum "People Serving God Through Serving People." The Ontario Genealogical Society has also announced its Golden Anniversary Conference for 2011 titled "Remembering the Past & Projecting the Future" – more information and registration at [www.ogs.on.ca/conference](http://www.ogs.on.ca/conference).

Good news for the pre-historic site in the south end of the Huron Natural Area in Kitchener where First Nations artifacts ranging in age from 500 years to 9,000 years old have been found. The City of Kitchener, the Six Nations and the Ministry of Tourism and Culture have partnered in preparing a plan to protect and respect the site. TD Friends of the Environment have pledged \$175,000 in support of environmental projects at the site.

The Eva Brook Donly Museum and Archives in the Town of Simcoe was closed during January for structural repairs and reopened in February with a new exhibition "Paper Treasures" featuring art from the corporate collection of Hallmark Canada. "Take a Seat" will open on April 5 in honour of the late Frank McGovern, renowned for his splendid restoration work on the furniture and fur-

nishings in many Ontario museum collections.

The heritage world was saddened to learn of the passing of Isobel Trumpour, Past President of the Kingston Historical Society. Isobel will be remembered not only for her work with the Society, but also for her work on refurbishing the gravesite of Sir John A. Macdonald at Cataract Cemetery and the annual ceremony of remembrance that she initiated.

As winter finally draws to a close many Canadians may miss those hockey games! A worthy project for your consideration is being co-sponsored by the Society for International Hockey Research (SIHR), the City of Ottawa, Hockey Canada and the National Hockey League to erect a statue honouring Lord Stanley of Preston, Canada's sixth Governor General and his gift of the Stanley Cup. Further information: Paul Kitchen, Past President SIHR: [pakitchen@sympatico.ca](mailto:pakitchen@sympatico.ca).

On Friday, April 29 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Wellington County Museum and Archives will honour Bonnie Callen on her retirement after 32 years of service to the County, the Archives and the Museum at a farewell reception. Information: 1.800.663.0750 ext. 5221.

Is there a young person in your family celebrating a birthday in the coming months? The Visual Arts Centre of Clarington offers opportunities for a unique celebration including an artist to instruct the young guests in a craft or art project. For details call 905.623.5831.

Once again, our museums, historical societies and heritage groups offer an interesting and informative range of lectures, speakers and programmes for you to enjoy in the coming weeks and months. In addition to those listed, check out your local society and museum and find out what is happening there:

**April 9:** "Recognizing the Battle of Vimy Ridge" by Ken Irvine at the McCrae House, Guelph, at 2 p.m. Admission is free: 519.836.1221.

**April 14 and 28 and May 12:** 1812 Lecture Series by Niagara Historical Society and

Museum. 905.468.3912 or [www.niagarahistoricalmuseum.org](http://www.niagarahistoricalmuseum.org) for more information.

**April 16:** "Who was William Cawthra? Land Speculation in 19th Century York County" by Cameron Knight, at the Richmond Hill Central Library, 10:30 a.m.

**April 19:** "Monarchs of the Quill: The Bad Art of Nation Building in North America, 1800-1918" by Dr. Todd Webb, hosted by the Simcoe County Historical Association at the Simcoe County Museum: 705.721.0587.

**April 26:** "Victory at Vimy: Canada Comes of Age" by Ted Barris, hosted by the Scarborough Historical Society at the Bendale Library, 416.282.2710.

**April 27:** "Towers of Time" Marc Boileau presents an illustrated talk on the history and architecture of Canada's Post Office buildings, hosted by the Oxford Historical Society in the Grand Hall of the Woodstock Museum: 519.421.1700.

**April 30:** Spring Social and AGM, hosted by the Sir Guy Carleton Branch, U.E.L. Luncheon with guest speaker Tom Russell discussing the Welland Canal and Port Robinson. Details: 613.435.3596.

**May to August:** The Oshawa Community Museum hosts the travelling exhibit from the Peterborough Museum and Archives "Voices of the Town": 905.436.7624.

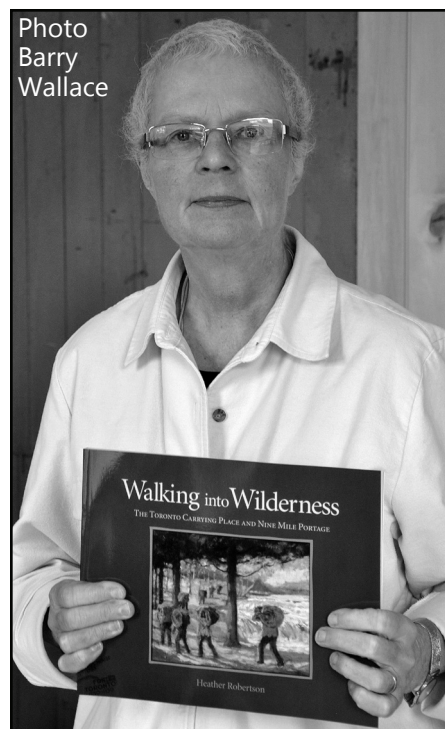
**May 18:** "William Halton and Halton County" by John McDonald, hosted by the Oakville Historical Society at St. John's United Church: 905.844.2695.

**June 2 to 5:** The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada Conference 2011 "Catch the Spirit", hosted by the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch in Brockville. Details: 613.435.3596.

**June 3 to 5:** The Ontario Heritage Conference 2011, titled "Creating the Will", Victoria Hall, Cobourg. Details: Cobourg and District Historical Society, 905.377.9854.

**September 17:** The Society for the Preservation of Historic Thornhill reminds us that the Thornhill Village Festival is back! It will be bigger and better than ever before! Call to assist or for details: 905.918.9205 or 905.881.3952.

Photo  
Barry  
Wallace



Congratulations to OHS member Heather Robertson on the publication of her most recent book *Walking Into Wilderness*, an illustrated history of the Toronto Carrying Place and Nine Mile Portage (Heartland Associates). Heather launched the publication during the King Township Historical Society's (KTHS) and the King Township Museum's celebration of the 400th Anniversary of the Francophone presence in Ontario. The King Township Historical Society, an OHS affiliated society since 1977, will erect a bilingual plaque commemorating and recognizing four historical and natural aspects of the Toronto Carrying Place. Known by the French as Le Passage de Taronto, this route was used by First Nations, French explorers, missionaries, fur traders and Lieutenant Governor Simcoe. To read a review of Ms. Robertson's book, please see "From the Bookshelf" in the December 2010 Issue of the *OHS Bulletin*. For further information or to order copies please visit [www.hrtlandbooks.com](http://www.hrtlandbooks.com)

## Costume Society of Ontario Celebrates 40th Anniversary

**Barb Rice, Chair, CSO**  
[information@costumesociety.ca](mailto:information@costumesociety.ca)

The Costume Society of Ontario (CSO) recently celebrated its 40th Anniversary during its Annual General Meeting held at the Ontario Historical Society's John McKenzie House on November 27, 2010.

Members of the Society are interested in the history of dress and adornment, as well as current fashion. Our members include people working in such fields as film, television, theatre, opera,

museums, design and retailing, vintage clothing, teaching – basically anyone interested in what people wear and why they wear it.

The CSO publishes two Journals and three newsletters per year, filled with events, reviews and lots of information about costume history. The Society presents lectures, workshops, tours and symposia. The CSO often works with other groups with similar interests to provide programming for our members and the general public. This year the CSO will be presenting a knitting lecture and workshop in partnership with the Bata

Shoe Museum and a symposium on Egyptian Fashion in partnership with the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities at the University of Toronto.

The celebration of the Society's 40th Anniversary follows many years of activities in and around Toronto and throughout the province of Ontario. The very first meeting was held at the Joseph Brant Museum in Burlington when Eileen Collard brought together the museum's supporters and those interested in fashion history in 1970. The first editor of the CSO Newsletter was Alan Suddon, a Toronto collector of costume and librarian at the Toronto Reference Library. In 1986 an Eastern Branch of the CSO was formed for members in the Ottawa, Kingston and Montreal areas who wanted to

organize their own programming. Besides the publications and programming, the Society also sponsored and organized an Annual Student Design Competition for fashion design students at several of the College design programs in Ontario from 1981 to 1996.

CSO members appreciated the opportunity to use the stately home of the OHS for its anniversary celebration. Members and especially past Chairs of the Society who were present were toasted – here's hoping the CSO will be able to celebrate many more anniversaries!

For more information, or to join the CSO, please visit [www.costumesociety.ca](http://www.costumesociety.ca), email [information@costumesociety.ca](mailto:information@costumesociety.ca), or write to: Costume Society of Ontario, Box 981, Station F, Toronto, ON M4Y 2N9.



## Across the Province

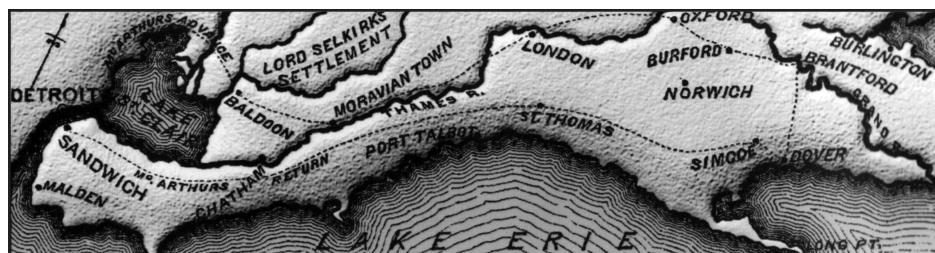
### Rural Raids and Divided Loyalties – Southwestern Ontario and the War of 1812

**Karen Dearlove, Executive Director,  
Living History Multimedia Association**  
karendearlove@canadianindustrialheritage.org

It's been nearly two hundred years since American General Duncan McArthur led 700 Kentucky Cavalry in a series of daring raids through what is now Southwestern Ontario. In the waning days of the War of 1812 McArthur and his men encountered a group of Canadian Militia at the Battle of Malcolm's Mill, located in presentday Brant County, in what would be the last battle fought on Canadian soil against a foreign power. McArthur's raids, the Battle of Malcolm's Mill, the Burning of Dover Mills, the Port Talbot Raids, the story of this region's significant First Nations' involvement, and many other under interpreted and largely unknown stories from the War of 1812 in Southwestern Ontario are ready to be shared.

The Living History Multimedia Association (LHMA), a non-profit organization dedicated to the pres-

ervation and promotion of Ontario's local history through educational and entertaining multimedia documentaries, is producing a 3-part documentary series and related promotional and training tools to tell the little-known story of the devastating American raids upon a largely undefended Upper Canadian peninsula in the waning days of the War of 1812 and the lasting effects these raids had upon the area's inhabitants. The LHMA is working in partnership with many of the museums and communities in Southwestern Ontario, and has received funding through the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Sand Plains Community Development Fund, as well as Windsor-Essex Tourism, Chatham-Kent Tourism, Elgin County, Tourism London, Middlesex Tourism/Middlesex County/CFDC Middlesex, Oxford County, Norfolk County, Haldimand County, Brant County, The City of Brantford, The City of Hamil-



Map of General McArthur's Raids through Southwestern Ontario in 1814.

ton (Culture Division), Tourism Burlington, Fanshawe Pioneer Village, Norfolk Militia, the King's Company 1812 Re-enactment group, the Upper Thames Military Re-enactment Society, and the Western Corridor War of 1812 Bicentennial Alliance.

As part of the award-winning Ontario Visual Heritage Project (OVHP), the documentary will be distributed free, along with a curriculum companion book, to every school in Southwestern Ontario. Like other projects in the OVHP series, the project's initial broadcaster will likely be TVO. To launch the series, screenings will be held in locations throughout Southwestern Ontario in 2012-13, followed by a panel of local historians involved in the project to answer questions and offer additional insight into the impact of the war upon their regions. To motivate people to 'get off the couch,' the documentary will be supplemented by a website ([www.1812.visualheritage.ca](http://www.1812.visualheritage.ca)) with traditional driving tours and a free 'Mobile Companion' application for iPhones and Blackberries,

which will take the user on a tour based loosely on McArthur's Raid – from Windsor to Burlington.

The OVHP has previously seen success across Ontario, including four recent projects in Muskoka, West-Parry Sound, Greater Sudbury, and Manitoulin Island, which have been broadcast on TVO as *The Shield*. Currently, the Project is completing *The Land Between*, which examines the natural and cultural heritage of the transition zone between the Canadian Shield and the St. Lawrence Lowlands.

The OVHP is looking for help to tell the stories of *Rural Raids and Divided Loyalties – Southwestern Ontario and the War of 1812*. Re-enactors, local historians with knowledge about specific or little-known stories about the War of 1812 events in their area, as well as descendants of War of 1812 veterans or families affected by the War, are invited to contact the Ontario Visual Heritage Project to participate in the documentary. Visit [www.1812.visualheritage.ca](http://www.1812.visualheritage.ca) to get involved!

## Museum News

### Anderson Farm Museum Heritage Society

**Gwen Doyle, Guest Writer**  
gwen-paul.doyle@sympatico.ca

On September 22, 2007, The Anderson Farm Museum and Heritage Society (AFMHS) was incorporated as a not-for-profit historical corporation in the Province of Ontario through affiliation with The Ontario Historical Society.

Three years later, the AFMHS has had a banner year, hosting a media conference on June 2nd to announce the major renovations to the stable; the 2nd Annual 'Rock the Farm' Summer Series of four free concerts; the 4th Annual Fall Fair and Farmers Market, attended by over 4,000; and the 4th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration, attended by over 1,000! AFM also recruited 3 new members to work on its volunteer board. The 14-acre Anderson Farm Museum (AFM) is bordered by subdivisions, a school and Regional Rd. 24 in Lively and is becoming one of the busiest sites in Walden (Sudbury West)!

These successful events would not have been possible without enthusiastic, long-term partnerships with our Ward 2 Councillor, City of Greater Sudbury (CGS) Mayor and Council, the Greater Sudbury Museums, CGS staff and our business, community, and media partners. Key partner and sponsor

Ward 2 Councillor, Jacques Barbeau continues to advocate for the protection and preservation of the AFM and the development and expansion of programs and activities on-site, and work closely with the AFMHS to support and sponsor its projects and free community events.

AFMHS' key communications partner continues to be the Walden Community Action Network (CAN) – sharing information in their newsletter (3 issues mailed to 4,800 homes) on their website [www.walden-can.com](http://www.walden-can.com), in their weekly e-update and in their monthly column in *The Sudbury Star*.

Significant improvements have been made at the AFM over the last 3 years thanks to funding provided by the CGS and the carpentry of the Walden Seniors Woodworkers. Improvements included replacement of the cedar shingles on the roof of the barn and the farm house; minor repairs to Creighton Log Cabin; the replacement of windows in the farmhouse and the construction of display units for the loft of the barn.

Winterizing the stable was one of the recommendations in the 2006 Final Report of the Walden-CAN Heritage Committee presented to CGS and has been advocated by the AFM Heritage Society since forming in early 2007. The 2010

"Stage One" renovations to the stable will have a dramatic impact on the development of year-round programs, family fun activities, special events, workshops and fairs available for communities of Walden and residents of CGS at the AFM. The stable could become a hub for community activities. The next steps are to upgrade the washrooms; complete the kitchen area; and begin "Stage Two" renovations to the top floor.

AFM's key community partners continue to be the Walden Seniors Woodworkers. From their workshop located in the Granary, they volunteer their time, skills and tal-

ent year-round at the AFM making minor repairs to buildings on-site; constructing 'period' windows to replace those damaged by dry rot in the farmhouse; rebuilding the Copper Cliff Dairy Wagon; repairing the paddock and building display and storage units for the loft of the Barn – totalling thousands of hours of service donated to AFM. In addition, they volunteer to help the AFMHS at community events!

As a small board of nine volunteers, business and community partners are vital to the success of

**'Museum' cont'd page 5...**



Photo  
Rob Leverty

On Saturday, February 12th, the OHS participated in "Grey County's Black History Event" presented by the Grey Roots Museum & Archives and the Emancipation Festival. The OHS also had the opportunity to hold meetings with three historical organizations that incorporated as not-for-profit corporations through affiliation with the Society. Seen here (left to right) are Peter Meyler and Les McKinnon of Heritage Pathways, (incorporated November 2003); Janie Cooper-Wilson of the SilverShoe Historical Society (incorporated September 2007) and Dennis Scott of Emancipation Festival (incorporated May 2006). OHS salutes these organizations for their outstanding volunteer work and dedication to preserve and promote Ontario's history. Congratulations also to Terri Jackson and Karin Noble for organizing such a great event.



# Cemetery News

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

## The Inconvenient Truth

In November 2010, the Ontario Genealogical Society wrote a letter to the Hon. Minister John Gerretsen, Minister responsible for Ontario's Cemeteries, Ministry of Consumer Services, expressing support for MPP Jim Brownell's Bill 126, Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act, 2010. In his response to that letter, the Hon. John Gerretsen states,

*"Our existing legislation contains significant provisions for the safe and effective oversight of all cemeteries and burial sites in Ontario, including processes for public consultation and input into decisions on inactive cemeteries and an appeals process regarding closure of a cemetery....While I appreciate that Bill 126 recognizes the cultural and historical importance of inactive cemeteries in Ontario, existing legislation provides for a comprehensive protection framework for all cemeteries,*

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE OHS CEMETERY DEFENCE FUND!

The resources of the OHS are constantly challenged as we try to defend threatened cemeteries across the province. We can't do it alone. All donations receive a tax receipt.

*including inactive cemeteries and burial sites".*

If that is the reality, why was it necessary for a long public protest (2007-2009) to protect the burials at Confederation Square in Peterborough? Why have descendants of the Cooley and Hatt families had to fight since 2005 to preserve their ancestors' burial ground in Ancaster? Why did the OHS last June have to launch a Provincial Petition to protect the Cooley-Hatt Cemetery (1786)? Why did representatives from all Provincial Parties on March 12, 2009 speak at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario in support of Jim Brownell's Bill – *The Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act*? Why has the OHS and OGS spent so much money, time

and energy over the last twenty years struggling to defend the public interest with regard to Ontario's Cemeteries?

The "if it's in the way, get rid of it" policy of numerous provincial governments was not in vogue in the 1950s when the busiest intersection in Canada was constructed at Highways 401 and 407. Richview Cemetery lies undisturbed in its original location amid that spaghetti junction.

Ontarians will elect a new provincial government on October 6th, 2011. Ask your candidates if they respect the dignity and integrity of the deceased or do they believe that "if it's in the way, get rid of it" is in the public interest.

## Cemetery News Across Ontario

The Ministry of Consumer Services has issued Notices of Declaration giving notice to declare three burial sites "Unapproved Cemeteries" in Prince Edward County, Fort Erie and Mattawa. There is only a period of two weeks which starts one week after the publication date for representatives of the persons whose remains may be interred in the former cemetery to contact the Registrar of Cemeteries.

The Isaiah Tubbs Family Burial Ground in Prince Edward County was a small family cemetery with

the last burials believed to have been c. 1844. It was well known and visible until the tombstones were removed by persons unknown.

Bodies discovered in the Fort Erie area are believed to have been those of the Otway Page family and their neighbours with burials c. 1850s. This had once been documented but was never registered.

Remains discovered in Mattawa had been interred in Ecole St. Anne Cimetiere. In the 1880s some bodies had been removed to a new cemetery. As is very often the case in these types of disinterments, some remains were left behind. This case is very similar to Prospect Hill Cemetery in Newmarket. Those buried there had been overlooked in the 1880s when others were moved to Newmarket Cemetery. In 1999-2000, the OHS and OGS both argued that the burials should remain in their original location. A former Registrar of Cemeteries for the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations agreed with us and issued a notice on June 9, 2000 declaring "that the area that contains existing human remains will be maintained as cemetery land." The cemetery was to be properly signed so that it "may be identified and commemorated for future generations." The agreement was to be registered on title to the property.

## Letter to the Editor: The David Dunlap Observatory and Memorial Parklands

**Marianne Yake, President  
Richmond Hill Naturalists**

From the mists and farmland of the Oak Ridges Moraine rose a great horned beast of reinforced concrete...

The largest telescope in Canada and model for five others in the Empire class (Japan, Egypt, Australia, France and South Africa) the 30-foot high concrete pier (horn) supporting the great 74-inch, 3-ton telescope of the David Dunlap Memorial Observatory was erected in Richmond Hill in 1933. The site opened in May 31, 1935 the same day its technical visionary, astronomer Dr. Clarence Augustus 'Gus' Chant, turned 70. Securing a world-class observatory for the city

of Toronto had been his life work, and Gus nearly accomplished this in 1914, but for the interruption of the First World War.

Twenty-one years later, Chant's dream was back on track with the aid and financial resources of Jessie Donald Dunlap, who sought to commemorate her late husband David's death and his love of astronomy and nature. To create a world-class institution Jessie paid for the land, construction of buildings, the British-made observing dome, telescope and all its furnishings, totaling \$425,000, successfully making Dunlap Observatory the centre for science in the British Empire.

Mrs. Dunlap deeded the Observatory to the University of Toronto,

an amazing feat of public philanthropy for the Depression – when a daily wage for a woman was 20 cents, if work could be found. Over the intervening years the Observatory became famous for educational and research discoveries, such as confirmation of the existence of the first black hole in the universe, while the surrounding 190-acres of land has been recognized for the potential First Nations sites of archaeological importance, groves of heritage trees and heritage buildings. It is also located on the Oak Ridges Moraine and on a sand and gravel aquifer through which water flows to serve the drinking needs of Toronto. This is a site of local, provincial and international significance and represents the true public interest.

When the University of Toronto sold this priceless site, that it had received as a gift, to a developer in 2008 for \$70 million, the heritage community was surprised, disappointed and alarmed. The Richmond Hill Naturalists took the lead in its preservation, insisting before

the Conservation Review Board (CRB) that the entire site must be designated. The Board recommended that close to 74% of the property be preserved by the Town of Richmond Hill as a Cultural Heritage Landscape.

In April 2010, the owner ignored the CRB and submitted a draft plan of subdivision to the Town with 833 proposed housing units on the property. When the Town failed to comment on the plan by October 2010, the property owner, Corsica Developments Inc. filed for an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing. The Naturalists believe the density of this development is contrary to the welfare of the Observatory site, and have also appealed to the OMB.

To continue to challenge the development and/or destruction of this priceless resource the Richmond Hill Naturalists ask for your support. For more information, or to make a donation to the preservation of the David Dunlap Memorial Observatory Parklands, please visit [www.rhnaturalists.ca](http://www.rhnaturalists.ca)

## 'Museum' from page 4

the free community events at the AFM. Community groups, artists, craftsmen, performers, agricultural, environmental and health organizations, service clubs, schools, seniors and youth groups, firefighters, police and individuals – from Walden & CGS – volunteer their time, skills and talents. Donations in-kind and cash donations from local businesses and corporations help ensure that our community events are free for everyone. Additionally, new community partners allowed for the expansion of the

4th Annual Fall Fair.

With limited funds, free promotional opportunities are essential to tell the story of the AFM in Walden, the CGS and throughout northeast Ontario. Media partners who include CTV News, East Link News, *Northern Life & The Sudbury Star* share news, prepare feature articles, attend events and tell this story over and over. Free media websites increase the AFMHS' target audience and area. For example, registering with [www.ursudbury.com](http://www.ursudbury.com), a free community website provided by *The Sudbury Star* allowed the Society to post news and events online.

2011 will be busier than ever – with new and expanded partnerships. The Massey Agricultural Society plans to bring more small pens and more small farm animals to the Fair; the Walden Art Club is expanding their 'hands-on' art/craft activities in the log cabin; the Walden Ladies Slo-Pitch League has asked to hold their 'Pulling For The Cure' tug-of-war event in the paddock (120 players + firefighters, police, paramedic teams) and new board member, Darryl Orser, singer/songwriter/musician, is chairing the 'Rock the Farm' Series, with a concert in June featuring more performers than ever.

To learn more about the Anderson Farm Museum Heritage Society please visit [www.walden-can.com/anderson\\_farm\\_museum.htm](http://www.walden-can.com/anderson_farm_museum.htm). For more information or to receive the new e-update please contact [gwen-paul.doyle@sympatico.ca](mailto:gwen-paul.doyle@sympatico.ca), Chief Information Officer. To make a donation to support the AFMHS projects or free community events call Les Burford, Treasurer, at 705.692.5530.



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on Facebook!



## Exhibits, Events and Notices

APRIL 26

### Historical Clothing Workshop

A hands-on workshop hosted by the Grimsby Historical Society at the Grimsby Museum. 1:30 p.m. Register soon, as space is limited, by calling 905.945.5292.

APRIL 29 to MAY 1

### Garden to Table 1812-1912

Take a heritage journey from seed to sustenance with workshops, speakers, demonstrations and vendors – a multi-day event hosted by The Ermatinger Clergue NHS and The Ontario Historical Society. For more information and to register please contact 705.759.5443 or old.stone.house@cityssm.on.ca.

MAY 7

### Turn-of-the-Century Tea Party

The Tecumseth & West Gwillimbury Historical Society invites you to attend this event, held at the historic Tec-We-Gwill hall in Newton Robinson between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. Desserts, parade, bake sale and vintage car display. \$10 admission. Phone June at 905.775.7144 or Helen at 905.713.3439.

JULY 29 to 31

### Emancipation Celebration Festival

Since 1862 this festival has celebrated the journey of our ancestors to the Underground Railroad's most northerly terminus, Owen Sound. For full event information, visit [www.emancipation.ca](http://www.emancipation.ca)

## Archives Association of Ontario Launches New Website

In October 23, 2010, the Archives Association of Ontario (AAO) launched its new website at [www.aao-archivists.ca](http://www.aao-archivists.ca). Features on the website include Ontario's union catalogue, ARCHEION as well as links to articles about conservation and preservation issues written by Iona McCraith, the Preservation Consultant.

Visitors to the website can also find out more information about the upcoming AAO Conference titled "Archives & Community: Engaging the Public in the Modern

World" on June 15-17 in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Anyone with an archival collection who requires advice or would like a site visit is asked to contact Carolynn Bart-Riedstra, the AAO Archives Advisor, at [archivesadvisor@aao-archivists.ca](mailto:archivesadvisor@aao-archivists.ca) for a complimentary visit. This service is funded through the generosity of the Ministry of Government Services, the Archives of Ontario and the Canadian Council of Archives and Library Archives Canada.

## OHS Welcomes New Affiliate: Irondale Historical Society

**Carol Simmons, President, IHS**  
[simmons03@gmail.com](mailto:simmons03@gmail.com)

The Irondale Historical Society (IHS) is pleased to be one of the many groups to become a member organization of The Ontario Historical Society, having incorporated in the Province of Ontario through affiliation on November 27th, 2010 with the help of Executive Director Rob Levery.

The IHS is a board of ten citizens representing both residential and seasonal interests in Irondale, Ontario. Its aims and objectives read very similar to other historical societies – in a nutshell, they work to preserve, promote and publish their local history. Present IHS activities include: producing quarterly newsletters; maintaining a website at [www.irondaleontario.ca](http://www.irondaleontario.ca); facilitating a research project with a university history student to uncover Irondale's past; and, most importantly, requesting the local council give the property known as the Irondale Church a heritage designation. The future plans are much more aggressive with an eye on long-range planning.

The Irondale Historical Society

intends to purchase the property known as Irondale Church from the Anglican Diocese. Necessary repairs to the property (following Ontario Heritage Act guidelines) will be made to ensure that the property will remain structurally sound for another 120+ years. IHS' adaptive reuse plans for the property include: rental of the church property for weddings, funerals, baptisms, summer non-denominational services and other events such as theatre, lectures, concerts and family or school reunions and picnics; build policies to cover rental issues, collection of artefacts, and the care of artefacts; plan and implement fundraisers by creating displays and information booths at various locations throughout the year to promote and create awareness; publish research findings in print and/or online. Long range plans may include developing historical tours – guided and self-guided walking and/or driving tours.

The Irondale Historical Society invites readers to visit and experience the local history of Irondale. For more information please visit [www.irondaleontario.ca](http://www.irondaleontario.ca) or e-mail [simmons03@gmail.com](mailto:simmons03@gmail.com)

### SEND US YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Do you have an exhibit, event, or story that you would like to publicize in the *OHS Bulletin*? Send submissions to:

Editor, *OHS Bulletin*,  
[izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

### WANT MORE EVENT INFO?

The OHS now has a member-editable online events calendar at

[www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

Please bookmark the site and check for heritage events in your area!



Photo Tessa J. Buchan  
Ontario Heritage Trust

The Honourable David C. Onley, O. Ont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario (left) and Dr. Thomas H.B. Symons, Chairman of the Ontario Heritage Trust (right) present Jo-Ann Galbraith with her Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement. Ms. Galbraith has, for over 30 years, been a member and volunteer and also served five years as President of the Glencoe and District Historical Society, an OHS affiliated society since 1982. Congratulations also to OHS member Allan Anderson, member and volunteer of the Sombra Historical Society, an OHS affiliated society since 1958.

## OHS Welcomes New Affiliate: North Halton Celtic Historical Society

**Bill McKay, President, NHCHS**  
[fallbrook@live.ca](mailto:fallbrook@live.ca)

The North Halton Celtic Historical Society (NHCHS) was incorporated in the Province of Ontario through affiliation with the Ontario Historical Society (OHS) on September 25, 2010. The NHCHS expresses its thanks to the OHS for their assistance throughout the incorporation process, including its guidance in preparing a constitution.

The NHCHS began life in 2007 as the Friends of Fallbrook, a small group of citizens dedicated to preserving a heritage building and site north of Georgetown known as Fallbrook Farm. The site consists of the remains of a dam and mills on the adjacent creek, a stone vaulted bridge across the creek, and a miller's house later

converted to a farmhouse. Further north on the creek lie the remains of an aboriginal settlement which has been the subject of investigation by Laurentian University. With this rich diversity of features, the entire site represents a significant opportunity to illustrate the history of human habitation in the region from aboriginal settlement, (c. 1570) through early industrial use as a mill site, to agricultural use in the late 19th century.

The focus of the NHCHS at this time is to restore and utilize the existing building. An extensive report by Tom Murison, a qualified restoration expert, indicates that the original house was built of log construction by the mill owner, William McClure, in 1856. This precise dating is made possible by an analysis of the annular rings of the logs known as dendrochronol-



Photo NHCHS

ogy. Around 1877, the new owner Donald McKay constructed a frame addition to the log building and clad both the frame portion and the log building with coved clapboard siding. The building was by this time used as a farmhouse after the demise of the mills and dam.

The vision of the NHCHS is to preserve the site and restore the building as an historical monument to the people who occupied the site for 500 years, and to illustrate its story of human habitation through a variety of interpretive programs, signage and displays. It is planned to have a curator/caretaker in residence to assist with this program. With respect to its environmen-

tally sensitive location in the Credit River watershed, the restoration plan calls for servicing the building with the best energy and water systems currently available, compatible with the site. A concentration of these technologies at the site would create a centre of interest for those wishing to see them in action, bringing the "story" of the site into the twenty-first century.

To implement this vision, Heritage Halton Hills has recommended to the local Council that the site be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, and the NHCHS is currently working with the Town of Halton Hills and the owner, Credit Valley Conservation Authority, to determine the future of the site.

For more information please visit [www.electricscotland.com](http://www.electricscotland.com) or e-mail [fallbrook@live.ca](mailto:fallbrook@live.ca).



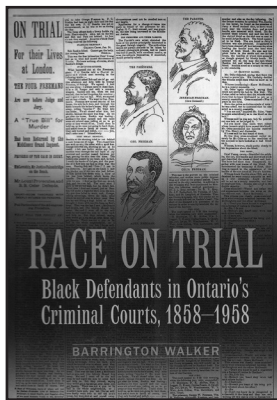
# From The Bookshelf

**Chris and Pat Raible, Editors**  
raible@georgian.net

## GEORGIAN BAY

**Manitoulin and Region: Voices from the Past.** Margaret E. Derry. Poplar Lane Press. 272 pg. Illustrations. \$34.95 hardbound.

Winner of the OHS's Fred Landon award for her earlier book, *Georgian Bay Jewel: The Killarney Story*, Margaret Derry here tells the story of the people of Manitoulin and the North Channel region of the Georgian Bay. She begins with archaeological studies of settlement, showing that the region was occupied at least 10,000 years ago. Later, Native Peoples played a major role in the fur trade. In time Europeans moved in as settlers and a whole complexity of issues and patterns of living ensued. Derry writes what she calls living history – capturing the immediacy of the words of individuals as they went about their daily lives. What did settlers say about pioneer life on a Manitoulin farm as they endured toothache, birth and death in log houses, and shortages of food for both people and livestock? What did early tourists report? (Tourism was and still is vital to the region.) She quotes the experiences and perspectives of early government officials (generally not very admirable), farmers, fishermen, lumbermen, tourists, survivors of shipwrecks, etc., etc. Her sources are diaries, newspaper and journal articles, books, and most notably interviews. (Derry's comprehensive bibliography and notes list her sources.) This fine book is also enhanced by many early drawings and photographs from archives and private collections.



## BLIND JUSTICE?

**Race on Trial: Black Defendants in Ontario's Criminal Courts, 1858-1958.** Barrington Walker. University of Toronto Press for the Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History. 256 pg. \$55.00 hardbound.

Canadians feel justifiably proud of the fact that in Canada slavery was abolished in 1833. But Barrington Walker shows that although formal legal equality may have existed in theory, racial discrimination persisted in fact. "The central contradiction... was legal freedom and legally supported social discrimination." He has reviewed capital-case files and the assize records for Kent and Essex counties from 1858-1958 and tellingly shows the limits of freedom experienced by Ontario's African Canadians. Blacks were effectively restricted to menial wage labour and faced restrictions upon where they could live and where they could travel. (Curfews or by-laws mandated that they had to be out of town or indoors by a specific time in the evening.) Yet those in authority seemed willfully blind to any problems – problems that persisted until well after the end of the Second World War and the emergence of a modern civil rights movement. Walker proceeds case by case, effectively using jail records, court transcripts, depositions, judges' bench books, and newspaper reports to prove his point. He concludes, "When Blacks were on trial in Ontario's criminal courts, race was on trial too."

## WAR IS HELL

**Vimy Ridge and Arras: The spring 1917 offensive in panoramas.** Peter Barton with Jeremy Banning. Dundurn Press in association with the Imperial War Museum. 324 pg. 400 colour photos and two 8-page gatefolds. \$45.00 hardbound.

After nearly three years of mad destruction, the Great War dominated everything and chaos continued unabated. This impressive volume zooms in to view one area in one time period in full yet fascinating detail. Though accompanied by an informative text and memorable contemporary comments, the power of the book is its images – archival photos, clear maps, detailed diagrams and, most striking of all, panoramic composite photographs. They spread across the pages presenting broad views – barren lands, assembled armies, earthen excavations, blasted villages, skeletal trees – scenes of devastation. A book exhaustively researched, comprehensively detailed, beautifully designed, sensitively presented. A fitting honour to a horrible time.

## ARMED FORCES

**The Oxford Companion to Canadian Military History.** J. L. Granatstein and Dean F. Oliver. Oxford University Press, 474 pg. Illustrations. \$70.00 hardbound.

"Afghanistan War"; "Batoche, Battle of"; "Civil Defence"; "War of the Austrian Succession"; "Yeo, Sir James Lucas"; "Zombies." From A to Z and all between, here are concise descriptions of the military events, personalities, issues and institutions that have shaped Canada. Published in Association with the Canadian War Museum, this volume comprehensively chronicles the evolution of Canada as a military power. Clearly written, lavishly illustrated, attractively designed, this is a book to be pondered and appreciated, kept and consulted, "We are a country made by war," say the author-historians in their preface, "and composed in some important measure of warriors."



## ACROSS ONTARIO

**Kars on the Rideau, second edition.** Coral Lindsay. Rideau Township Historical Society. 202 pg. Maps & Illustrations. \$45.00 softbound.

First written in 1972, this labour of love is now updated and enlarged nearly forty years later. Yet its primary focus is still on 19th century life in the village of Kars, on the surrounding farms and on the Rideau river. The book is enhanced by a splendid variety of archival images – dozens of them – among the most interesting those of old tools and other implements, of early vehicles, and of people at work or play. The many maps are clear and informative. There are also comparison pictures of many homes and other buildings: early images matched with recent photos of the same structure today. The whole work is attractively designed and easy to peruse – a tribute to both the community of Kars and to the diligence of the author.

**The Georgina Book: What Citizens Value Most. Residents of the Town of Georgina.** Alliance for a Better Georgina. 96 pg. Maps & Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.

Marvellous images and apt words combine to create an introduction

to the Township of Georgina on the southern shores of Lake Simcoe. River by river, town by town, personality by personality – the whole area is encompassed in this extraordinarily attractive and informative book, written and compiled by a not-for-profit alliance dedicating to promoting and preserving the social, historic and environmental treasures of their communities. The publishers' experience as mapmakers makes the volume a visual delight – one that must be seen to be fully appreciated.

## HERSTORY

**Early Voices: Portraits of Canada by Women Writers, 1639-1914.** Edited by Mary Alice Downie and Barbara Robertson with Elizabeth Jane Errington. Dundurn Press. 384 pg. Illustrations. \$35.00 hardbound, \$28.99 softbound.

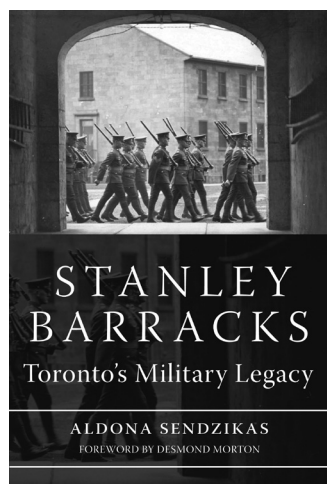
This is a splendid selection of the observations and experiences of twenty-nine women – visitors, immigrants or Canadian born. From the Maritimes to British Columbia to the Far North, they write about their lives in diaries, letters, published articles and books. Of particular interest to OHS readers, perhaps, is the Ontario section, with its selections from Anna Jameson, Anne Langton, Mary Ann Shadd, Catharine Parr Traill, and Lady Aberdeen. Mary Ann Shadd speaks persuasively to would-be American emigrants of Canada West's "salubrious and eminently healthy climate ... exempt from the steady and enfeebling warmth of southern latitudes and the equally injurious characteristics of polar countries ... it is highly conducive to mental and physical energy." Lady Aberdeen, wife of our Governor General from 1893-98, was well known for her good works, notably

## 'Bookshelf' cont'd page 8...

**Please Note:** More extensive reviews of a number of books relating to the history of our province are published in each issue of Ontario History, published by the OHS.

The prices of books referred to on this page may or may not include HST or postage charges. All prices are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.

How do we select books to be reviewed? Our criteria are very simple: we review all recently published books relating to the history of this province that are sent to us – by publishers, authors or readers. To submit a book to be reviewed, forward a copy to: 'From the Bookshelf', 34 Parkview Ave., Willowdale, ON M2N 3Y2.



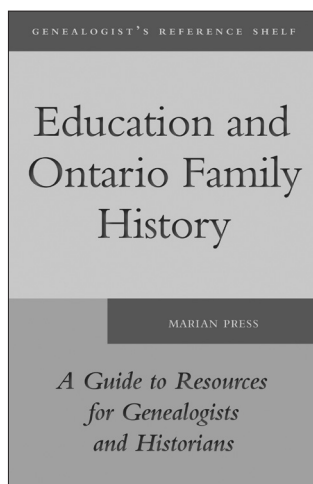
## STANLEY BARRACKS

*Toronto's Military Legacy*

by Aldona Sendzikas

212 pages | \$29.99 paperback | 60 illustrations, maps, appendix, bibliography, notes, index

Beginning with the construction in 1840-41 of the new facility that would replace the decaying Fort York Barracks, this book recounts the background of the last facility operated by the British military in Toronto and how Canada's own Permanent Force developed. Written by the former assistant curator of Historic Fort York.



## EDUCATION AND ONTARIO FAMILY HISTORY

*A Guide to the Resources for Genealogists and Historians*

Genealogist's Reference Shelf

by Marian Press

144 pages | \$19.99 paperback | 20 illustrations, notes, bibliography, index

This book outlines the resources available for education from about 1785 to the early 20th century. Many historical resources are currently being digitized, and Ontario and education are no exception. These electronic repositories are examined here, along with traditional paper and archival sources.

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as president of the National Council of Women and as founder of the Victorian Order of Nurses. The excerpts from her journal, however, celebrate the joys of winter sports: skating, tobogganing and even hockey, though of it she says, "it presents too fierce a temptation for roughness & unfairness." Eighty-two-year-old Catharine Parr Traill writes to a friend about a party at Rideau Hall, the delights of which were tempered by too much admiration. "Everybody kept staring at me... The poor old lioness squeezed herself into a corner, not being accustomed to be gazed at in that way – it was a little oppressive. ... The only thing is, it is good for the book, as some will get copies out of curiosity now."

#### HEROIC STORY

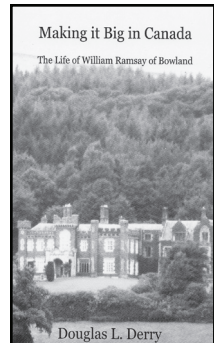
**Laura Ingersoll Secord: A Heroine and her Family. David F. Hemmings. Bygoness Publishing. 167 pg. Illustrations. \$19.00 softbound.**

We all know the story of plucky Laura Secord who in June of 1813 brought the news from Queenston to Beaver Dams that the Americans were planning a surprise attack. Much of what we know is, of course, doubtful. She surely didn't wear her nightie or drive a cow (and there were no chocolates). Fortunately, Hemmings' account is well researched and his suppositions are based on historical fact. American officers were indeed billeted in the Secords' farmhouse and were overheard discussing plans to attack the British outpost at Beaver Dams. Laura's husband, James Secord, had been wounded in an earlier battle and certainly could not walk the distance (about 20 miles), so it fell to her to make the trip. Two days later the Americans, ambushed at Beaver Dams, surrendered to Lieutenant James Fitzgibbon (Laura's part was later confirmed by him). Hemming's account of Laura's heroic journey

is followed by details of the Secords' post-war years, including their financial difficulties – James received a small pension for his wartime services, but Laura's petitions for financial recognition of her heroism were ignored. (Not until 1861 and a gift of £100 from the Prince of Wales did she receive any monetary reward.) Hemmings includes much additional material: "Petitions, Publicity and Plaques", "Some Belongings of Laura Secord", and a splendidly comprehensive list of "Direct Descendants and Ancestors".

#### SUCCESS STORY

**Making it Big in Canada: The Life of William Ramsay of Bowland. Douglas L. Derry. Poplar Lane Press. 113 pages. Illustrations. \$20.00 softbound.**



When William Ramsay arrived from Scotland in the 1850s, Toronto was beginning its transformation from a small city to a major metropolis. Soon established as a wholesale merchant, his business – wines and spirits – flourished. Ramsay became part of the commercial establishment – member of the Albany Club, president of the St. Andrew's Society, founder and life-long member of the Imperial Bank, sons enrolled at Upper Canada College. In the words of his biographer-descendant Douglas L. Derry. "William was part of a small, closely knit group that cooperated and competed, and through the process, ran the business of Ontario." Yet he is ignored by city historians. Why? Perhaps because, at the age of 47, having made good he returned to Scotland to live well and in time purchased "Bowland," a great estate. His story is briefly and carefully chronicled, the sources for its facts all carefully cited. This simple volume is an admirable example of how careful

research can create a moving tale.

#### FOR THE YOUNGER SET

**Aggie's Dream: Agnes Macphail in High School. Donna Mann. Brucedale Press. 196 pg. \$20.00 softbound.**

Donna Mann's earlier historical novel for young readers, Aggie's Storms, chronicled Macphail's early years. Mann now takes up Aggie's high school years, the next step in her dream of becoming a teacher. It is 1908 and sixteen-year-old Aggie is off to Owen Sound Collegiate Institute. This involves leaving her home on the family farm near Flesherton and moving to board with a new family in Owen Sound during the school year. There are new subjects to study and new friends to make. (Agnes' actual friends included Billy Bishop and Norman Bethune, and these appear in the book along with many fictional characters.) There are, of course, the usual trials and tribulations that young people face, but Aggie triumphs and is well on her way to achieving her dream.

**Trouble on the Voyage: The Strange and Dangerous Voyage of the Henrietta Maria. Bob Barton. Napoleon Publishing. 222 pg. Illustrations. \$10.95 softbound.**

This gripping yarn (recommended by the publisher for ages 9+) is based on the actual voyage of the *Henrietta Maria*, a merchant ship that in 1631 sailed out of Bristol, England, under the command of Captain Thomas James. Its epic voyage is here fictionally related in the journal of eleven-year-old Jeremy, ship's boy. The mission of the *Henrietta Maria* is to look for a northwest passage to China, but the ship and her gallant but inexperienced crew are beset by treacherous reefs, storms, and disaster after disaster. By October, the crew is ravaged by scurvy, the ship is leaking badly, and it is trapped by ice in Hudson Bay. Captain James announces that they will have to winter over. And a terrible winter it is, but at long last the ice breaks and they are able to sail home.

**We'll Never Forget. Jean Miso. Illustrated by Asher Sadeh. 33 pg. Illustrations. \$28.00 hardbound.**

Jean Miso's picture book for children is based on her song and CD "We'll Never Forget". (The CD was intended as a teaching tool to support Remembrance Day celebrations and a disk is included with the book.) Asher Sadeh's fine paintings lovingly illustrate the lines of Miso's song. She says both song and book were inspired by the memory of her grandfather, Elmer (E.M.) Moses who fought during World War I. Featured in the book are twenty Army, Navy, and Air Force men and women who served in World War I, World War II, and Afghanistan, or as Peacekeepers in various parts of the world. The book is dedicated "with gratitude to all Canadian Forces men and women, both past and present, who have voluntarily given of themselves to serve our country with pride and fortitude." A fitting tribute.



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