

Update on Railroad Station Preservation

Fred H. Armstrong

Those members who attended the Annual Meeting at London in 1978 will remember the lively debate on railroad station preservation and their resolution supporting Society action on the matter. Three years later they may well be wondering what has taken place. The answer is that there has been much correspondence, not much action by official preservation bodies, considerable buck-passing, and obfuscation by the corporations involved and some sharp and occasionally successful skirmishes over individual stations.

To obtain some statements of policies in response to your resolution the writer immediately contacted the organizations involved and received a very mixed set of answers. The questions that arose were then followed up with the result that, while we have had some further ideas on the policies of the various bodies involved, we are not much further ahead in establishing any overall policy, either federal or provincial, on railway station preservation. The situation may best be explained under the following headings:

1. The Activities of the Preservation Organizations

Generally speaking, the preservation of railway stations has been of peripheral interest to preservation organizations. The complexities of the situation and the possibility of long, costly legal battles are doubtless a deterrent.

Federally, Parks Canada has asked the Canadian Inventory of Historic

Building to prepare a list of stations "typical or representative of each major line". As a result three Ontario Grand Trunk Stations were declared of national significance by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board: Belleville, Prescott and St. Marys Junction. (Also, Union Station in Toronto has now been plaqued because of public outcry.) Heritage Canada has not taken a lead in this type of preservation.

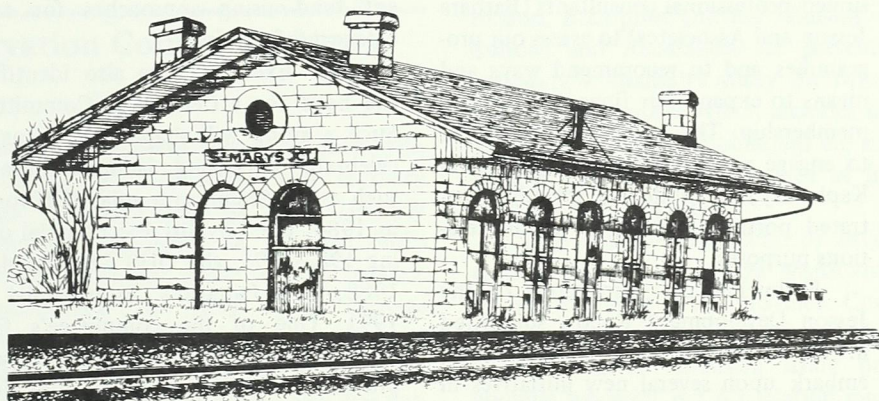
Provincially, the railway historical societies appear interested in trains rather than stations, although they are sympathetic. The Ontario Heritage Foundation has not been active, but has now asked Dave Roberts of your Executive Committee, a former member of its staff, to prepare a report and recommendations. This should be of great assistance in formulating a policy.

2. The Railways' Attitude to Preservation

The Canadian government has hardly shown itself very committed to the redevelopment of rail services and has created the anomalous system under which Via Rail operates the passenger

services and CN and the CPR own the lines and the stations. Via itself is centralizing and computerizing its operations in a manner that will make it easier to replace stations by less expensive waiting sheds. The Canadian Transport Commission, which technically regulates these matters, claims no jurisdiction. Each body tends to blame the others for cutbacks and says it does not have final authority.

Correspondence with them can thus have its humorous side. CN states that it closes stations to save costs but admits that it does not do any detailed analysis of the costs saved by closing down stations. However, it proudly notes that it does have a "History Office", which merely advises Parks Canada of closings, after which no action seems to be taken. CPR asserts that they "are not permitted to remove such buildings (stations) without first obtaining approval of the Railway Transport Committee of the Canadian Transport Commission", while the Canadian Transport Commission advises that it "has no jurisdiction over the disposition which the railway companies wish to make of railway properties



St. Marys Junction Station. Courtesy of Colin McQuirk, Perth Country Gallery.

which are no longer required for railway purposes". Most answer letters at extraordinarily slow speed. In essence, one is left with the feeling that it would be rather appreciated if the whole issue would somehow go away.

3. What Can Be Done?

In these circumstances what can the local society or L.A.C.A.C. do to help protect the railway stations in its community? Two approaches seem hopeful: keeping the government advised of interest and being prepared for what may happen in one's own municipality. Under the first the Ministry of Culture and Recreation and the Ontario Heritage Foundation should be kept informed that we have not lost interest in either railway station preservation or in a reworking of the Ontario Heritage Act to make it a stronger document.

Locally, the watchword is "be prepared". Even if the station in your town seems to be well used, it is a good idea

to check with the railway company involved and Via Rail and find out what their intentions are *before* some crisis takes place. The MP and MPP can also be advised if it looks like trouble and the L.A.C.A.C. can examine the case for designation. Alternate ideas for use can be considered and the support of the newspapers and media must be solicited.

Above all, remember that successful preservation can be achieved in cases that look hopeless; at Napanee the citizens' groups persuaded the CN to reverse itself on what looked like a *fait accompli*. At Brampton the discussions over the demolition of the CPR station may possibly be solved by moving the building, and at St. Marys Junction the station is being "mothballed" until such time as some further action can be taken. All these activities show that success is possible.

Finally, remember that your Society has a Preservation Committee and call us for aid and suggestions at any time.

Executive is determined to develop a new programme specifically for the L.A.C.A.C.s across Ontario. Beginning in 1982, the OHS will award a B. Napier Simpson Jr. Award of Excellence, to be presented annually to a L.A.C.A.C. of outstanding merit. Furthermore, the Preservation Committee intends to introduce workshops on themes of special relevance to L.A.C.A.C. members.

In addition to long range planning, the OHS has undertaken a major project to serve the local historical museums of the province. We are calling it the Material Culture Project. Funded by the Ministry of Culture and Recreation, the OHS will engage a full-time museologist during 1981-82 to accomplish the following objectives:

- document by period and region the significant industries, crafts and artifacts of the province;
- develop guidelines to assist local museums to identify collections and/or individual items of both local and regional significance;
- develop a system of records that can be utilized by other material culture researchers;
- produce a resource kit on material culture for local museums.

If successful, this project will encourage museums to structure their collections policies with the principles of systemization and selection and to develop more effective interpretive programmes.

Several other innovations are worthy of special attention. Gary Peck, Chairman of our Youth Committee, is supervising the creation of an OHS childrens' colouring book on Northern Ontario. The pictures in the book are being sketched by students of Sudbury's Lo-Ellen Park S.S. from turn-of-the-century photographs. It is our hope that this will be the first of several regionally oriented heritage colouring books, and the beginning of a complete programme for young Ontarians. We will attempt to fund this project through corporate donations from Northern Ontario. Also in the publications field, after consultation with the Society's lawyer, David McFall, the Executive has entered into an agreement with Windsor Publications (Canada) Ltd. to produce a comprehensive illustrated

The President's Message

Gerald Killan

As of June 14th, the date of our Annual Business Meeting in Niagara-on-the-Lake, the term of the Executive Committee for 1980-81 expires. It seems appropriate at this time to ask what that Executive has accomplished on your behalf during the past year.

In terms of long-range planning, the Executive's record has been exemplary. Alec Douglas, Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee, acquired a Wintario Fiscal Development Grant and commissioned professional consultants (Barbara Jesson and Associates) to assess our programmes and to recommend ways and means to expand our financial base and membership. The grant also allowed us to engage an advertising designer (Ron Kaplansky) to produce a splendid illustrated portable display for public relations purposes.

Following the discussions of the Jesson Development Report submitted in March, the Executive resolved to embark upon several new initiatives in the coming year. We plan to seek funding to produce a prototype for an OHS

Annual Report sufficiently glamorous to earn a "place on the coffee tables of distinction". The contents of this prestigious publication will be designed both to appeal to the interests of our members, and to play a central part in future fund-raising campaigns. The Executive is also striving to develop a fund-raising strategy which includes learning all we can about potential corporate donors, segmenting the donor market into categories, and eventually designing different fund-raising approaches for each category of donor.

The Executive has also identified the need for a Centennial Committee. Such a group will shape OHS plans to celebrate upcoming landmark events such as the Sesquicentennial of Toronto in 1984, the Loyalist Bicentennial during 1983-1991, the OHS Centennial in 1988, and Ontario's Bicentennial in 1991. One of the committee's first tasks will be to solicit other local and provincial heritage groups for their ideas on a province-wide celebration for the founding of the province. Finally, the

history of Toronto. Finally, we intend to publish in the near future an anthology of articles written by our highly regarded past president Sydney F. Wise. These books are in the finest tradition of the OHS; they will have a wide appeal among both the general public and scholars alike.

What I have highlighted to this point are new projects. I must hasten to add our traditional activities have not been neglected; on the contrary, one can point to significant additions and improvements in all aspects of our work. Heather Broadbent's Preservation Committee has placed the Society in the vanguard of the architectural conservation movement through the B. Napier Simpson Memorial Conferences on "Heritage Conservation: A Community Effort". These noteworthy gatherings, held in Paisley, Renfrew and Huntsville, have been enthusiastically received. Wes Turner's Local Societies Committee, assisted by our Special Workshop Coordinator, Jacques Goutor, has been no less successful with its first-rate training workshops on such topics as basics of research, historical writing and public relations for local heritage groups.

Under Sandra Morton's editorship, the *Bulletin* continues to improve and to address the diverse needs and interests of our membership. Dave Roberts has guided two more technical leaflets to completion, the most recent being Dorothy Duncan's *The Artifact: What Can It Tell Us About The Past?* Our *Annual Bibliography of Ontario History* will be bigger and better this year now that Laurentian University has agreed to

compile, edit and publish this most valuable reference on our behalf. The Museums' Section under Harold Doan will be bigger and better this year now that Laurentian University has agreed to compile, edit and publish this most valuable reference on our behalf. The Museums' Section under Harold Doan has sprung into new life by conducting a survey of its members, by launching the first of many regional workshops, and by unveiling a restyled *Newsletter* under the capable editorship of Vrenia Ivonoffski. Behind the scenes, the Membership Committee, headed by Ashley Thomson, has been assiduously soliciting new members. A talented volunteer, Sandra Sims, has designed one of the most eye-catching and effective membership brochures on the market today.

Finally let me conclude with a special note of thanks to Royce MacGillivray, the out-going editor of *Ontario History*. For the past three years he has given the Society invaluable service. During his tenure the journal has been gradually changed. It is now beautifully illustrated. The book review section has been a most welcome addition. And not without difficulty, Royce has managed to produce, without sacrificing the fine scholarly tradition of our periodical, a more readable *Ontario History*.

All in all, then, this has been a productive twelve months. I leave the presidency full of admiration for all those who have served on this year's Executive. You may be confident that they have laid the foundation for an exciting and prosperous future.

building over to the Golden Horseshoe Antique Society. The Society will not only have to renovate the Mill, which has been neglected and subjected to vandalism, but also find an alternate use to make all their efforts worthwhile. Recently they met with David Brigham of the Ministry of Industry and Tourism to discuss various alternatives for the Mill.

Many of Ontario's Town Halls are enjoying a face-lift. In Huntsville renovations have started, and in Halton Hills the concerted action of many people and several fund-raising activities is finally paying off. Acton Town Hall will again be the social centre of the community. Regrettably, Chatham Town Hall is no more, despite a great deal of local effort and a \$150,000.00 grant from the Ontario Heritage Foundation, which was rejected by the local council. The site will now be a car park. Citizens in Fergus are also involved in a "Save the Old Town Hall" campaign. This particular Town Hall is owned by Melville United Church.

Also in Wellington County, the Historical Research Society reports that they received 23 entries to their "Business Men and Women of Wellington County" essay project. This year the topic was "Raising the Children", and was directed at researching the people who raised Wellington County children who were motherless immigrant orphans.

In Brampton the Peel County Court House (1867) became the new home of the Peel County Historical Society and Peel Regional Museum and Art Gallery in 1980. Representatives of the Society, Region, Brampton and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation are presently preparing a feasibility study for future use of the complex which includes the Old County Jail. Old buildings are still turned into Museums but not as frequently as in the past.

The Ontario Association of Architects is involved in a most worthwhile project throughout the province. Community Assist for an Urban Study Effort (CAUSE) is an intensive study programme whereby the Association sends a team of architects into a community for a four-day weekend to advise and

Local Liaison Letter and Preservation Committee News

Heather Broadbent

Thank you for the informative letters which we have received. Many groups hold their elections at this time of year, and it would be impossible to record all the new officers of the organizations who receive the *Bulletin*, but we appreciate hearing who your officers are. Thank you for sending the information.

Many groups are involved with "new life for old buildings" and have found interesting alternate uses for structures

which were previously threatened with destruction. Commerce and industry are re-using buildings that narrowly escaped demolition in the past. Mills become hotels while schools become residences. An 1894 stone carriage works in Alton is to become a racquet and athletic club, with half-court tennis facilities. In Caledonia the Mill was purchased by the Town of Haldimand last year, and now the Town has turned the

brainstorm action on community needs and to spearhead urban revitalization. Several CAUSE meetings have taken place in such locations as Windsor and Collingwood. Team members have agreed not to accept commissions in the communities they visited, resulting from the CAUSE sessions. The Ontario Association of Architects CAUSE team usually agrees to visit a community at the invitation of the area Chamber of Commerce or Business Improvement Association, with the support of the municipality. If your group would like more information contact The Ontario Association of Architects, CAUSE Programme, 50 Park Road, Toronto, Ont. M4W 2N5.

Special Item

Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Ontario Heritage Act (A.M.O. Report 48)

Last year the Association of Municipalities of Ontario hired a research assistant to investigate the inadequacies and inconsistencies of the Ontario Heritage Act 1974. He corresponded with many L.A.C.A.C.s and municipal heritage groups. The report has recently been released. If your municipality is a member of that Association you should be able to obtain a copy of the report from your local municipal office. Otherwise a copy of the report can be obtained from: Association of Municipalities of Ontario, 100 University Avenue, #902, Toronto, Ontario M5J 1V6. Please send \$2.00 for postage and handling. We hope to review the report in the next edition of the *Bulletin*.

From the Ledgerbook . . .

James Clemens, Treasurer

In February and March, when renewal notices are mailed, we often receive letters asking for the reasons behind the increased fees and subscription rates. Since I was planning to discuss expenses in the column of this issue, I will use these sometimes angry letters as a focus.

In 1981 the basic cost of belonging to the Society increased by \$2.00, from \$10.00 to \$12.00. At the same time a subscription to *Ontario History* increased

by the same amount, from \$5.00 to \$7.00. Why?

The answer is really quite simple. Our costs have been increasing in the areas of publication and office administration. Let's deal with *Ontario History* first. In 1980, the production, printing and distribution of the journal cost \$17,641.00. Thus, to send four issues to an individual member/subscriber cost approximately \$8.84. The subscriber paid only \$5.00 and the additional \$3.84 had to be found from other revenues of the Society. Even at the \$7.00 subscription rate for 1981 the Society will have to find an additional \$1.84 to send a year's subscription to a member. That figure assumes that prices for paper, printing, postage and labour will remain constant during 1981. In addition to the cost of *Ontario History*, expenses involved in administering the office increased by 16% between 1979 and 1980, and will likely take another hefty jump in 1981. These expenses include items such as rent, supplies, equipment, the *Bulletin*, executive meetings and the annual meeting.

These increased costs can be examined in another way. We all know that two years ago a shopping cart of groceries cost X number of dollars. We also know that the same items in the cart today will cost X plus dollars. Therefore, even if the OHS provided the same level of service and standard of quality to its members, the cost of providing those services would increase through inflation. Instead of maintaining the same level of service, the executive has tried to increase that level to members over the past two years (improved format and illustrations for *Ontario History*; expanded and increased number of *Bulletins*; more workshops, conferences and seminars; more extensive service to local societies and individual members; a higher profile on the preservation scene) for a modest increase in fees and subscription rates. As long as inflation continues, costs will increase. As long as members expect a certain level of services and standard of quality from their Society, they can expect increases in membership fees and subscription rates.

Instead of totalling the products and benefits (important though they are) we receive for our dollars spent with the Society, perhaps we should begin to think of them in a new light. If we believe in the role and functions of the OHS; if we believe that preserving and recording Ontario's past is important; then we might well begin to regard our fees as a way of helping to ensure that our rich heritage is recorded and preserved for future generations to know and cherish.

Local Societies Committee Report

Wesley Turner

A Writing Workshop was presented at the Archives in Norwich on January 17. It was conducted on behalf of the O.H.S. by Professors Goutor, Jarvis and Killan of King's College, University of Western Ontario. The Norwich and District Historical Society requested our assistance as part of their preparation for writing a township history. Twenty-five people attended.

The Basics of Historical Writing Workshop was held at the Peel County Museum and Art Gallery in Brampton on April 4. Twenty-three people attended and the Society gained twelve new members. The Workshop was conducted by Dr. Jacques Goutor with the assistance of Drs. Gerald Killan and Wesley Turner. The audience was eager and curious which made for a lively, informative workshop.

The Committee has received a grant from the Ontario Heritage Foundation for Workshops in Thunder Bay and Sudbury. Planning for the Thunder Bay Workshop (Basics of Research) on May 23 is proceeding, with Dr. Elizabeth Arthur acting as local liaison person. The Committee greatly appreciates the Foundation's help.

On April 11 a Workshop was held in Woodstock at the Oxford County Museum on Raising the Community Profile. Eighteen people attended and the Society gained three new members. The participants felt it was a great success. We would like to express our thanks for a fine job to Ernie Buchner, Vrenia

Ivonoffski, Ron Kaplansky and John France, City Editor, Woodstock *Sentinel Review*.

On October 24, 1981, the Smiths Falls Heritage House will be the site of a Workshop on the writing of township histories, with emphasis on eastern Ontario. The Society is sponsoring this workshop which has been organized by the historical committee of the Smiths Falls L.A.C.A.C., the Smiths Falls Historical Society, and the History Department of Carleton University.

Heritage Ganaraska to Convert Old Y.M.C.A. to Cultural Centre

The building selected for conversion to a Cultural Centre is in downtown Port Hope at 50 John St. It was the tenth YMCA to be built in Canada, and at the time of its construction in 1874, was considered to be the finest building of its type outside of Toronto. The grand-daughter of Susannah Moodie taught ladies' gym classes there. Later, the building was used as a Salvation Army Hall, and then as an Orange Hall. Local people still refer to it as "the Orange Hall" even though the Orange Lodge has ceased to be active in the community. After these years of public use, the building was used for storage by a large commercial firm and, even later, as an artist's studio. The building has been designated an historic property by the municipality and is protected under the Ontario Heritage Act through an easement granted to the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

Its excellent location and easy access allow for its use by senior citizens, the handicapped, and those without their own transportation. The interior space allows for use by all of the Foundation's member organizations and almost every type of activity, although the space is modest in scale. To convert the structure to a cultural centre housing a museum, archives, gallery, studios, and an auditorium, with full restoration of all exteriors of existing buildings and full restoration of the interior of the auditorium to national standards, will cost a total of

two million dollars for the whole project.

The YMCA is one of four remaining designated buildings in Port Hope. The Heritage Ganaraska Foundation is selling souvenir bricks from Port Hope's lost Firehall. The remnants of one old building can help to save another. A limited number of bricks is still available for sale. This fund-raising effort will be applied to the preservation and restoration of the old YMCA. Heritage Ganaraska will



1874 YMCA Building, Port Hope.
BUY A BRICK—SAVE A BUILDING.

mail a brick with a certificate of its authenticity to anyone wishing to purchase such a souvenir. For donations of more than \$10.00 a tax receipt will be issued.

For more information, write Miss Jane Beecroft, Executive Administrator, Heritage Ganaraska Foundation, P.O. Box 1793, Port Hope, Ont. L1A 4B4.

Of Interest

The Thirteenth Algonquian Conference will be held at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, in Toronto, on October 23-25, 1981. The Algonquian Conference is interdisciplinary for those interested in the study of the Algonquian peoples. Papers are usually given by scholars from such fields as anthropology, archaeology, ethnology, history, linguistics, geography, education and others. Those wishing to present a paper should send a title and abstract of not more than 100 words to Barbara Burnaby, Modern Language Centre, O.I.S.E.,

252 Bloor Street W., Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1V6.

About People

Mrs. Joan Johnston (Curator of the Nor' Westers & Loyalist Museum, Williams-town) has been appointed by the federal government to the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism.

John G. McAvity, Executive Director of the Ontario Museum Association, has recently been appointed to the post of Awards Chairman for Eastern Canada, for the American Association for State and Local History. The Awards Programme of the A.A.S.L.H. is one of the most respected and sought-after awards programmes in the heritage and museum fields in the United States and Canada. Certificates of Commendation and Awards of Merit are given for excellence and outstanding service.

John Moore, formerly the conservator for the City of Toronto Archives, wishes to announce the establishment of his paper conservation laboratory. The following services are being offered to galleries, archives, museums, libraries, and private collectors: conservation and restoration of works of fine art on paper (e.g. watercolours, prints, drawings); conservation and restoration of documents. Anyone wishing to use this new service is requested to make an appointment. References can be provided. Please note that an estimate cannot be given until items have been examined. Write to: Box 26, Station H, Toronto, Ont. M4C 5H7, or 2186 Danforth Ave., Toronto, Ont. Call (416) 425-1660.

Museum Programs Collaborative, consisting of **Greg Baecker**, **Marylee O'Neill-Houghton**, and **Julia Gorman**, has recently been awarded the project to undertake a feasibility study for the North York Children's Museum. This will be a four-month project, sponsored by the Community Outreach in Education Foundation (CORE), a non-profit foundation set up by the North York Board of Education.

Professor Royce MacGillivray

Alec Douglas

Royce MacGillivray is just stepping down from his three year term as editor of our quarterly journal, *Ontario History*. When he took over the journal it had a well established if sometimes uneven reputation. Under Royce's editorship we have seen some significant improvements to policy and content. He imposed a commendable editorial review policy, successfully introduced illustrations in most articles and for the first time made book reviews an integral part of each issue. The age old burden of finance defeated his efforts to ensure adequate length for each issue, but in spite of this crippling limitation he has made his mark. The distinguished editorial board of *Ontario History* is ample proof of the regard in which our editor is held and the extent to which his ambitions for the journal are shared by the academic community. A number of outstanding articles in the past two years, including Bruce Trigger's "Sixteenth Century Ontario: History, Ethnohistory and Archaeology", Marilyn Barber's "The Women Ontario Welcomed: Immigrant Domestic for Ontario Homes, 1870-1930", Colin Read's "The London District Oligarchy during the Rebellion Era" reflect the success of Royce's editorial policy. It was a bitter disappointment when our application for a Social Science and Humanities Council grant in aid of publication was turned down. This must be one of the only journals of such academic merit to survive solely from the subscriptions of members of a provincial historical society, because it receives no grant from any other source.

Our new editor, Roger Hall, will have to go on facing financial stringency for the time being. But as readers of the March issue of *Ontario History* will affirm, Royce has set admirably high standards for future editors to follow. We owe him a large debt and we wish Roger Hall success in building upon the achievements of the past three years.

Upcoming Events

Northeastern School Children Get Invitation to Explore their Heritage. School children from kindergarten to Grade 9 in Cochrane, Timiskaming, Nipissing and Northeastern Parry Sound school districts have been invited to take part in a heritage art show. The show is being sponsored by the Ontario Heritage Foundation. The art will be exhibited at the Northern College, South Porcupine Campus, during the OHF's regional conference "Exploring Our Heritage: the Northeastern Experience" June 6 and 7 in Timmins. Students are to submit drawings on heritage subjects such as historical figures, places, objects, activities, events, buildings and landscapes. Ideas for topics can be found in local museums, school and public libraries, or on community streets where mills, mines, homes, monuments, historical plaques and landmarks tell stories of the past.

The conference is open to the public with no registration fee. Organizers include regional historical and cultural organizations, professional and amateur historians, schools, industries and individuals who are history buffs.

For more information, contact Karen Martin, Assistant Festival Co-ordinator, c/o Ministry of Culture and Recreation, 22 Wilcox St., 2nd Floor, Timmins, Ont. (705-267-7117), or Alexandra Adams, Communications Branch (416-965-0615), or Vrenia Ivonoffski, Historical Conservation and Promotion Section (416-965-4021).

The Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum is planning a Canal Days Festival for July 4 and 5, 1981, to be held on the museum grounds. The Festival includes marine displays, demonstrations, model building, food and music, and is held during the afternoon of both days.

Join the **Costume Society of Ontario** for a day in Stratford, Wednesday, June 17. John Silverstein of Gallery Stratford will introduce Woven Winds, The Art of Textiles in India, and an exhibition of Festival Costumes. The membership will attend the 2:00 p.m. performance of H.M.S. Pinafore at the Avon Theatre.

For more information, contact Pat Isetta Bolland, Education-Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park Crescent, Toronto, Ont. (416) 978-4514.

The College of Graphic Arts and Photography, Rochester Institute of Technology, is planning a conference on the "Preservation of Photographic Images", August 24-26, 1981. The tuition fee is \$225.00. Applications should be sent to: Val Johnson, RIT-GARC, 1 Lomb Memorial Dr., Rochester, New York 14623. Cheques should be made payable to Rochester Institute of Technology.

The Fourth North American Fur Trade Conference is being held in Thunder Bay, October 1-4, 1981. 1981 marks the 250th anniversary of fur trader-explorer Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, sieur de la Verendrye's arrival at Grand Portage.

For more information, write: Robert C. Wheeler, Chairman, Fur Trade Conference, James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, Minn. 55102, or Vickers Heights P.O., Thunder Bay, Ont. P0T 2Z0.

The University of Victoria is planning a three-week course called **The Museum as a Learning Environment**, July 6-24, 1981. It will provide the professional museum worker with an intensive introduction to the theory and process of audience research, goal-referenced exhibits, and interpretive programme design. The readings and lectures will be complemented by a field-study component. Participants will be assigned to a local site in which they will field test their developing competencies. Course fee: \$300.00.

For information, write: Doug Franklin, Co-ordinator, Programme of Advanced Studies in Cultural Conservation, University Extension, University

of Victoria, P.O. Box 1700, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y2.

The 26th Annual Congress of Local Historical Societies, sponsored by the **Erie County Historical Federation, Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society**, and **Aurora Historical Society**, will take place on Saturday, July 18, 1981 at Fisher-Price Corporate World Headquarters, East Aurora, New York.

For further information, write: Robert L. Damm, Director, Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, 25 Nottingham Court, Buffalo, New York 14216.

Music at Sharon Temple

A five-concert music festival to mark the sesquicentennial of the Sharon Temple will feature several internationally known Canadian soloists and groups. The festival, called "Music at Sharon", will be held in the 150-year-old Temple on July 11, 18 and 25 in the rural community of Sharon, 40 kms. north of Toronto. The York Pioneer and Historical Society, which has owned and operated the Sharon Temple as a museum since 1917, is presenting "Music at Sharon" to commemorate the completion in 1831 of the historic landmark. The Temple was built by David Willson and his followers, whose beliefs led them to break away from the Quaker church and form their own sect known as the Children of Peace.

Music was a major element in the lives of the Children of Peace who, by 1820, had established a choir and a band in Sharon. Concerts in the Temple were common, blending Willson's sermons with religious and secular music played by the band.

Canadian actor Robert Christie will re-create the role of founder David Willson and will read a sermon of Willson's as well as works by other authors who wrote about the man and his followers. The Temple's 160-year-old barrel organ will be featured in this concert as well as a new work by John Beckwith, whose piece "Three Motets on Swan's 'China'" is based on one of the barrel organ tunes. The organ will be opera-

ted by Dr. Geoffrey Payzant who recently restored the rare instrument.

Tickets are \$8.00 each and must be purchased in advance. Series tickets are available at \$20.00 for three concerts and \$32.00 for all five. Tickets will be available in Toronto at the Olde Yorke Musicke Shoppe, 180 Bloor St. W., lower concourse. Music festival visitors will be treated to an extensive demonstration of pioneer crafts on the museum

grounds on all three festival days. More than 60 craftspeople have been selected and as many as possible will be in pioneer costume.

Sharon Temple is located on Leslie St. in the village of Sharon, 5 kms. north of Newmarket. Sharon Temple is accessible from Hwy. 48, Hwy. 404, Yonge St. and Hwy. 400. For more information, call: Catherine Brydon, Publicity Director, (416) 898-5100.



Sharon Temple. Photo courtesy of Anne J. Grieve.

Across the Province

The **Brockville Museum** is opening in July 1981. The facility which will house the museum is the Isaac Beecher house on Henry St., just south of Water St. W. Minor rehabilitation work will start soon so that the exhibits will be housed in a safe and attractive setting. The collection of artifacts and historical objects entrusted to the care of the **Brockville and District Historical Society** over the last ten years will find its way into the care of the Brockville Museum as time goes on.

The **Aurora and District Historical Society, Inc.**, Post Office Box 356, Aurora, Ont. L4G 3H4 are gratefully accepting donations (tax deductible) to help restore the Aurora Public School and Hillary House.

The Aurora Public School, built in 1886 at 22 Church St., is a Victorian fantasy complete with patterned brick, gables and ornate belfry. The Town of Aurora, with the assistance of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, plans to renovate this building as a cultural and recreational centre. This spring, the Aurora Museum hopes to begin its move from its present location at 107 Yonge St. South to new quarters on the school's second floor.

Hillary House, 72 Yonge St. North, has been plagued by the federal government as one of Canada's finest examples of Gothic Revival architecture. Built in 1862, it served as the home, office and dispensary of four prominent Canadian physicians, and today contains an irreplaceable collection of 19th century medical instruments, books and papers. The Aurora and District Historical Society has acquired this property through the generosity of the Hillary family and Murray B. Koffler, the founder of Koffler Stores, including the Shoppers Drug Mart chain. As restoration proceeds, the project will come to be known as Hillary House and the Koffler Museum of Medicine. Parks Canada and the Ontario Heritage Foundation each have pledged over \$100,000 toward the restoration.

The **Binbrook Historical Society** has completed a project which will be of interest to people who are researching their family histories. In September and October of 1980, volunteers from the community assisted members in transcribing all of the tombstones in the Binbrook cemeteries. The cemeteries are: Blackheath United (Presbyterian until 1925), Binbrook United (formerly Wesleyan, Episcopal, Methodist), Binbrook Baptist, Knox Presbyterian, Auld Kirk, Christ Church Anglican, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic, and private family plots Swayze and Barlow.

A booklet has been compiled which contains a map of the township showing location of each cemetery, a cemetery map showing location of monuments, information transcribed from monuments and a brief history of each cemetery. A copy of the booklet has been placed in the Binbrook Library, and the information has been given to Gordon Craig, Cemetery Co-ordinator for Hamilton Genealogical Society. It will soon be recorded in the Public Archives of Ottawa and the Archives of Ontario, where it will be available to those doing family research.

A group of concerned citizens, including the **Etobicoke Historical Board** and the **Etobicoke Historical Society**, have banded together to save "Applewood" Homestead. This home was the birthplace of James Shaver Woodsworth, founder of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), the forerunner of the New Democratic Party. The James Shaver Woodsworth Foundation has been formed to administer the funds gathered to put this fine old Ontario farmhouse back into use for all the people. Recognizing a generous gift from the Shaver family which provided the funds for the actual moving of the house, the Borough of Etobicoke, convinced of the worth of the project, provided the new site in Broadacres Park, part of the original Shaver farm.

The house will continue in use and will serve the community, but the Foun-

dation needs your help to restore its beauty and make it functional.

For more information, and for those wishing to make a donation, please make cheques payable to: **The Shaver Homestead Foundation**, and mail to: The Secretary-Treasurer, The Shaver Homestead Foundation, c/o The Civic Centre, Etobicoke, Ont. M9C 2Y2.

The **Hamilton History Association**, a new organization interested in the heritage and history of Hamilton, is sponsoring downtown Hamilton walking tours every Sunday at 2:00 p.m. from Sunday May 3 until late September. The tours will start at the statue of Sir John A. MacDonald, King and John Sts., and will feature highlights of Hamilton's history through its buildings old and new. It will pass the United Empire Loyalist statue, Whitehern, and other points of interest in the downtown core.

For more information, call: (416) 522-5177.

Heritage Markham is holding a Heritage Conference on Friday June 5 at the Thornhill Country Club. Keynote speaker will be Phyllis Lambert, noted Montreal architect and founding President of Heritage Montreal. This conference will be of interest to all planners, builders, preservation groups, renovators, realtors, historical societies, architects, L.A.C.A.C.'s, owners of historical properties, etc. This conference is being held on the Friday before the weekend of Ontario's largest street festival, in Unionville. Why not plan to make a weekend of it?

For more information, call (416) 297-5354, or write: **Heritage Markham**, P.O. Box 338, Unionville, Ont. L3R 2Z7.

The successor to the Historical Museums Advisory Committee of London is the **London Historical Museums Committee**. This association has been created to supervise and help in collecting, preserving and presenting the area's history through the city's four museums. Tom Moore is its first president.

Publications Committee Report

Alec Douglas

The Society has agreed to sponsor an illustrated history of Toronto to be published by Windsor Publications of Canada. We have investigated the implications of this agreement with great care, and feel that it offers a number of important advantages, including the opportunity for a reputable Canadian historian to publish a new readable history of the city. Members will be interested to know that the Society will control the selection of an author and will receive a percentage of the royalties.

Fund-Raising Committee Report

Alec Douglas

In 1980 our campaign for donations got off to a good start. Members gave more than \$1,000.00 to the Society, about twice the amount budgeted for. We need to at least double this figure in 1981. Remember that donations are tax-deductible; we depend on your generosity.

The campaign for corporate donations has begun in a modest fashion. Three corporations or foundations have made donations—Southam Press, Brascan Ltd., and the Lawson Foundation of London. Brascan and the Lawson Foundation with donations of at least \$500.00 now qualify as Patrons of the Society. Your fund raising committee has not yet approached many of the organizations who we feel would contribute to our work. This is a time consuming task, and volunteers who would like to help would be most welcome. If you can help please contact Alec Douglas, 108 Helena St., Ottawa, Ont. (613-725-2622), or Sandra Morton at the Society's offices.

New Museum Opening in Kitchener

After careful restoration the Joseph Schneider House, Kitchener will be open for public tours beginning June 30, 1981. Joseph Schneider was among the first of the Mennonites to settle in Waterloo

County. He arrived at his lot of 448 acres in 1807 accompanied by his wife and four children. In 1820, after roughing it for the first years in a log cabin, he built the house which has now been restored. It has been restored to the 1850's, a significant period which saw the coming of the railway to Berlin (Kitchener) and the growth of the village of Berlin on some of the land originally owned by Joseph Schneider.

One of the goals of the restoration was to create a "living" museum enabling visitors to gain first hand experience of life as it was lived at Joseph Schneider's house. The project is funded by the Waterloo Heritage Foundation, the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Wintario and private donations. During the summer months the house will be open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is 75¢ for adults, 50¢ for students and senior citizens and preschoolers free. There are special rates for group tours.

For more information call (519) 742-7752 or write Joseph Schneider House, 466 Queen St. South, Kitchener, Ont. N2G 1W7.

City of Toronto Book Award Winners

Two University of Toronto Press books were amongst the three winners of the City of Toronto Book Award this year. Sharing the \$5,000.00 prize were Timothy Colton for *Big Daddy: Frederick C. Gardiner and the Building of Metropolitan Toronto*, Mary Larratt Smith for *Young Mr. Smith in Upper Canada*, and Helen Weinzeig for *Basic Black with Pearls*. They were chosen from a short list of seven, the criteria being 1980 publication, an element of Toronto subject matter, and literary merit.

New Members

Arnprior: E.B. Wolff
Beaverton: Terence L. Jones
Brampton: Miss Sandra A. Henbest, Patricia Williams
Collingwood: Rad Whitehead
Cookstown: Mrs. M. Joan McLean
Creemore: Ms. Helen Hargrave
Downsview: Christopher Armstrong, William Westfall

Drumbo: Don Milton
Georgetown: A. Cook
Hamilton: Dundurn Castle, Hamilton History Association
Kleinburg: Patty Somerville
Kingston: Ian Wheel
Lambeth: Marguerite Murray
London: V. Clark, Raymond Crinklaw, D.L. McCowell
Moose Factory: Moose Factory Historical Society
Nepean: Jim Kennedy
Ottawa: Gerrard & Hossack Architectural Restoration Consultants, Mrs. R.F. Hirsch, National Defence Headquarters
Owen Sound: Grace A. Pollock
Parry Sound: Heritage Parry Sound
Peterborough: Elizabeth Farquharson, David Glover
Plantagenet: Ecole Sec. Plantagenet, Centre Documentaire
Port Severn: Margie Birch
Powassan: Commanda General Store Museum
Queenston: Margaret G. Torrance
Richmond Hill: Miss Shirley Simpson
St. Catharines: Loretta J. Barber, Heritage Society of St. Catharines, Prof. Carl Wolff
Scarborough: Miss Michele F. Bouchier, David Kealey
Stratford: Kay Weston
Stroud: Miss Jean M. McNeice
Sudbury: Professor Alec McGregor
Timmins: Ken Doherty
Toronto: Professor Frank Abbott, Mary Ellard, Diana Fancher, J. Flynn, Karin Larson, Alan Levine, Helen Lupinska, Allan J. MacDonald, Jean McGill, Mrs. Dorothy Markle, Mr. and Mrs. T.J. Ringereide, Molly Schlosser, Jim Wigmore
Trenton: Miss Eva Baker, Trent Port Historical Society
Westport: Mrs. H.H. Roberts
Whitby: Mrs. Ruth Bodolay, Mrs. Sheila Cormack, Miss Charlotte Gentles, Mrs. Ann MacMillan
Whitevale: Richard Loth
Willowdale: North York Historical Board
Woodstock: R. Dixon-Marsden, Mrs. Hazel Lockhart, Mrs. Lucy Taylor
U.S.A.: G. Blaire Baker, The University of Chicago (Chicago, Illinois)

Executive Assistant's and Editor's Report

Sandra Morton

There seems to be some confusion on the part of our affiliated local historical societies regarding the issuance of our charitable tax number. Affiliation with The Ontario Historical Society enables your local group to apply for government grants to aid you in your publicity, promotional work, in sponsoring workshops, etc. However, to obtain a charitable tax number, local groups must apply on their own to the federal government and ask for Form #P2050. The telephone number is (416) 369-3727.

I would like to congratulate Vrenia Ivonoffski on the terrific job she is doing of editing our Museums Section Newsletter. I would also like to thank our 1981 patrons, Lawson Foundation of London and Brascan Limited, as well as Southam and Co. for their generous donation.

The deadline for submissions for the September *Bulletin* is July 24, 1981.

New Building for Museum of Indian Archaeology

The Museum of Indian Archaeology is a unique museum devoted to the study, display and interpretation of the human occupation of southwestern Ontario over the past 11,000 years. Located off Wonderland Road North, just South of Hwy. 22, in northwest London, the Museum occupies a modern, energy efficient, 15,000 square foot building. This houses a Display Gallery, Theatre, Offices and Laboratories, and is one of the finest archaeological facilities in Canada.

The Museum gallery contains displays on the prehistory of southwestern Ontario and will also exhibit national and international exhibits on a variety of topics of archaeological and anthropological interest. The Museum is located beside the Lawson Prehistoric Indian Village, a site occupied by the Neutral Indians in the 15th century A.D. This archaeological site is being developed as the first on-site reconstruction of a prehistoric Indian Village in Canada.

The new museum building opens

to the public on May 22, 1981. The "INUIT PRINT", a travelling exhibit featuring 155 prints from six Arctic communities, will be on view from National Museums Canada. It was produced by the National Museum of Man and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. The excavation and reconstruction of the Lawson Prehistoric Indian Village will continue this summer. Informative tours are provided as well as interpretive displays. Groups are encouraged to book ahead for tours.

For further information, please contact: Museum of Indian Archaeology, Lawson-Jury Building, 1600 Attawandaron Rd., London, Ontario N6G 3M6, (519) 473-1360.

New Currency Museum at Bank of Canada, Ottawa

The Bank of Canada has recently opened a Currency Museum to house the National Currency Collection. It is located at 245 Sparks St. in Ottawa. Six galleries in the Museum tell the story of tokens, coins and paper money through the ages. These forms of money are presented in their historical context in an exciting three-dimensional format. The artifacts, maps and other exhibits will take you back in time, to the early Chinese dynasties, on to the ancient Greek world, the Empires of Rome and Byzantium, and through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the discovery and settlement of North America and to the modern era.

News from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation

Province Commits Funds for Restoration of Historic Oakes House

The Government of Ontario has committed up to \$527,000.00 for the restoration of the "Chateau", the historic Kirkland Lake residence of flamboyant gold-mining figure Sir Harry Oakes. In announcing the government's support, Ontario Culture and Recreation Minister Reuben Baetz said the renovated building will become home to the Kirkland Lake Museum of Northern History and a number of community organizations.

Funds for the restoration are coming from the proceeds of the Wintario Lottery. The project is a joint venture of the ministry and the Town of Kirkland Lake, which originally bought the property and then turned it over to the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Kirkland Lake is restoring the building and will maintain and operate it. Sir Harry's family has donated \$290,000.00 to the Foundation to be used for the restoration. The Foundation has contributed a further \$10,000.00.

Archives Receive Two Major Collections of Hamilton Architectural Drawings

For the first time ever, collections of architectural drawings entirely of buildings in the Hamilton area have been given to the Archives of Ontario. The Souter-Lenz-Taylor and R.E. McDonnell collections of more than 2,000 ink on linen drawings cover 216 industrial, commercial and residential projects.

The Souter-Lenz-Taylor collection consists of 126 architectural projects, covering the period from 1903 to 1939. Most drawings are by William Russell Souter, father of Bill Souter, a present partner in the firm of Souter-Lenz-Taylor. The collection is mainly of commercial and industrial buildings. Included in the collection are drawings of commercial and residential projects.

The Souter-Lenz-Taylor collection consists of 126 architectural projects, covering the period from 1903 to 1939. Most drawings are by William Russell Souter, father of Bill Souter, a present partner in the firm of Souter-Lenz-Taylor. The collection is mainly of commercial and industrial buildings. Included in the collection are drawings of Hamilton's well-known landmark, the Basilica of Christ the King. The architect, William Souter, a Protestant, was awarded the Bene Merenti medal by Pope Pius XI for his work on the cathedral.

The R.E. McDonnell collection is composed of 90 projects, dating from 1909 to 1954. Most of the drawings are of private residences in the Hamilton area. Among the best known are the Refectory Building at Queenston Park and the Mather Memorial Building at Fort Erie.

From the Bookshelf

Canada's leading architectural historians and critics have been commissioned by Fitzhenry & Whiteside to prepare a series of guidebooks to the architecture of Canada. The first volume of the series will be published in 1982. The general editors of the series are William Dendy and Penina Coopersmith. Professor Dendy teaches architectural history at the University of Toronto's faculty of architecture. Ms. Coopersmith is former architecture editor of *The Globe and Mail*.

Canadian Pacific Railway Passenger Services in the 1950's, Dale Wilson. In photos, text and documents, the story of the peak of Canadian Pacific Railway's passenger service is told. \$14.95 post paid available from: Nickle Belt Rails, P.O. Box 483, Station "B", Sudbury, Ont. P3E 4P6.

Life of Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea) including The Border Wars of the American Revolution, and Sketches of the Indian Campaigns of Generals Harnmar, St. Clair, and Wayne. And other Matters connected with the Indian Relations of the United States and Great Britain, from the Peace of 1783 to the Indian Peace of 1795. By William L. Stone. 2 Volumes, 1150 pages, illustrations, foldout pages. New York, 1838. Reprint, buckram, bound in 2 volumes, \$29.50. Order from Harbor Hill Books, P.O. Box 407, Harrison, N.Y. 10528.

Historical Map of St. Catharines, 1875, A Birds-eye View. This most attractive and valuable historical map has been reprinted by the St. Catharines Historical Museum. The map is beautifully illustrated in great detail and provides an accurate pictorial record of the Town in 1875. \$4.00 a copy plus \$1.00 postage and handling, from St. Catharines Historical Museum, 343 Merritt St., St. Catharines, Ontario L2T 1K7.

Fighting Joe Martin: Founder of the Liberal Party in the West, Peter Brock, 235 pp. Available in August, \$20.00

hardcover, from National Press, 4 Norton Ave., Toronto, Ontario M6E 1E2.

The Story of the Sparta Settlement, J.P. Martyn, 1980. Available from the Sparta and District Historical Society, P.O. Box 34, Sparta, Ont. N0L 2H0. \$3.00 plus .50 postage.

King's Men: The Soldier Founders of Ontario, Mary Beacock Fryer, 1981, 352 pp. Order from Dundurn Press Ltd., P.O. Box 245, Stn. "F", Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2L5. Call (416) 368-9390.

Colchester County: A Pictorial History, a 181 page paperback with over 200 photographs, recounts Colchester County, Nova Scotia's history from prehistoric times up to the 1980's. Cost is \$3.50 plus .50 mailing and handling. Send cheque or money order to Colchester Recreation Department, P.O. Box 697, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5E7.

The Albumen and Salted Paper Book, James M. Reilly, 133 pp. This is the first comprehensive guide to the historical, technical and archival aspects of the albumen print, the most commonly used photographic printing material in the 19th century. Mail to: Order Dept., Graphic Arts Research Center, RIT, 1 Lomb Memorial Dr., Rochester, New York 14623; hardcover (\$16.96) or softcover (\$9.95).

The Ambrotype Old and New, Thomas Feldvebel, 51 pp. This book is divided into three sections: the history, the process, and the ambrotype today. Available from Graphic Arts Research Center, RIT, 1 Lomb Memorial Dr.,

Rochester, New York 14623. \$9.95 softcover.

The Platinum Print, John Hafey and Tom Shillea, 120 pp. \$14.95. Available from Graphic Arts Research Center, RIT, 1 Lomb Dr., Rochester, New York 14623.

PhotographiConservation: A Forum of Photographic Preservation and Restoration. A Photographic Quarterly, published by Graphic Arts Research Center, RIT, with articles on storage, cataloguing and preservation of all types of photographic images. \$10.00 for an annual subscription. Write: *PhotographiConservation*, GARC, Rochester Institute of Technology, 1 Lomb Memorial Dr., Rochester, New York 14623.

Barnardo Children in Canada, Gail Corbett, \$5.98 per copy. Order from: Woodland Publishing, Box 2134, Peterborough, Ont. K9J 7Y4.

Earliest Tillsonburg, published by the Tillsonburg and District Museum Society, is made from a selection of papers that appeared in the aforementioned society's bulletin. The papers present a history of Tillsonburg and area from the beginning of settlement to Confederation. Cheques should be made in favour of the Tillsonburg and District Museum Society.

Our Past Before Us: Why Do We Save It?, David Lowenthal and Marcus Binney (eds.). This new book will be published in Sept. 1981 by Maurice Temple Smith Ltd. \$16.00. To order a copy, please send to Preservation Resource Group, Inc., 5619 Southampton Dr., Springfield, VA. 22151.

Myrtleville: A Canadian Farm and Family, 1837-1967
Beth Good Latzer, 312 pp., \$7.50

The true story of a prominent Canadian family, the Goods of Brantford, as they were influenced by and helped to shape the nation and the times in which they lived. Beth Good Latzer captures the joys and sorrows, the hardships and successes of her ancestors in an easy flowing and exciting style. A must for anyone interested in the Canadian heritage and the Canadian people.

Available from the O.H.S., 78 Dunloe Rd., Toronto, Ontario M5P 2T6.

Grants News

The Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum has recently acquired a storey and a half log dwelling which it is presently reconstructing on the museum grounds. Assistance in the completion of this project will be provided by a \$26,500.00 federal grant under the Canada Community Development Programme. This will enable the museum to hire 3 persons, in the native, handicapped, youth or female category for 9 months in 1981. The intention is to complete the log house, furnish it and develop a programme of suitable crafts.

Hutchison House has received from the Peterborough Historical Atlas Foundation, a grant totalling \$576.00 which will enable them to undertake two projects: the first, the further restoration of the third floor west bedroom and gable room. These rooms will be wall-papered with reproduction papers of the 1860's. The second is the development of an audio-visual presentation, which will trace the history of the House as seen through the eyes of Martha Holland Hutchison.

The Wellington County Museum recently received a grant under the new Canada Community Development Programme. The grant is in the amount of approximately \$30,000.00 and has enabled the Museum to hire three persons for one year. They will be spending the year updating and converting the cataloguing, continuing work on the County Archives, and helping to develop new promotional materials for the Museum. This much needed assistance was made possible through the help of a local M.P., Mr. Perrin Beatty.

HELP! Your Executive Assistant *still* needs you!

By coming into our office you are helping
to service the members of our Society.

Volunteers should contact Sandra Morton at (416) 486-1232.

Elizabeth Quance has recently been appointed writer/researcher on a one-year Material Culture Project for The Ontario Historical Society.