

Confederation Square, Peterborough: Conflicting Views on Memorializing History Resolved

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In September 2012, the City of Peterborough installed, at the four corners of Confederation Square, a series of permanent and sturdy porcelain enamel, steel-enclosed plaques. Beautifully illustrated, they identify the main phases of the history of the square from its origins as a pioneer cemetery to its present-day function as a memorial park.

This historical enhancement of Confederation Square was due principally to the several years of professional efforts by the City's Heritage Resource Coordinator, Erik Hanson. The primary, but not the only, source for the content of these displays was information contained in the *History of the Pioneer Burial Ground (Confederation Park)* produced by a local

citizens' advocacy group called Citizens for the Protection and Preservation of the Pioneer Burial Ground (CPPPG). The installation of the four historical plaques in Confederation Square marks the conclusion of a very difficult process for many in the City of Peterborough.

In 2005, Mr. Fergus Young, a descendant of one of those early pioneers buried in this first Peterborough cemetery, attempted to stop the partial closing of the cemetery, that would allow for the erection of a monument to Peterborough area residents who had served in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War. It was proposed that the remains in approximately sixty-five graves be disinterred and removed to another cemetery in order to erect the veterans' monu-

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Access Beyond the Ramp Part 5: Inclusive Programming at Toronto's Bata Shoe Museum

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Editor's Note: In his first four articles for the *OHS Bulletin*, John Rae examined a variety of access issues for museums, art galleries and heritage organizations. In his fifth installment, John discusses how commitment and ingenuity can go a long way to developing programs that provide access in smaller facilities.

John Rae has been an OHS volunteer since 2008, and currently serves as a member of the Inclusive Design Advisory Council to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg.

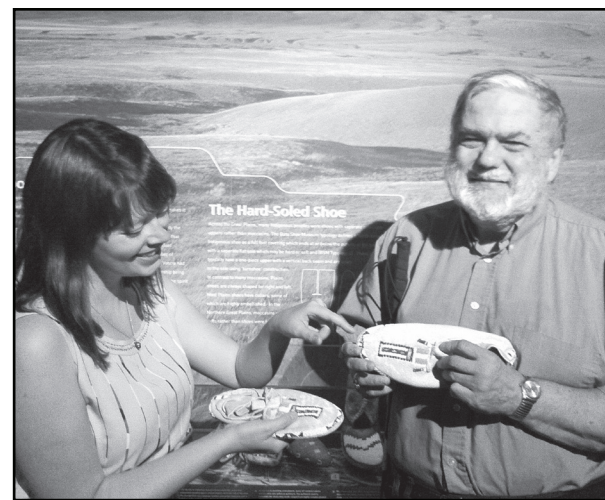
When designing accessible programming in smaller institutions, a little ingenuity can go a long way!

Imagine a collection of approximately 12,500 shoes under one roof, including a pair of shoes from ancient Egypt, opulent walking shoes from the roaring '20s to moccasins from First Nations communities in Canada – shoes everywhere!

"It's an incredible collection. But it's not what you'd expect," says Laura Robb. "Yes, it's shoes, but it's also much more. It's an art collection; it's an ethnographic collection. The museum showcases what's important to various cultures and communities through an everyday object that nearly everybody uses."

The efforts of Laura Robb and Jacquie Reich, two docents at the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto demonstrate what commitment and a little ingenuity can produce when it comes to building access into a facility's programming, even in a smaller facility like Bata.

"I had been a docent at the Bata Shoe Museum for about a year, and I was familiar with the education department's huge hands-on collection," said Robb. "I thought



we could create a great program for visitors who are blind or have low vision by utilizing these objects in a different way, building tactile diagrams for some artifacts, and tweaking the docent training a bit."

Jacquie Reich is equally excited by their work.

"I became interested in the project from a collections management perspective, and when Laura informed me about the project at the Bata Shoe Museum, I jumped at the chance to get involved," said Reich. "I think with the sheer volume of most museum collections, there's really no excuse not to have authentic objects for visitors to handle."

Once begun, it's important to build access into a facility's ongoing, regular programming.

"It's really important to us that the project continues after we've left the museum," said Reich. "Our work involved putting together training manuals for the Bata Shoe Museum's docents, so that other staff can continue the tours. In the training manuals are photos of all the hands-on artifacts and tactile diagrams we built. We've also included directions regarding where these pieces go, and talking points to discuss. We've also included some valuable insight received from the community."

This accessibility addition complemented the already

'Access' cont'd page 4 ...

Mark Your Calendars!



Saturday, June 22, 2013
Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation
R.R. 6, Hagersville, Ontario

The 125th Annual General Meeting and
Honours and Awards Ceremony
of The Ontario Historical Society

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President's Report

Dr. Brad Rudachyk, President
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It's almost here! Hard to imagine, but it is almost here. "What's 'almost here,' you ask?" Well, the 125th anniversary of The Ontario Historical Society. Just think, the OHS is celebrating its 125th birthday in 2013.

It is challenging to comprehend, let alone write about, this milestone. On September 4, 1888, Canon Henry Scadding founded "The Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario" by uniting Toronto's York Pioneers and its counterpart in Brampton. This association would reorganize as The Ontario Historical Society on May 23, 1898, and incorporate on April 1, 1899.

It seems so long ago, now. In 1888, Sir John A. Macdonald was the prime minister of Canada. As premier of Ontario, Sir Oliver Mowat inaugurated manhood suffrage in the province – note "manhood." The province would also open Queen Victoria Park at Niagara Falls. Boasting 154 acres, it was the first provincial park in Canada and the beginning of our justly famous Niagara Parks system.

And what would Niagara Falls be without cameras? It was in 1888 that George Eastman patented the first roll-film camera – the Kodak.

The country received its new governor-general, Lord Stanley of Preston. Bernard Hewitt, former Barrieite and brother-in-law to Sir John A., served as Stanley's aide-de-camp. Most of us will recall little of Lord Stanley but for his idea of getting up a trophy in honour of the best team in Canadian hockey.

Interestingly, as Lord Stanley assumed his office, our country's second Canadian-born governor-general, Georges-Philéas Vanier, was not quite two months old. That same year, parcel post was first established between Canada

and the United States, as was the Pasteur Institute, and the National Geographic Society.

1888 – so long ago and so far away. But here we are, still going strong. At our AGM in Waterloo this past June, I raised the question of our 125th anniversary and mused about raising \$125,000 during the year. I had initially thought about using these funds to assist us in developing a planned giving campaign. Further discussion with our members and members of our board has resulted in a new direction – the digitization of our scholarly journal *Ontario History*.

The Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and the Social Sciences and Humanities Resource Council of Canada (SSHRC) have provided funding for the OHS to begin the digitization of the indexes and articles with the idea of improving their accessibility through our website. It very quickly became apparent that we had more records than funds, especially considering the back issues of *Ontario History* and its forerunner *Papers and Records*,

which first appeared in 1899. This treasure trove amounts to 325 issues containing more than 2,000 articles.

So much quality information, so difficult to access. Just imagine having these resources available online. Think how it will stimulate both interest in the history of Ontario and the writing of that history, especially among our computer-savvy young people.

I am most fortunate. If I want to consult the OHS's *Papers and Records*, I can visit the very fine Simcoe County Archives located just minutes away from my home. Not everyone is so blessed.

This is a special project worthy of our 125th anniversary. Our theme for this drive is "Ontario Historical Society: Preserving 125 years – Our Legacy for the next 125."

Early in the new year you will receive a letter regarding this exciting opportunity. I hope that you will consider it carefully and help your Society share our province's history with an even wider audience and a new generation of eager scholars.

In closing, on behalf of your board of directors and staff, I wish you the heartiest of season's greetings and best wishes for 2013.



OHS President Dr. Brad Rudachyk (right) presents Innisfil Historical Society (IHS) President Andrew Cowan with a certificate commemorating the 40th Anniversary of IHS. IHS, an affiliated society of OHS, hosted a well-attended dinner and celebration event on November 17th, 2012.

Innisfil Historical Society Celebrates 40th Anniversary

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40th Anniversary Committee,
Innisfil Historical Society
 info@innisfilhistorical.ca

40 years has zipped by in a flash, the Innisfil Historical Society recognized on Saturday, November 17th. The Township of Innisfil, located on the western shore of Lake Simcoe, south of Barrie, was 122 years old when its historical society was formed in 1972. When then Reeve George Burton rallied interested parties to take action, there began a flurry of historical interest that has never stopped.

In the 1970s, Tom and Janet Arnett were instrumental in establishing a document centre, a project to gather, copy and house photos, letters, receipts, deeds, and other types of historical docu-

ments. In the 2000s, these documents were digitized and posted to an ever-expanding website at www.innisfilhistorical.ca.

Historian and genealogist Ross Wallace was honoured at the Society's festive event. Ross was taken by surprise when the focus of the evening suddenly turned toward his many years of commitment to historical research and promotion of local history. Ross has been president of the Society across three terms (1982-83, 1989-90, 1997-98) and has been document centre coordinator for 29 consecutive years.

Newly created in Knock School Heritage Site, Innisfil Historical's Wall of Fame proudly displays the plaque for its first honouree: Ross Wallace.

Forest History Society of Ontario Invites OHS Members

The Forest History Society of Ontario (FHSO) welcomes members of the OHS to join FHSO at the reduced rate of \$30 per year (regularly \$45). FHSO's mission is "to further the knowledge, understanding and preservation of Ontario's forest history."

FHSO works with local historical bodies and institutions to identify and list collections, facilitate their transfer to appropriate archives, and mount displays and memorials commemorating forest history. *Forestry* is published biannually by the FHSO.

To join and learn more about the FHSO, visit www.ontarioforesthstory.ca. Join online or mail payment to: FHSO, 144 Front Street West, Suite 700, Toronto, ON M5J 2L7.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SINCE SEPTEMBER 2012

Andrew Bangay
 David Crandall
 Friends of Auchmar
 Austin Gibson
 Linda Hauley
 Carolyn Heald

Huntsville and Area
 Historical Society

John McNeely McCrea Pioneer
 Model and Educational Fund

Kensington Market
 Historical Society

Edward Krattli
 Lawrence Main

Barbara Ronson McNichol
 Morgan Horse Heritage Centre
 Paris Plains Cemetery Association

Douglas Phibbs

Smooth Rock Falls Economic
 Development Corporation

Southern Ontario Military Muster

Adrienne Stevenson
 Tactile Vision Inc.

Tilbury & District
 Historical Society

Marion Weber

Wiikwe-aapkaak
 Gabizhiwebak Society

Dave Willer

DONORS

Carmela Andraos
 Fred Bradley
 Heather Broadbent
 Arthur Bullen
 Dorothy Duncan
 Don Gain

Tom Hilditch
 Jeanne Hopkins
 Jane Irwin

Edward Janiszewski
 Dorothy Johnstone
 Linda Kelly

Edward Krattli
 Ronald MacFeeters
 Lawrence Main

Pauline Mazumdar
 Lisa McDougald
 Naomi Norquay

Steven J. McLarty Payson
 David Peacock

Planting Seeds of Hope
 Ann Rowan

B.E.S. Rudachyk
 Estate of Helen Marie Smibert

James Stanley
 Vina Waddell

Brian and Peter Walker
 Waterloo Region Museum
 Brian Winter

Executive Director's Report

Rob Leverty, Executive Director
rleverty@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca

I am pleased to report that in 2012, the OHS continued to broaden its base across Ontario, attracting new members from every part of the province and from every discipline of the heritage field and beyond.

Throughout 2012, OHS responded to requests for affiliation, which lead to incorporation, resulting in the expansion of Ontario's heritage community, and an increase in OHS's membership and our services to it. This programme continued to achieve a significant goal by empowering and legally organizing Ontario citizens to exercise their democratic rights in their ongoing battles to save our local history.

This year the OHS incorporated twelve historical organizations in the Province of Ontario. Congratulations to the following new not-for-profit historical corporations established through affiliation with the OHS in 2012:

- **Friends of the Merrickville Turbine**
- **Canadian Chapter of the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills**
- **Society for the Preservation of Paris Architectural Heritage**
- **New Sudbury Historical Society/Historique du Nouveau Sudbury**
- **Friends of Auchmar**
- **Morgan Horse Heritage Centre**
- **John McNeely McCrear Pioneer Model and Educational Fund**
- **Paris Plains Cemetery Association**
- **Huntsville and Area Historical Society**
- **Wiikwe-aapkaak Gabizhiwebak Society**
- **Kensington Market Historical Society**
- **Southern Ontario Military Muster**

In the past 24 months, the OHS incorporated 26 new affiliated societies. Over the past three years, the Society incorporated 37 historical organizations.

I am also pleased to report that the Society is on track to record a small fiscal surplus in 2012. This will be the fourth consecutive year that the Society has operated without a deficit; the organization has no outstanding debts or liabilities. I can assure you that the Society will remain totally committed to its policies of balanced budgets, fiscal discipline, strict spending controls, and prudent financial management.

The OHS insurance programme has remained popular this year with the Society processing and approving 31 new insurance applications from member organizations. Established in 2008, the OHS insurance programme enables and protects volunteers serving on the Boards of Directors of our member organizations across Ontario.

As of December 14, 2012, there were 73 historical organizations that have Directors and Officers Liability Insurance policies underwritten at a limit of \$2 million each. There are 80 organizations that have General Liability Insurance policies with liability limits of at least \$2 million and 35 have purchased coverage for contents and property.

2012 was also an important year for our peer reviewed, scholarly journal *Ontario History*. Last spring, OHS was granted "Institutional Eligibility" by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to administer Aid to a Scholarly Journal. OHS was subsequently awarded three-year funding to assist the Society

in publishing *Ontario History*.

In June, the Society launched its War of 1812-1814 bicentennial webpage (ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/1812). For the very first time, subscribers to *Ontario History* have electronic access to all the articles and book reviews related to the War of 1812 that were published in our journal since 1899.

In the spring, OHS launched a special issue of *Ontario History* on the War of 1812. This past year, an impressive 17 articles and 17 book reviews were published in the spring and autumn issues of the journal. Congratulations and thanks to *Ontario History's* editor Tory Tronrud, its book review editor Ron Stagg, all of the authors who submitted scholarship, and the peer reviewers for their outstanding scholarly work in 2012.

In 2011, the Government of Ontario requested that the OHS and the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) identify the exact locations of all the unregistered cemeteries in Ontario in order for the Province to register them. I am happy to report that in 2012 the two societies officially submitted to the Ontario Government lists of unregistered cemeteries in the Districts and Counties of Algoma, Brant, Bruce, Carleton, Cochrane, Dundas and Durham. Thanks to all the OHS and OGS volunteers who are working tirelessly on this historic initiative. It is in the public interest that all cemeteries be registered to ensure that they enjoy the same legal status and will be treated equally. OHS and OGS will continue to honour their public commitments on this important principle and are determined to complete this project as soon as possible.

Thanks to all of you who made it all happen in 2012. Our success is because of our members, subscribers, donors and volunteers.



In October, the OHS participated in the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario's (ADO) EnAbling ExChange: Accessibility Networking Event. Seen here with Rob Leverty is the event's Keynote Speaker, Josh Cassidy, Winner 2012 Boston and Chicago Wheelchair Marathons. OHS was an EnAbling Change Partner with ADO and published, *Accessible Heritage – An Accessibility Tool Kit for Ontario's Heritage Organizations and Institutions* (2008). To learn more visit www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/accessibility.

The strength of the OHS rests on the support and enthusiasm of each and every one of you. Together, we are building a more diverse and powerful community-based movement for Ontario's history.

The Society will continue to build upon its tradition of service to the province's heritage community to ensure a future for Ontario's past. It remains a great honour and an incredible privilege to work on your behalf. Good health and best wishes to all of you in 2013!

Across the Province

As we bid farewell to 2012 and welcome the new year there are, once again, many events to remember and to celebrate including Hutchison House in Peterborough marking 175 years, the Oro World's Fair in Simcoe County 160 years, the Ontario Veterinary College in Guelph 150 years, the Kingston Historical Society 120 years, Central Public School in Burlington 100 years, Bronte Harbour Yacht Club and the Glengarry Historical Society 50 years, the Ontario Museum Association, Innisfil Historical Society and the Paris Historical Society Museum and Archives all marking 40 years. The latter group is also celebrating the move to new headquarters in the Syl Apps Community Centre. The Gananoque Historical Society also reports that the Society Archives has been relocated to the waterfront Arthur Child Heritage Centre and Museum: 613.382.2282. And of course, 2013 will mark the 125th anniversary of The Ontario Historical Society and the centennial of the construction of its headquarters, the historic John McKenzie House!

Calendars for the coming year that are both beautiful and of historic interest are available from the Niagara Historical Society Museum, which partnered with the RiverBrink Art Museum for twelve images from both collections: 905.468.3912. The Paris Museum and Archives has also continued the historical theme of Paris through its industries, businesses and municipal leaders: 519.442.3469.

This is also the 175th anniversary of the Rebellions of 1837 and 1838 in Upper and Lower Canada, and rebellious residents have again been in the news! In 1837, John Montgomery's Tavern stood at the corner of Yonge Street and present-day Montgomery Avenue, and was the site of a skirmish on December 7 when the rebels were overcome by the militia. As the years passed, this was the site of several taverns and hotels, meetings of both York Township Council and York Masonic Lodge, a post office and finally Postal Station K. This latter building has now been sold to a private developer, the Rockport Group, despite months of pro-

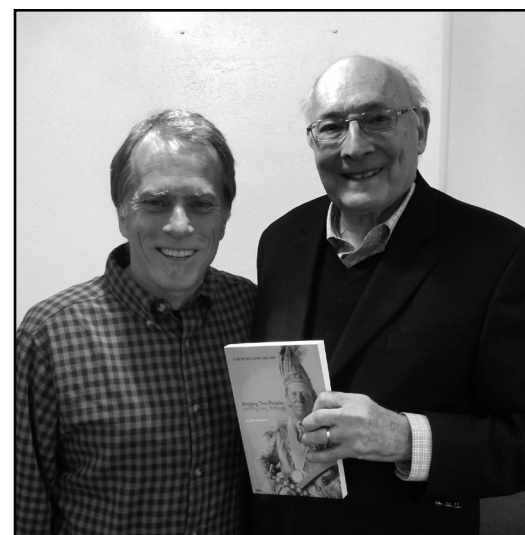
tests and petitions to save it.

There is good news for the historic Erindale Community Hall as the City of Mississauga has confirmed that it will acquire, renovate and maintain this historic structure, thus ensuring the future of this community landmark: 905.271.0758.

Friends and colleagues of Lois Chipper will be saddened to learn of her passing in November after a long battle with cancer. Lois served at the Ontario Ministry of Culture and with the OHS. Her memorial service was held at St. Mark's United Church in Don Mills and her ashes rest in St. James Cemetery, Toronto.

The Hastings County Historical Society has launched a project commemorating the upcoming centennial of Hastings County's men and women who served in the Great War 1914-1918. If you would like to participate in this project or you have someone to recommend, contact: kennedycounty@gmail.com.

The Uxbridge Scott Historical Society and Uxbridge Historical Centre report the archaeological excavation of an 1806 log shanty and 1830 frame house built for the Gold/Gould family prior to the final construction stage of the



OHS member Dr. Allan Sherwin (Professor Emeritus of Neurology, McGill University) is seen here giving a copy of his recent book *Bridging Two Peoples: Chief Peter E. Jones 1843-1909*, Wilfrid Laurier University Press, to Rob Leverty for the OHS's collection. Allan's book was reviewed in "From The Bookshelf," October 2012 *OHS Bulletin*.

Quaker Village subdivision. Over 5,000 artifacts were recorded during the week-long dig.

Meanwhile, the Grenville Historical Society reports success in the erection and unveiling of a plaque commemorating the 1978 archaeological excavation that

"Across" cont'd page 4 ...

revealed a nearby 17th century Iroquoian village: 613.925.0489.

Bruce County Historical Society has a Barn Project underway with volunteers photographing barns in the former townships of Arran, Bruce, Elderslie, Kincardine and Saugeen to preserve their images for future generations to enjoy, before they vanish from the landscape: 519.389.5229.

Barns are also playing an integral role in the Barn Quilt Trails in Norfolk, Brant, Oxford, Elgin and Middlesex counties, as they are the canvas for the decorative murals based on quilt block designs as markers to signal historic points of interest. For example, one of them is located at the Ontario Power Generation's Nanticoke Station that was built on the site of the 1813 Battle of Nanticoke: www.barnquilttrails.ca.

Have you ever visited the Home Hardware Museum in St. Jacobs? The business was founded by Walter Hachborn of Conestoga and now comprises over 1,000 stores across Canada. The Tool Group of Canada reports a very successful visit with lunch at the St. Jacobs Mennonite Church: 905.436.9387.

There are many interesting exhibits to visit at your local museum and gallery including:

- "From an Artist's Brush" featuring renowned artist Doug Bradford at the Sault Ste. Marie Museum during January: 705.759.7278

- "The Water Czar: R.C. Harris Works for Toronto, 1912-1945," 2nd floor, South St. Lawrence Market, 95 Front Street East, Toronto, until March 2: 416.392.7604



Photo Rob Levery

OHS Board Director, Carolyn King, Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation, shows her Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal to OHS First Vice President Joe Stafford at a recent board meeting. Carolyn received this medal for her excellence in community service as "a strong advocate of First Nations history and culture and co-founder the New Credit Public Library." Joe teaches history at St. Theresa CSS in Belleville and is a former recipient of the Governor General's Award for Teaching History.

- "Connecting Northern Ontario: The Ontario Northland Art Collection" at Discovery North Bay, 100 Ferguson Street until March 31: 705.476.2323

- "Picturing Immigrants in the Ward" at the City of Toronto Archives, 255 Spadina Road until May: 416.397.5000

- "Windsor's Catholic Heritage: Highlights from the Diocese of

Farewell, Paul James Delaney

August 8, 1944 – October 19, 2012



Photo Chris Johnstone

Paul Delaney's passing will be mourned not only by members of The Ontario Historical Society where he served on its Board of Directors and its Young Ontario Committee, but also by countless friends, neighbours, fellow teachers, students and museum workers across Canada and the world.

Paul graduated from the first class at Trent University and became the first Director of Ste. Marie among the Hurons, a volunteer for the Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee and a founding member of the Friends of The OPP Museum, both member societies of the OHS. His remarkable teaching career took him to several locations in Simcoe County and abroad; he was recognized with many honours including the Governor General's Award for Excellence in History Teaching.

A service of thanksgiving to celebrate his life was held at St. Mark's Anglican Lutheran Church in Midland, followed by a reception at Christ Church, Waubaushene, both treasured places of worship in Paul's life.

London's Archives" at Windsor's Community Museum, 254 Pitt Street W. until August: 519.253.1812.

Programmes and special events abound in the new year, and here is just a sampling:

- February 2-3: Antique and Nostalgia Show/Sale hosted by the Lake Scugog Historical Society at the Scugog Arena, Reach Street, Port Perry: 905.985.6188.

- February 5: "Empires of Food" with Evan Fraser, March 5: "Trees of Guelph and the Great Tree

Hunt" with Nora Chaloner and April 2: "Genealogy: Finding Your Ancestors" with Susan Edwards, all hosted by the Guelph Historical Society, at 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 161 Norfolk Street: blouclark@rlproyalcity.com.

- February 23: Grey County Black History Event with release of *Northern Terminus* Journal, Vol. 10, presented by Emancipation Festival. Full day schedule and pricing at www.greyroots.com/programs-events/events.

OHS Welcomes New Affiliate: New Sudbury Historical Society/Historique du Nouveau Sudbury

Doris Floreani,
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A group of New Sudbury residents recently came to the realization that the history of the largest section of the City of Greater Sudbury had not been documented. Arthemise Camirand-Peterson, with Ron Wiseman, attended a meeting of the Sudbury Heritage Committee in January 2010 and proposed a project to research and document the history of New Sudbury – a proposal met with applause and encouragement.

As a result, a new organization, the New Sudbury Historical Society (NSHS), was formed. A very enthusiast group of residents started meeting at the New Sudbury Library in March of that same year. This was started by word of mouth, and descendants of the area's 1880s lumbering and farming era came forward with their ancestors' stories, photos, news articles and other artifacts. Within a year the media was publishing news articles, and NSHS public display tables were set up at a local mall and farmer's market. An



Photo Arthemise Camirand-Peterson

Linda Kelly, Secretary, OHS Board of Directors and Chair, Affiliated Societies Committee (left) with Arthemise Camirand-Peterson, President, New Sudbury Historical Society/Historique du Nouveau Sudbury (NSHS) at the Voyageur Heritage Network's fall meeting at Science North, Sudbury. NSHS incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation through affiliation with the OHS on June 3, 2012.

interview on CBC Radio created a real buzz and kept information pouring in.

The Society has been working in partnership with the City of Sudbury, the library board, the Sudbury Archives and the city's curator of museums.

The New Sudbury Historical Society was incorporated as a non-profit organization through affilia-

tion with the OHS on June 8, 2012.

NSHS has completed much of the farming history and looks forward to publishing a book on New Sudbury's history for the benefit of its citizens. It welcomes submissions of interest. Please contact: New Sudbury Historical Society, c/o New Sudbury Library, 1346 Lasalle Boulevard, Sudbury, ON P3A 1Z6.

'Access' from page 1

sophisticated docent training program in place, but with a few adjustments for visitors who are blind or have low vision. Without the Museum's existing tour training program, it would have been difficult to train volunteers to conduct effective multi-sensory tours.

Robb reflected: "It's really satisfying to introduce the collection to a new audience. Sonja Bata has amassed an incredible collection, and I love that we've been able to welcome a new public into the museum."

It's a collection that deserves to be better known, and with leadership and a little ingenuity, similarly sized museums and art galleries can also provide greater access to their collections for all visitors, including patrons with disabilities.

Tour fees are \$14/adult, \$12/senior, \$8/student, and \$5/child, and allows one complimentary companion per paying visitor with a disability. Please contact Andrea Field at andrea@batashoemuseum.ca or 416.979.7799 ext. 242 to arrange a guided multi-sensory tour or visit www.batashoemuseum.ca.



Find the OHS
on Facebook!

Lake of the Woods Museum Mobile Tour

**Lori Nelson, Director,
Lake of the Woods Museum**
lnelson@kmts.ca

In a small Northwestern Ontario community museum, technology is making its mark on visitor experience and is improving access to the museum's collection like never before. The Lake of the Woods Museum in Kenora, Ontario, spent over a year developing a mobile tour for its permanent exhibit gallery. The tour, launched in June 2012, is presented on iPads and provides an audio/visual experience that maximizes visitors' time at the museum by engaging them in a high-tech, non-traditional approach to museum learning.

A sampling of the type of content on the tour includes: audio clips, video interviews, and archival and current photographs presented in slideshow format with locally composed and performed music. There are over 130 clips of information.

The five and a half hours of content are built upon a framework of information about the artifacts on display, case by case. From there, visitors have the opportunity to explore particular subject areas in greater detail. In essence, the mobile tour allows visitors to custom-design their visit to the museum, concentrating on those areas which are of particular interest to them, and accessing more information on subject matters that have piqued their curiosity. As well, the tour provides patrons an opportunity to delve into parts of the collection which aren't currently on display.

As an example, these are the

menu options for a display of First Nations' beaded bandoliers:

- Commentary: a photo of the exhibit case in which artifacts are highlighted as an audio commentary provides information.

- Photographs: audio commentary about the photographs displayed.

- Bandoliers in Archival Photographs: a slideshow of archival photographs from the collection in which bandoliers are being worn.

- Men's Modern Ceremonial Regalia: a slideshow of current photographs of men's regalia accompanied by music performed by local drumming group, the Whitefish Bay Singers.

- Perspectives of Modern First Nations Culture: Short video clips of Geraldine Kakeeway speaking about each of these topics: We Are Here Today; My Personal Connection to My Culture; Revival of Cultural Traditions; Dispelling Myths; The Future.

The development of the tour arose from Museum Board and staff discussions about using technology to improve the visitor experience, one of the strategic objectives of the museum's long-term plan. The iPad seemed the ideal platform, given its capabilities, the quality of imaging, its size and weight, and cost. Open source software, developed by the Indianapolis Museum of Art, called TAP, was used for content management.

Museum staff provided the information framework and then worked with a local production company for the audio/visual content. The production expertise was definitely needed for this project.

The major costs for the project were equipment purchase – e.g.



Photo Lake of the Woods Museum

video camera, iPads, protective cases, charging unit – and production. To finance the project, three grants were received, one from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport through their Museums and Technology Fund, one through the Common Ground Research Forum, a local non-governmental funding agency, and the other from the local community foundation. The museum's contribution represented about 9% of the project costs.

Certainly one of the most appealing aspects of this project was the community involvement. People were asked to share their expertise (e.g. a wildlife biologist spoke about the natural history specimens in the collection); their stories (e.g. immigration stories of people from Sweden, the Philippines, France, etc.); or their connection to a particular artifact on display (e.g. a model maker talking about the model of his dad's commercial fishing boat that he made). This involvement of community members in artifact interpretation gives life to the items and also to the museum. No longer are these "dead" artifacts in an institutional setting, they are living within a context that has been drawn by a diverse community's connection to them. This has unlocked a new level of interpretation, which comes through various "voices" in the tour, something more difficult to present in a written guidebook.

Again, by involving community members who have a direct con-

nection to particular artifacts or who have stories to share, links are made between what was and what is. That process brings relevance to museums and museum collections in a significant way. For instance, to have someone from the First Nations community speaking about perspectives on modern First Nations culture reminds us that the artifacts displayed in the museum are connected to a timeline of events and ceremonies that continue to this day in a culture that is very much alive and thriving.

As well, early on in the development stages, we sought people to try the tour and provide us with feedback. Their comments were extremely helpful and touched on everything, including iPad navigation and content suggestions.

The Lake of the Woods Museum was the recipient of the Ontario Museum Association Award of Excellence for Special Projects this year for the Mobile Tour. It also received the 2010 OHS Museum Award of Excellence for developing an exhibit about residential schools in Northern Ontario. That said, the Museum is just as, if not more, pleased by the positive feedback received from the hundreds of visitors to the Lake of the Woods Museum this past summer who tried the tour because, after all, it's for them that we did it! Their words are a great encouragement to us to continue to seek out better ways of engaging our audience and providing them with the information they want.



At the 2012 Ontario Museum Association (OMA) Conference in Niagara Falls, OHS Executive Director Rob Leverty presented Marie Lalonde, Executive Director, OMA, with a special certificate in recognition of OMA's 40th Anniversary "of ensuring a strong and sustainable museum sector for the benefit of Ontario residents and the global community." Congratulations OMA on this milestone and on the recent launch of the "Discover Ontario Museums" mobile app and website at www.museumsonario.ca.

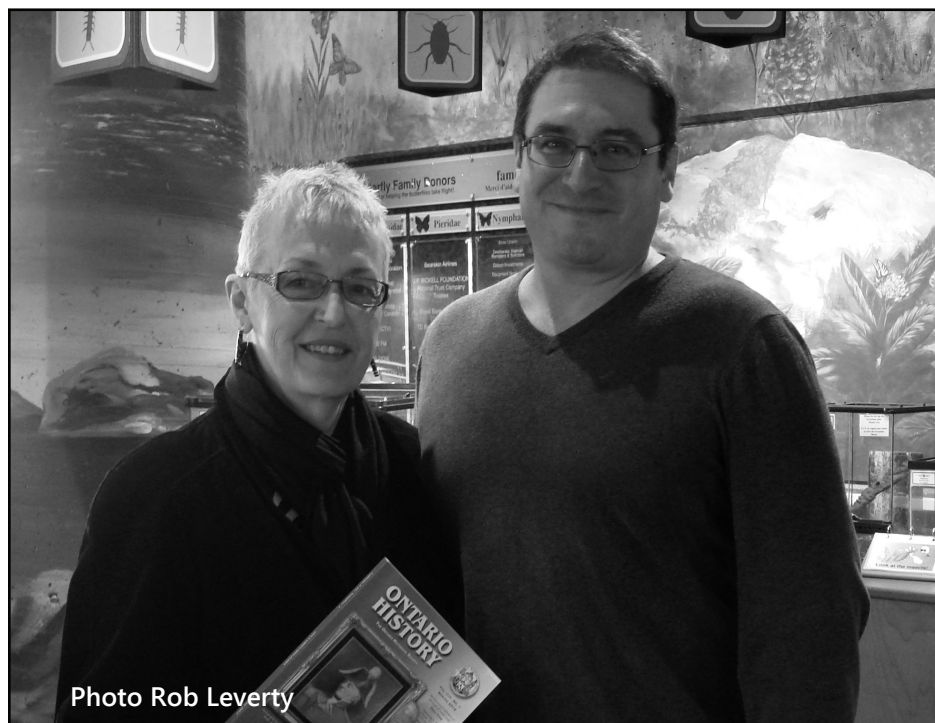


Photo Rob Leverty

OHS Salutes Anita! Serge Ducharme, OHS Board Member and Chair, Museums Committee, congratulates Anita Brunet-Lamarche, Regional Advisor, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport on her retirement after 25 years of outstanding public service to Ontario's heritage community. Anita, we will miss you. Thanks again and happy trails to you and your family.

Cemetery News

Marjorie Stuart, Editor
marjstuart@sympatico.ca

The Annual Loyalist Day ceremonies are normally held on June 19, Loyalist Day. This year it was celebrated on June 18 to coincide with the 200th anniversary of the declaration of the War of 1812. This year, re-enactors wore the uniform of the Canadian Fencibles. The ceremony took place at the Loyalist Cemetery in Adolphustown but War of 1812 veterans were also honoured in other local cemeteries. The Loyalist Cemetery in Adolphustown is in need of extensive repair. The Bay of Quinte Branch and the UEL Heritage Centre are seeking funds for this project.

Churchville Cemetery in Peel County recently celebrated its 190th anniversary. The cemetery was established by Amaziah Church in 1822. His burial site is marked by a wooden slab, the only one its kind within the cemetery.

Richmond Hill Presbyterian Cemetery was rededicated in September. The cemetery was established in 1806 but it is believed to have been the site of an early First Nations burial ground.

This year the annual historical walking tour of Beechwood

Cemetery in Ottawa recognized performing artists. Fifteen artists were honoured and seven burial sites were highlighted by actors.

Jim Trautman writing in the *Elmira Independent* tells of his visits to historic pioneer cemeteries in Wellington County. He comments that "each is a window into the lives of early settlers and almost every gravestone tells a story." He describes the artwork and the information often found on early tombstones.

Laura Suchan, Executive Director of the Oshawa Community Museum and former OHS Board Director, has started a Facebook page to share her love of old cemeteries and cemetery art. Follow [facebook.com/EarlyGravemarkers](https://www.facebook.com/EarlyGravemarkers).

Correction Notice: I quoted an article from *The Montreal Gazette* in the previous issue. St. Mary's Cemetery, where Prime Minister Arthur Meighen and his wife lie buried, is in fact well managed and maintained.

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.

Wilton Women's Institute Hall

In 1874, the Saul Brothers, notable Lennox and Addington County stone masons, constructed from limestone the Wilton Wesleyan Methodist Church. In 1925, the building became Wilton United Church. It was also known as First Emmanuel United Church and was deconsecrated in 1967. Two years later, the Wilton Women's Institute bought it for \$1.00 in the hope that it would serve as a non-religious community centre for the village.

In 1997, the Institute and other interested citizens, led by Nina Reece, began efforts to restore and preserve the hall. Heritage consultant Andre Sheinman provided advice and lent his name to fundraising events. The roof was repaired, and with the help of Ernestown Township, two new furnaces were installed, but much work remained to be done. Restoration was split into phases, each accompanied by the same process: approval of the heritage consultant's plans, obtaining of estimates and, finally, a fundraising campaign. The culmination of this long process was an addition at the rear of the building where it does not interrupt the integrity of the architecture. This expansion included proper washroom facilities, a potable water system and a modern, efficient kitchen. Although an

incredible amount of money was raised – including grants from over a dozen businesses and agencies – the work could not have been accomplished without the many volunteers who donated materials and skilled labour. In 2011, the final task of adding exterior siding to the addition was completed, funded in part by donations in memory of Ernie Frink, husband of Wilton W.I. President Mary Frink. It is now a full-fledged community hall that welcomes activities such as yoga classes, travelling theatre companies, and local musicians – not to mention many other events as diverse as pot-luck suppers, plant sales, weddings and funeral receptions.

In the fall of 2012, the Institute began negotiations to transfer ownership of the Hall and grounds to Loyalist Township (an amalgamation of Ernestown and two other townships). The management of the Hall would be undertaken by a newly-formed non-profit Wilton Community Association. It is hoped that an agreement will be reached sometime in 2013 – and that the community of Wilton will enjoy this lovely heritage building and will remember the "good news" story of how it came to pass for many years to come!

To learn more, contact Jane McDonald, ejane@explornet.com.

Photo John Sheehan



Pictured (from left): Erik Hanson, City of Peterborough and CPPPC members Gary Carey, John Sheehan, Eleanor Aldus, Peter McConkey, Stan MacLean (absent are Bill Amell, Fergus Young, Richard Wellesly Staples).

'Memorial' from page 1

ment. This author, along with Mr. Young, contacted a number of skilled local family historians with the aim of establishing a citizens' group to address the problems raised by what they regarded as a disturbing proposal to erect the veterans' monument on the site of the pioneer cemetery. Soon thereafter, CPPPC was joined by the OHS and the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS), and jointly objected to a proposal that was before the Registrar of Cemeteries for the Province of Ontario to partially close a section of the pioneer cemetery.

The CPPPC conducted a number of research studies and produced some key documents that clearly confirmed the existence of the pioneer cemetery and its importance to Peterborough. A significant challenge to the committee's initiative to throw light on the earliest history of the pioneer burial ground was the absence of a burial register for the cemetery; documents generated in this regard included a history of the cemetery and a study identifying well over four hundred persons certainly or probably interred in the cemetery. The names of these persons were taken from a variety of written sources, including church burial records and obituaries, cross-referenced against records from other cemeteries in the area.

In May 2007, OHS and OGS supported the decision of Michael D'Mello, Registrar of Cemeteries, to reject the City of Peterborough's application to close the proposed section of the cemetery. In July 2007, the city appealed the Registrar's decision. There followed a very difficult period for city officials. One may well understand the dilemma confronting those who, in order not to disturb the graves, might well be compelled to reject the request of our veterans and their supporters to erect their monument. A number of possible alternative locations close to the park were floated, but were rejected by those who clearly indicated that the only monument site they wished was that of Confederation Square. As well, internal conflict arose between the City Council and some of its committees. Much of the community was split over the question of whether the veterans monument should be erected in Confederation Square if it necessitated significant disturbing of the buried remains of a number of our pioneers. In 2008,

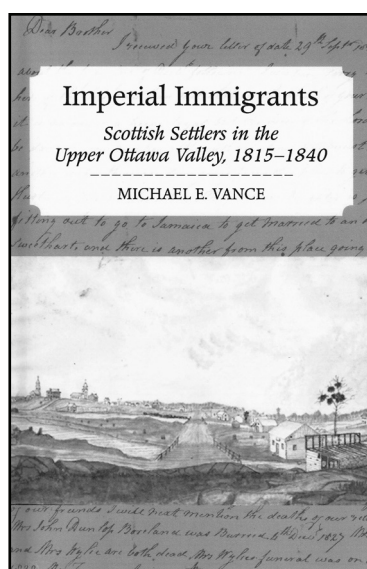
the City of Peterborough launched an appeal against the D'Mello decision, but it was later dropped.

In the early spring of 2008, a new Wall of Honour Committee was constituted by the Mayor with broader representation from veteran groups. This committee, together with the Mayor, initiated meetings with Major-General Richard Rohmer, a much-decorated war hero, veteran and lawyer. On the request of MPP Jeff Leal, the Premier of Ontario requested Major-General Rohmer's assistance to resolve the conflict with the veterans. Eventually, that process resulted in a proposal to build the monument on the 'previously disturbed' soil on which the Alward cenotaph has stood since the late 1920s. The approval of the Registrar for this proposal of General Rohmer was sought and received. Several early designs proposed by the Major-General were rejected, but eventually one design submitted by local landscape architect Brian Basterfield was proposed by the City and was met with wide acceptance. The CPPPC, OHS, and OGS also supported this proposal, but with reservations after further park landscape improvements. The matter was finally resolved when CPPPC was assured that neither the proposed monument nor other landscape changes would extend below the approximately two-foot depth of earthen fill above the burial ground and that any encounter with remains would result in a diversion of any construction. Our committee was further assured that there would be no disturbance or removal of remains interred in the park. It was also proposed and agreed that the City would undertake, within the park, an appropriate means for commemorating the pioneer cemetery and the many historical uses of the site.

On October 9, 2010, the new Wall of Honour was unveiled. It consisted of twelve rough-hewn granite blocks arranged in a semicircle around the back of the cenotaph mound and directed outward. Each block has one black granite slab on which the names of veterans were etched in white. Despite the apparent absence of any graves below, the boulders were positioned on a bed of sand in order not to disturb the surface of the burial grounds beneath. As indicated at the beginning of this article, the entire project to restore Confederation Square has now been completed with the erection this autumn of the four historical plaques.

From The Bookshelf

Dr. Cynthia Comacchio
ccomac5702@rogers.com



PEOPLING ONTARIO

Seeking a Better Future: the English Pioneers of Ontario and Quebec. Lucille H. Campey. Dundurn. Paperback, 472 pp. \$35; ebook \$17. dundurn.com.

Imperial Immigrants: Scottish Settlers in the Upper Ottawa Valley, 1815 – 1840. Michael E. Vance. Dundurn. Paperback, 256 pp. \$33; ebook \$17.

The second contribution to Dundurn's important series, "The English in Canada," Lucille H. Campey's study is a meticulously-researched recounting of the early nineteenth-century English emigration that transformed the wilderness of Upper and Lower Canada, effectively preparing the way for the social, economic and political developments manifesting in Confederation. Drawing from a rigorous examination and layering of documents from British and Canadian archives, Campey effectively argues that these emigrant waves consisted largely of resourceful men, often with young families, who saw emigration as a family strategy to improve their economic fortunes. Contrary to the common view that many were impoverished and looking to the new land as a last resort, she indicates, by weaving official accounts such as those of government and emigrant agencies and shipping firms with personal writings, memoirs, and correspondence, that those who came had some capital in hand as well as the ambition to work hard and achieve their objectives for land ownership and family prosperity. Put simply, "most

did". The book's first two chapters, "Canada's Appeal to the English" and "The Loyalist Immigrants," provide essential context for the subsequent six chapters that detail settlement in specific geographic locations: south/west of Montreal; the Eastern Townships; the Ottawa Valley; west along Lake Ontario; Lake Erie and the Thames Valley; and the remainder of the western peninsula. Chapter 9 discusses the emigration of the early post-Confederation years, once again strongly supported by a British government eager to "transport" its social problems, specifically those constituted by the labouring poor, and Ontario and Quebec governments and businesses just as eager to facilitate emigration of much-needed labour. Among these were the "home children," who, whether actually orphaned or simply relinquished to care because of parental destitution, would make their way to Canadian farms by the thousands over the subsequent fifty years. If Britain was increasingly committed to this timely emigration of the needy, Campey notes that, as was true of the earlier emigration, most who relocated during this time were able to do so at their own expense. The closing chapter is a compelling recreation of the sea crossing itself, both adventure and feat of endurance, but, for the most part, ending in a safe landing to a new life. The book is well-illustrated, with maps indicating the concentration of English emigrants in particular settlements, photographs, posters and advertisements, and 21 tables providing such vital information as passenger lists with names of emigrants, the ships that carried them, and where they boarded and disembarked, including 'paupers' assisted by various philanthropic societies and the payments made to them. This comprehensive study is readable and engaging, and will interest genealogists and students of Ontario's history alike.

In contrast to Campey's broad scope, Vance's *Imperial Immigrants* is an examination of the early nineteenth-century Scottish emigration as a case study focused on the Upper Ottawa Valley for a period of roughly 35 years. His subjects are the nearly 4,000 Scots who took advantage of the British government emigration schemes, which figure in Campey's work as well, to relo-

cate across the Atlantic. Vance finds that, in addition to small tenant farmers suffering the hardships entailed by agricultural reorganization in the Highland estates, the majority – many of them artisans who organized to petition for government assistance – were urban Lowlanders displaced by the economic depression after the Napoleonic wars. Although their motivations for emigration, and their consequent re-formation socially, economically and politically in Upper Canada, are the heart of his story; his larger framework is that of British imperialism. Vance begins this intriguing study with the observation that the British, or at least the educated readers among them, were "well aware" that their "settlement" was in fact a dislocation of the land's true "settlers," the Indigenous peoples to whom it belonged. The opening chapter, "Land and Empire," discusses the treaty negotiations undertaken by the Colonial Office and their outcome for First Nations and the British emigrants for whom the way was cleared. Vance's work re-examines the standard pioneer story within this imperial context, the world-view and constellation of meanings ascribed to "race," religion, status and the relations of "Indian" and "pioneer" that imperialism encompassed. Drawing from a rich base of early pioneer chronicles, emigration tracts and imperialist writings, as well as Ottawa Valley newspapers of the time, Vance traces the transatlantic lines of that imperialism to suggest how these shaped, and were shaped by, the Upper Canadian politics of this tumultuous period. Just as important, he contends, is how the stories of "migration and settlement reveal as much about the depth of social conflict in the homeland and in the colonies as they do about preoccupations of the British imperial state." Following developments chronologically, the chapters consider: government initiatives for the early settlers; the arrival of the Breadalbane estate tenants in 1818; the role of the emigration societies, largely in relocating displaced industrial workers from the Glasgow area; the culture of the newly-arrived, particularly as reflected in the religious and political views that found expression through the central institution of the church. The two closing chapters are especially compelling, in that they treat the often-marginalized role of women in this immigrant community, which was nonetheless key to its survival and prosperity, and, finally, how memory and recollection

have shaped this formative chapter in the Scottish experience in Canada. All told, Vance provides a sensitive analysis that fills in some of the lesser-known elements of the immigrant story in Upper Canada.

DYNAMIC ONTARIANS: LIFE STORIES

The "Tiger": Soldier, Engineer and Army Surgeon. Paul Carroll, ed. BPR Publications. Paperback, 146 pp. \$25. thesolsean@aol.com.

The Power of the Pen: The Politics, Nationalism, and Influence of Sir John Willison. Richard Clippingdale. Dundurn. Paperback, 440 pp. \$30; ebook \$15.

My Heart's Best Wishes for You: A Biography of Archbishop John Walsh. John P. Comiskey. McGill-Queen's University Press. Cloth, 304 pp. \$95. mqup.ca

Canadians with Custer. Mary Thomas. Dundurn. Paperback, 280 pp. \$25; ebook, \$12.

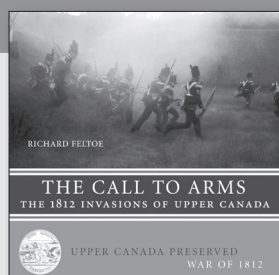
Of all the colourful characters of Ontario's past, undoubtedly Dr. William "Tiger" Dunlop is a prime contender for the top spot. As one of the frontrunners of British settlement along the Huron Tract, the Canada Company's "Warden of the Forests," and founder of the town of Goderich, the Tiger's story is also familiar to most readers. With this book, Paul Carroll carries out a personal labour of love by bringing to light, in honour of the bicentennial of the War of 1812, the Tiger's lesser-known involvements in that war. As such, this book, consisting of a thoughtfully-annotated recounting of Dunlop's *Recollections of the American War*, will fascinate both 1812 and Tiger fans. In a contextual introduction, Carroll sketches in the necessary background with a brief presentation of the known details of Dunlop's war service,

'Bookshelf' cont'd page 8...

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

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

How do we select books to be reviewed? Our criteria are 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.

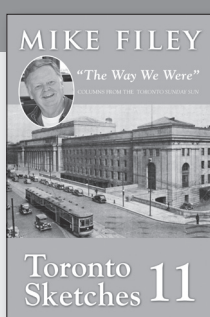


THE CALL TO ARMS

The 1812 Invasions of Upper Canada
Upper Canada Preserved — War of 1812 series, Book 1
by Richard Feltoe
160 pages | \$19.99 TP | 40 b&w illustrations, 20 maps, bibliography, index

Provides an unprecedented account through official documents, authentic

photographs, etc., of the war that decided the destiny and future of North America. Also featured are unique battlefield maps that trace the course of individual battles.

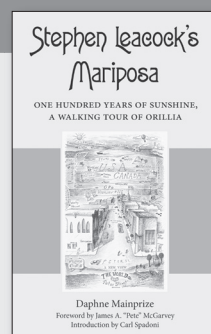


TORONTO SKETCHES 11

The Way We Were
by Mike Filey
240 pages | \$19.99 TP | 162 b&w illustrations

Mike Filey brings Toronto's history and the stories of its people and places to life. Featured in this volume are Hurricane Hazel, the Great Lakes

passenger ships of yore, the St. Clair streetcar redo, and the unforgettable Toronto snowstorm of 1944.



STEPHEN LEACOCK'S MARIPOSA

One Hundred Years of Sunshine, a Walking Tour of Orillia
by Daphne Mainprize
112 pages | \$9.99 TP | 80 b&w illustrations

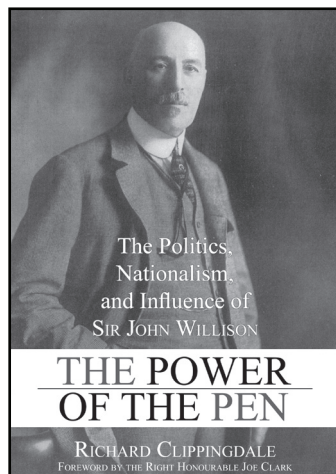
This walking tour guide of Orillia, Ontario, the inspiration for Stephen Leacock's fabled Mariposa, invites the reader to explore the history, people, and places through the eyes

of Leacock and experience the magic that is Mariposa.

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40 years
DUNDURN
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as well as the context for his *Recollections*. The Tiger served in the "American War," as contemporaries called it, as an army surgeon in the 89th Regiment, on Lake Ontario and the Niagara peninsula. He also performed military and medical duty with the 103rd Regiment and the Canadian Fencibles in the southern territory of Georgian Bay. What follows is a transcription of Dunlop's memoirs of service (first published serially in 1847) with comments, explanations and "expansions" by Carroll. There are photographs and maps, historic and contemporary, and a number of biographical appendices, also historic and contemporary, including one by Carroll.



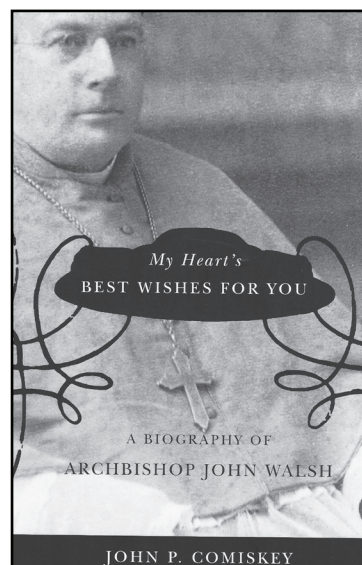
Richard Clippingdale's *The Power of the Pen* reminds us just how fleeting power can be. Clippingdale's subject, Sir John Willison, was unquestionably a "man of influence" as the twentieth century dawned, yet few Canadians of our own times could identify him as such – or at all. This masterful intellectual biography places Willison squarely within the network of nation-builders of the Laurier years. A journalist of modest beginnings – "hardscrabble," in the author's depiction – Willison became editor of the *Toronto Globe* and the *Toronto Evening News* as well as Canadian correspondent to the *London Morning Post* and the *London Times*, and was knight-

DUNDURN Welcomes Book Proposals
on historical topics from OHS members.
Visit dundurn.com for submission guidelines.

ed in recognition of his many achievements. His Ontario Protestant world-view infused his ardent nationalism, itself the curious blend of imperialism and fledgling "Canadianism" that prevailed among the educated anglophone Canadians of his times. Yet Willison's position in that age of fierce partisanship, both in politics and in journalism, cannot be as readily defined as these characteristics might suggest. He was, for example, a respected advisor to both the Laurier Liberals and the Borden Conservatives. Clippingdale demonstrates that, even before his election in 1896, Laurier looked to the *Globe* editor for advice on how, as a francophone Catholic, he could frame his approach to Ontario voters: Laurier effectively regarded Willison "as his real Ontario lieutenant." Unable to support the Liberal position on Catholic schools in the new provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and strongly opposed to Laurier's Reciprocity strategy in 1911, Willison followed his principles to the Borden Conservative side as the latter won that election and steered the young nation through the tumult of the Great War. In his preface, Clippingdale states that this book "is not a history of Canadian journalism, politics or nationalism in the years covered," its focus remaining intently on the ideas and actions of its subject. In the style of our last true "national historian," Donald Creighton, with whom Clippingdale studied the historian's craft, the author capably explores "the character and circumstances" that shaped a key player in a formative phase of Canadian history so as to illuminate both the man and his times.

John Comiskey's *My Heart's Best Wishes for You* can be situated, like Clippingdale's book, in the genre of intellectual biography.

Comiskey's subject is Archbishop John Walsh, a key historical actor in late nineteenth-century Ontario who has, for the most part, also been relegated to the margins of our past. Walsh, like many other priests in British North America in the mid nineteenth-century, was



an Irish immigrant to Montreal, where he completed his seminary training, and was ordained in Toronto in 1854. There his vocational path diverged from that of most priests of his background, in that he did not continue long in service to the Irish Catholics of the city, many of them refugees of the famine of the 1840s. Like Willison, despite his "modest beginnings," Walsh's intelligence and ability soon distinguished him as he rose in the Church hierarchy at a time of profound anti-Irish and anti-Catholic feeling in the province. By 1862, he was vicar general of the diocese of Toronto; by the time of Confederation, he had been promoted to the see of London; in 1889, he attained the archbishopric of Toronto. As founder of the diocese of London and ultimately archbishop of the province's principal diocese, Walsh was central to the religious skirmishes that so affected, and were affected by, all levels of politics, local, provincial and federal alike. The "circumstances" of his life and times also saw growing tensions within the Church along

what were then called lines of "race," in that French-English conflicts over the question of francophone separate schools threatened the very continuation of those constitutionally-sanctioned schools across the new Dominion. As bishop of London, he inherited a fraught situation sadly mismanaged by his

francophone predecessor, who was asked to resign so that Walsh could repair and reconstitute the tattered Church in southwestern Ontario. As second archbishop of Toronto, he was in charge to an even greater degree of ensuring a strong and cohesive Catholic front before the "Protestant" clamour about minority education rights, while also appeasing the Irish and other anglophone Catholics of his diocese and the province who held no particular co-religionist sympathies in regard to the francophone minority – and all this in the midst of a general anti-Irish anti-Catholic sentiment. As does Clippingdale in his Willison biography, Comiskey deftly weaves the larger socio-political context of the times into the fabric of one man's life story, so that, while placing his subject's ideas and actions in the forefront, readers never lose sight of either the life or the times of John Walsh, Archbishop of Toronto.

Canadians with Custer, by Mary Thomas, switches our focus on individual biography to what we might call a collective biography of a number of Canadians whose history is far more marginal than that of the "important men" who figure in the books discussed above. The first question readers will have is answered by the title itself – who knew that Canadians fought alongside the infamous Lieutenant-Colonel George Armstrong Custer as he faced his equally infamous "last stand" in the battle at Little Bighorn River in 1876? For our American friends, Custer has exceeded the merely historical to enter into the realm of myth and legend, and many Canadians have at least a sense of the cultural reference that is "Custer's Last Stand," an ignominious battle to wrest the land of the Sioux and Cheyenne nations for American "settlement." With this lively and engaging book, Thomas introduces readers to the 17 Canadians who joined the 7th Cavalry Regiment of the United States Army to participate in that legendary episode. Among the motley Canadian crew were Civil War veterans, mercenaries and a few itinerants and adventurers. The most notable of the Canadians became Custer's "right-hand man," Lieutenant William Winer Cooke, who hailed from Upper Canadian "society." Also integral to the story is the Canadian-American journalist Mark Kellogg, whose articles from the battlefield enthralled readers on both sides of the border. Eight of the group, including Cooke and Kellogg, perished on the battlefield; the author notes in her epilogue that "there is no indication whether or not any of the Canadians at Little Bighorn who lived to tell the tale ever returned to their home country."

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February 2013 issue copy deadline: Friday, February 8, 2013

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Membership is open to all individuals and societies interested in the history of Ontario. The *OHS Bulletin* is sent free of charge to all members of the OHS. The OHS's biannual scholarly journal, *Ontario History*, is available to members for an additional \$22 per year; member organizations,

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.

Inquiries about submissions and advertising: Editor, *OHS Bulletin*, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, ON M2N 3Y2, 416.226.9011, izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca.

Cemetery News Editor: Marjorie Stuart; *From the Bookshelf* Editor: Dr. Cynthia Comacchio; Printer: Harmony Printing **ISSN 0714-6736**

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