

PRESERVING ONTARIO'S HERITAGE



GERALD KILLAN

PRESERVING ONTARIO'S HERITAGE:
A HISTORY OF
THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By

GERALD KILLAN

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FOR LINDA

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

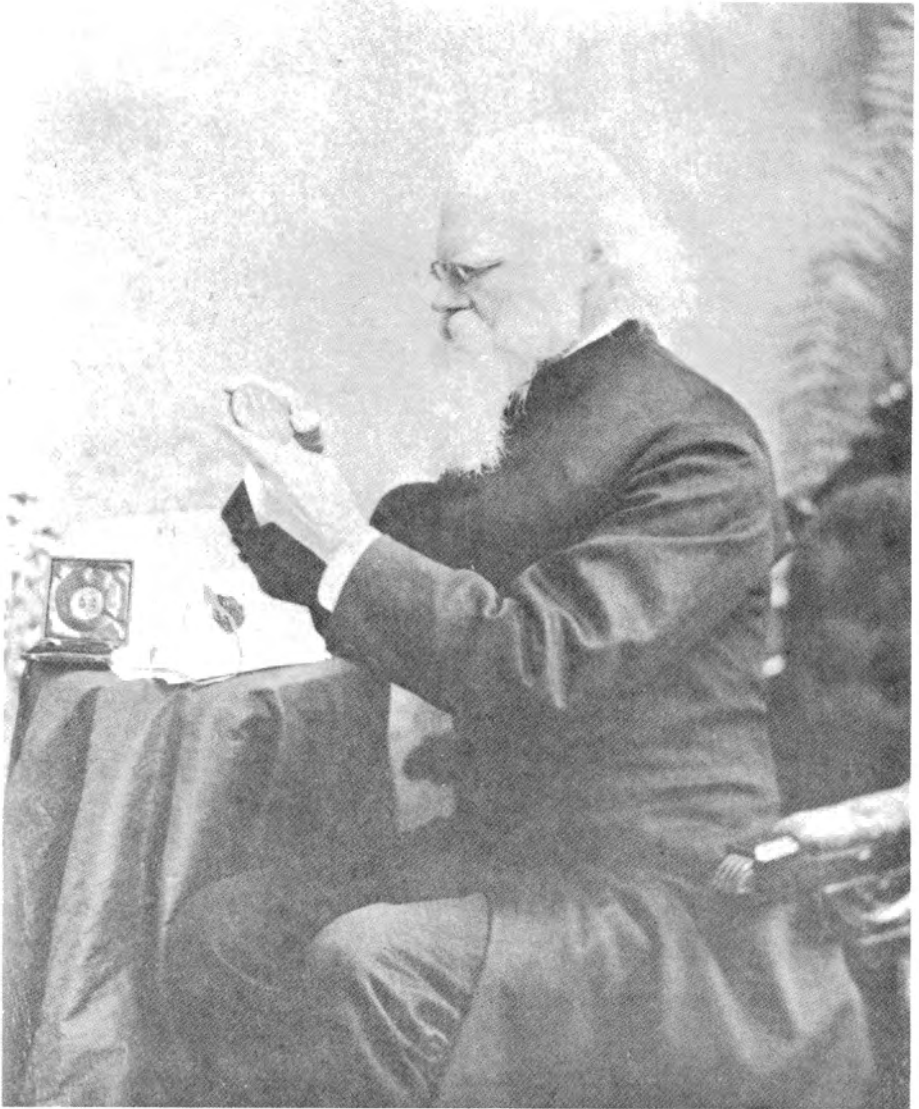
The story of the Ontario Historical Society and its premier role in the heritage movement is one worth telling. Since 1888, the society has been a considerable educational institution and cultural force endeavouring to develop an appreciation of, and interest in, local and provincial history. Its credentials have been established by virtue of its many efforts to record, interpret, publicize, and preserve Ontario's heritage, and its policy of co-ordinating and encouraging the work of local historical associations and museums.

In writing this history I attempted always to keep two objectives in mind. First, to prevent making the volume a mere chronicle of administrative events, I sought to tie the OHS story into the broader social and intellectual context of Ontario during the time span covered. Secondly, while admitting a deep sympathy for the goals of the Ontario Historical Society, I made an earnest effort to cast a critical eye on its performance. All too often "official" historians become little more than servile apologists.

Many people have assisted in the preparation of this book. To Charles M. Johnston, Frederick H. Armstrong, James J. Talman, J. Keith Johnson, and Foster J. K. Griezic, I must express my gratitude for reading and criticizing various drafts of the manuscript and thereby saving me many errors of style, fact and interpretation. I am also indebted to Alice M. Davidson who made my months of research at the OHS office an almost painless experience. A word of appreciation is also necessary for the members and staffs of the various archives, libraries, historical societies, and museums in which I undertook research. The financial assistance provided by King's College, London, Ontario, is gratefully acknowledged. Finally, I wish, above all, to thank my wife Linda. None of this would have been possible without her.

ABBREVIATIONS

AASLH	American Association for State and Local History
AHA	American Historical Association
AHR	<u>American Historical Review</u>
CHR	<u>Canadian Historical Review</u>
CNE	Canadian National Exhibition
DL	Douglas Library, Queen's University
EHSI	Elgin Historical and Scientific Institute
HPL	Hamilton Public Library
IODE	Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire
JCS/Rd'éc	<u>Journal of Canadian Studies/Revue d'études canadiennes</u>
JTWS	<u>Journal and Transactions of the Wentworth Historical Society</u>
KHS	Kingston Historical Society
LLHS	Lundy's Lane Historical Society
LLM	Lundy's Lane Museum
NHS	Niagara Historical Society
OA	Ontario Archives
OEA	Ontario Educational Association
OFPA	Old Fort Protective Association
OH	<u>Ontario History</u>
OHS	Ontario Historical Society
OHSA	Ontario Historical Society Archives
PAC	Public Archives of Canada
PAO	Pioneer Association of Ontario
PCM	Peterborough Centennial Museum
PHS	Peterborough Historical Society
RCI	Royal Canadian Institute
SCHS	Simcoe County Pioneer and Historical Society
SCM	Simcoe County Museum
TPL	Toronto Public Library
UT	University of Toronto Archives
UCA	United Canadian Association
UWO	University of Western Ontario Regional Archives
WCHS	Women's Canadian Historical Society
WHS	Wentworth Historical Society
WWHS	Women's Wentworth Historical Society



REV. I. HENRY SCADDING, 1813-1901