



OHS BULLETIN

5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5

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After 105 years of existence The Ontario Historical Society has its own home. The Society is launching a campaign to raise the necessary capital to restore and maintain the three-storey brick residence located close to its present headquarters. (Photo courtesy of Cathy Febraro.)

The OHS finds a home

By Everett Moore and
Elwood Jones, Co-Chairs,
OHS Fundraising Committee

The Ontario Historical Society, after more than a century of temporary arrangements, has found a permanent home, worthy of its history and versatile for its needs. Over the years past Boards have pursued opportunities for a permanent location, knowing that our present office at 5151 Yonge Street and the additional rented space in Metropolitan Toronto were only temporary. This new home is a tribute to their patience and a fulfilment of a dream.

The OHS' home (known as the John McKenzie House) is located at 34 Parkview Avenue in North York. The three-storey brick residence will provide ample space for all of our needs. Our staff will have improved working conditions. New and unique opportunities for an expanded workshop programme present themselves, including restoration work associated with the house and grounds. Our numerous publications including *Ontario History* and the *OHS Bulletin* will have increased work space. Additional facilities such as meeting rooms and display space for heritage groups and a permanent space for developing a resource and research centre will better serve the needs of our members. The added space will allow us to consolidate our operational and storage needs in one central location.

With an improved setting for our many activities, we hope members will regularly visit our house, to share special events, volunteer their time and talents, and seek new ways to discover Ontario's rich history.

Many members have already expressed their delight that the Society, which has fought so many historical and heritage battles, will be a partner with the City of North York in preserving this important heritage structure. The house will have high visibility in the traffic patterns of the

North York Centre area. The tall shiny towers of Yonge Street will provide a contrast to the quiet dignity of this Queen Anne style residence with its Arts and Crafts features. In an area experiencing so much change, effective reminders of the past will be comforting to residents and visitors alike.

We need your help to realize our dream. We must raise \$200,000.00 in the next few months to proceed with the restoration of the structure and its outbuildings, and to ensure a trust fund to meet the ongoing capital costs without eroding our operating budgets. If we all work together, we can all take pride in helping make this dream a reality.

The OHS has some 2500 members making our campaign goal relatively modest. It would be great if those who were able, donated \$5,000.00. It would be even greater if every member donated \$100.00 to \$200.00. In this way the house would really be our home. With each member giving support we can achieve this reasonable objective.

All donors will receive an income tax receipt, and all names, and any gifts given as memorials, will be recorded in our donations book, which will be permanently on view in the house. Everyone contributing over \$100.00 will have his or her name inscribed on plaques that will be displayed throughout the house.

Make your cheques payable to The Ontario Historical Society, and please indicate that you wish your donation to go to our new home fund.

Members wishing to make very special gifts, or who have ideas for fundraising, should contact the Society's Executive Director, Dorothy Duncan, or a member of the Board of Directors.

We hope to see you at one of the special events at our home over the coming months. Please be generous.

TAHA explores Mission St. Claude

By Bruce W. Taylor,
President, Temiskaming
Abitibi Heritage Association

For years tourists have been led by a series of historic site markers from Highway 11B near Haileybury, 35 km south to Mission Saint Claude on Lake Temiskaming only to be

disappointed to find nothing on the site except an historic plaque.

The Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association (TAHA), in co-operation with Le Société d'histoire et genealogie du Temiskaming franco-Ontarien, hopes to eventually provide visitors with something to see besides a spectacular view of the lake.

The two organizations are developing the Old Mission project which will include a legal and topographical survey; collection of archival and historical information; interview with local citizens, including elders on the nearby North Temiskaming Reserve; archaeological testing and information sessions with area municipalities.

As a first step towards developing the historic site, TAHA received a \$29,750.00 grant under the Access to Archaeology programme of the

federal Department of Culture and Communications, to conduct an archaeological survey of the site.

Archaeologist Dr. John Pollock started excavating the site in early July with a crew of five students. By mid-August they had completed test pits in several locations, including a hospital, and had collected 2164 artifacts. Dr. Pollock was also able to identify the existence of a prehistoric First Nations encampment which yielded 800 year-old arrowheads and scrapers.

The Mission Saint Claude was established in 1863 by the Oblate Order to administer to the needs of the Algonquin people. By the time it was abandoned in 1887, it had grown to include two residences, a hospital and school (run by the Grey Nuns), a church and farm buildings.

(See TAHA explores p. 2)

The perfect Christmas gifts

This Christmas, do something different. Send your friends and relatives on an adventure, a trip through time they will never forget. Give them a membership in The Ontario Historical Society as a gift.

With every three new memberships you purchase you will receive a complimentary copy of *Garden of Dreams - Kingsmere and Mackenzie King*, by Edwinna von Baeyer, published by Dundurn Press in 1990. This elegant book is valued at \$39.95.

If a small memento of the Society is more to your taste,

consider purchasing a pocket-sized calendar as a gift. These vinyl-backed booklets appear in OHS blue with the Society's name and address. Each calendar sells for \$4.00 by mail, including postage and handling, and \$3.00 at any of our events and workshops.

Give the gift of Ontario's heritage this Christmas by purchasing a membership or calendar from the OHS.

For further information, please contact the Society at 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011.

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The Ontario Historical Society
5151 Yonge Street
Willowdale, Ontario
M2N 5P5



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Executive Director's report

By Dorothy Duncan, OHS
Executive Director
New Heritage Legislation

On August 19 members of the Minister's Advisory Committee on New Heritage Legislation for Ontario presented The Honourable Karen Haslam, Minister of Culture and Communications, with their report. OHS members will remember that the Honourable Rosario Marchese, then Minister of Culture and Communications, announced the formation of this Committee at our Annual Conference in May of 1991 in Brockville. The Committee met for the first time in August of last year and has met regularly ever since to cover all the issues under discussion. I would like to express to Russell Cooper both my personal thanks, as well as the thanks of our Board of Directors, for acting as my alternate at these meetings for there were many occasions when I was unable to attend and Russ was always there for us.

For those who have not yet received a copy of the Report you can contact Allen Tyyska, Heritage Legislation Project, Ministry of Culture and Communications, 2nd Floor, 77 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9, (416) 314-7164. Study the recommendations and let Minister Haslam have your comments. Contact your local MPP and voice your interest and support of new legislation so that our provincial representatives will be aware of the large and vocal community out here interested in preserving the heritage of this province.

Happy Birthday Lang Pioneer Village

Despite an ominous sky, a large and enthusiastic audience gathered at Lang Pioneer Village on Sunday, August 16 to cele-

brate Lang's 25th birthday and the laying of the cornerstone for the Homestead Farmhouse. Among those bringing greetings and recognizing the contribution of the late B. Napier Simpson, Jr., were Warden Gary Stewart; MPP Bill Domm; MPP Jenny Carter; Ken Doherty, Peterborough Centennial Museum; Dennis Carter-Edwards, representing The Ontario Historical Society and your humble scribe representing The Ontario Heritage Foundation. This gala day was indeed a fitting tribute to Dr. Margaret McKelvie and her dedicated staff and volunteers.

Thank You Peter Styrmö

On October 8 many friends and colleagues of Peter Styrmö gathered at the Queen's York Rangers Mess, Fort York Armouries, Toronto, to pay tribute as his retirement approached. Many of our members are aware of Peter's service to the museums of Ontario first as a museums advisor for the Province of Ontario, and then as Supervisor of the Museums Section of the Ministry. At a time of phenomenal growth and change in the community museums in Ontario, Peter played a key role in making things happen at the provincial level. In recent years as Head of the Property Management Division of the Toronto Historical Board his expertise and knowledge has been applied to the historic properties managed by the Board on behalf of the City of Toronto. Good luck Peter!

We Welcomed the Bookworms

Bookworms by the dozens flocked to the two recent book sales sponsored by the Society for our New Home Fund. Thousands of books changed hands as the happy buyers snapped up the bargains. Our

thanks go to the donors and the shoppers for their interest and generosity.

Meet Us at the Fair!

If you are attending the Royal Winter Fair, November 12 to 21, look for The Ontario Historical Society as we have been invited to join Riverdale Farm at its display. We will join the Farm in presenting an ongoing programme of crafts and skills and giving visitors an opportunity to participate and learn more about the past.

Notions and Nostalgia

Black Creek Pioneer Village hosted our third Notions and Nostalgia Sale to support our History to Go programme on Sunday, September 20. The sale raised over \$500.00 for this important programme.

Come to Twelfth Night

Mark January 5, 1993 on your calendar and plan now to join us at the celebration of Old Christmas here in Willowdale when many of the historical and cultural traditions surrounding Twelfth Night will be revived. Watch the next issue of the *OHS Bulletin* for details.

OCA appoints archives advisor

The Ontario Council of Archives announces the appointment of Johanne Pelletier as Archives Advisor. 1992 is the second year in which the Council has sponsored the Archives Advisor programme.

The programme provides information, technical assistance and advice to established archives and groups interested in establishing an archival programme in Ontario. Users of this complimentary service do not have to be members of the OCA, and can be profit or non-profit.

For further information please contact Johanne Pelletier at the Ontario Council of Archives, Box 128, Station P, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S7, (416) 324-2231.

PMCL celebrates 125 years

1992 not only marks Canada's 125 birthday, but also the founding of Penetang-Midland Coach Lines Limited (PMCL), a family owned and operated business based in Penetanguishene.

PMCL started in 1867 as a stagecoach service, delivering passengers throughout the province. Today the company has grown into one of Canada's largest transportation and tourism operations providing

deluxe highway coach, school bus, cruise boat and tour service.

The fourth generation of the Dubeau family runs the business, which employs up to 600 people during the summer months. This long standing firm is one of Simcoe County's largest employers.

Congratulations to PMCL, one of Ontario's, and Canada's, founding businesses, for achieving this milestone.

TAHA explores *continued from p.1*

Father Donat Martineau O.M.I., the "Dean" of Lake Temiskaming historians, recognized the unique nature of the mission in his history, *La Vieille Mission*. He noted that three nations and languages (Algonquin, French and English) and three religions (Pagan, Catholic and Anglican)

had inhabited the site.

TAHA anticipates that when the artifacts are identified and catalogued, and the report on the first summer's findings is completed, sufficient interest in the site will have been generated to enable the organization to seek further funding for the project in 1993.

Simcoe Ball celebrates Ontario's beginnings

Plan to attend the Niagara Historical Society's event of the year, the Simcoe Ball, taking place on Friday, October 30 at the Court House in Niagara-on-the-Lake. This special fundraiser celebrates Ontario's early 18th century culture.

The event begins with a glass of Shrub (an alcoholic punch) at the reception at 6:30 p.m. A buffet dinner, prepared by the staff of the Niagara Parks Commission, begins at 8:00. A harp and violin duo entertains you with 18th century music, then after dinner join in the sing-along of some 18th century tunes. A demonstration

of country dancing by the St. Catharines Branch of the Royal Scottish Dance Society follows. The Old Grads, a St. Catharines eight-piece orchestra, caps off the evening with contemporary music for dancing.

Tickets sell for \$75.00 each. A income tax receipt will be provided for a portion of the admission. Make your reservations by forwarding your payment to the Niagara Historical Society, Box 208, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario L0S 1J0, or by contacting the Museum at (416) 468-3912, or Cliff James at (416) 468-5247.



While the future home of The Ontario Historical Society, at 34 Parkview Avenue in North York, is itself in good condition, the two outbuildings are in urgent need of repair. The roof of this brick milk house, built in 1907, needs immediate attention. (Photo courtesy of Cathy Febbraro.)



The fourth annual Winnie's Hometown Festival took place in White River from August 21 to 23. The highlight of this weekend event was the unveiling of a three-metre high statue of Winnie-the-Pooh, whose origins began in White River in 1914. Walt Disney Vice-President, Jim Rayburn, was on hand to assist with the unveiling. The town has celebrated this special part of its history since 1989 with a parade, exhibits of bears and bear memorabilia and many special activities. The OHS has been participating in the commemorative event since the beginning. (Photo courtesy of Judy McGonigal.)

President's message

By Dennis Carter-Edwards
OHS President

At the 1991 Annual Meeting of the OHS, the Honourable Rosario Marchese, then Minister of Culture and Communications, announced the formation of a broad-based Advisory Committee to help draft a new Heritage Act. In August of this year, the Committee concluded its work and submitted a final report to the Minister which will form the basis of a new act to be presented to the legislature.

While much work remains to be done, including the preparation of guidelines and regulations, and direct negotiations with First Nations on issues of concern to their communities, the report represents a major step forward in the implementation of a more effective and comprehensive heritage policy for Ontario.

In April of 1987, as Chairman of Heritage Cornwall, I submitted a brief to the Heritage Policy Review calling for strong leadership from the Province, along with the integration of heritage issues in municipal planning, and a designation process that provided a greater degree of protection. The demolition of the nationally designated Cornwall Capitol Theatre in the spring of 1991 underscored the urgent need to correct these major weaknesses in the present act.

The report by the Advisory Committee addresses each of these issues and adds many other important features to a new heritage policy. The report recommends that all government departments, commissions and agencies be bound by the principles of a new act, with the Ministry of Culture and Communications serving as the lead department that will "evaluate the effectiveness of such measures."

The provincial government will lead by example and ensure that the policies of one depart-

ment do not undermine the heritage initiatives of another. Municipal governments will receive direction for the integration of heritage conservation measures into their official plans to help with overall land use planning and development.

The strongest feature of the report, however, is the tougher measures introduced to protect designated properties. The Advisory Committee recommended the appointment of an independent board that will have the power to review and, if warranted, overturn local decisions. This policy marks a significant departure from the current act and responds to the concerns expressed by many heritage groups that stronger measures are required to prevent the continual loss of the province's built heritage.

The report also states that the new act will incorporate a broader definition of heritage resources including both "physical and living heritage resources" such as structures, natural areas, documents, artifacts, songs, skills and traditions.

Local advisory committees, now known as LACAC's, will continue but will be restructured with wider powers to consult and inform the general public, and deal directly with local councils. The report recommends a dual process for identifying heritage resources either through listing on a provincial inventory or actual designation. Local councils will be allowed to flag heritage resources of interest to the community and, where necessary, have them designated and entered on the provincial register. In addition, heritage resources will now be graded on a scale of significance which will help highlight assets of provincial, regional and local significance, determine appropriate controls and ensure resources are directed in a systematic manner.

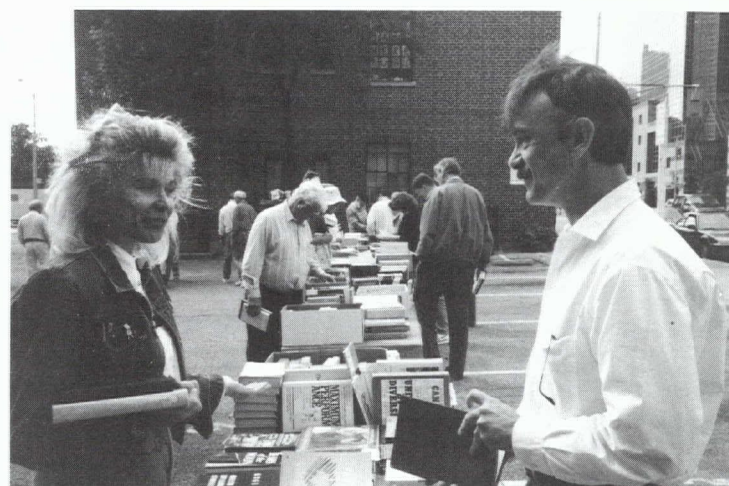
The Advisory Committee

report introduces some new concepts in the identification and conservation of the province's heritage resources. Provisions exist for a more prominent role for independent, non-profit and profit corporations who can act as partners in the management of heritage assets. The opportunities created by such partnerships will open new avenues for creative solutions to the inherent problems of conserving Ontario's rich heritage especially during periods of economic recession. Also, a more extensive use of easements will help broaden the basis for protecting tangible heritage assets.

Committee members strongly supported the need for better educational programmes within the school system to encourage greater respect for, and understanding of, the social, economic and cultural benefits of heritage conservation. The report also deals with heritage custodial facilities, such as museums and archives, the protection of archaeological sites and the regulation of archaeological activity by trained specialists.

The report by the Minister's Advisory Committee sets the parameters for a comprehensive and important piece of legislation that will set the course of heritage policy in Ontario for the foreseeable future. While many improvements are contained in the report, much will depend on the guidelines and regulations accompanying a new act. As well, the availability of provincial resources including financial assistance and professional expertise, will be critical for the province's ongoing commitment to a revised heritage policy.

I encourage you to review the provisions outlined in the report and inform your local MPP of the importance of proceeding quickly with the new bill. We do not want to wait another five years and endure the loss of more of our irreplaceable heritage resources before a new act is in place.



Louise Talkachoff, OHS volunteer and Fred Cane of the Ministry of Culture and Communications, discuss the bargains at the Society's first book sale held August 15 in the parking lot beside 5151 Yonge Street. Bookworms lined the tables from the beginning to the end of this fundraiser that took in over \$1,300.00 in sales. Proceeds go towards the new home fund. (Photo courtesy of Lorraine Lowry.)

Port Hope portrayed in new local history

The Senior Researchers of the East Durham Historical Society are launching the Society's new picture history, *Hope and Its Port, Two Centuries of Change* on Friday, November 27.

More of a collective family photograph album than a local history in the traditional sense, the book contains over 200 pictures never before published. The variety and scope of the photographs is wide-ranging covering barn building bees;

young men leaving for the World Wars; one of the province's first switchboards, along with its operator plus many more.

To obtain a limited edition copy at a special pre-launch price, forward your cheque or money order in the amount of \$31.95 to the East Durham Historical Society, Box 116, Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3V9. After November 27 the price increases to \$39.95.

Archives of Ontario offers free clinics

The Archives of Ontario will be offering free conservation clinics until February 23, 1993 at the Conservation Laboratory on the third floor of the Archives at 77 Grenville Street in Toronto.

The clinics will take place every other Tuesday and are by appointment only. Members of the general public, archivists and staff of other heritage organizations are welcome to use the service.

Conservators will provide conservation recommendations for any item on paper such as a document, map, photograph or work of art. They will suggest preventive care and handling of archival collections, including storage, environment, exhibition and reproduction methods. Conservation treatments cannot be undertaken, but referrals to other resources can be provided.

To book your appointment please contact the Archives of Ontario at (416) 327-1521 or 327-1522 between Monday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Information wanted

Alan Ruffman of Geomarine Associates Ltd. in Halifax, Nova Scotia is researching tsunamis or tidal waves on the Great Lakes, and is seeking information on any documented events describing such activity particularly on Erie and Ontario.

Several incidents suggesting tidal wave activity have been cited in newspapers. The Daily British Whig of Kingston reported on Monday, May 25, 1925 that a tidal wave struck Lake Ontario the previous Saturday. Research however reveals this event was atmospherically-induced, or resulting from storm activity. A true tectonically-induced tsunami seems to have never occurred.

If you have any information which would assist this research please contact Alan Ruffman, President, Geomarine Associates Ltd., 5112 Prince Street, Box 41, Station M, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2L4.

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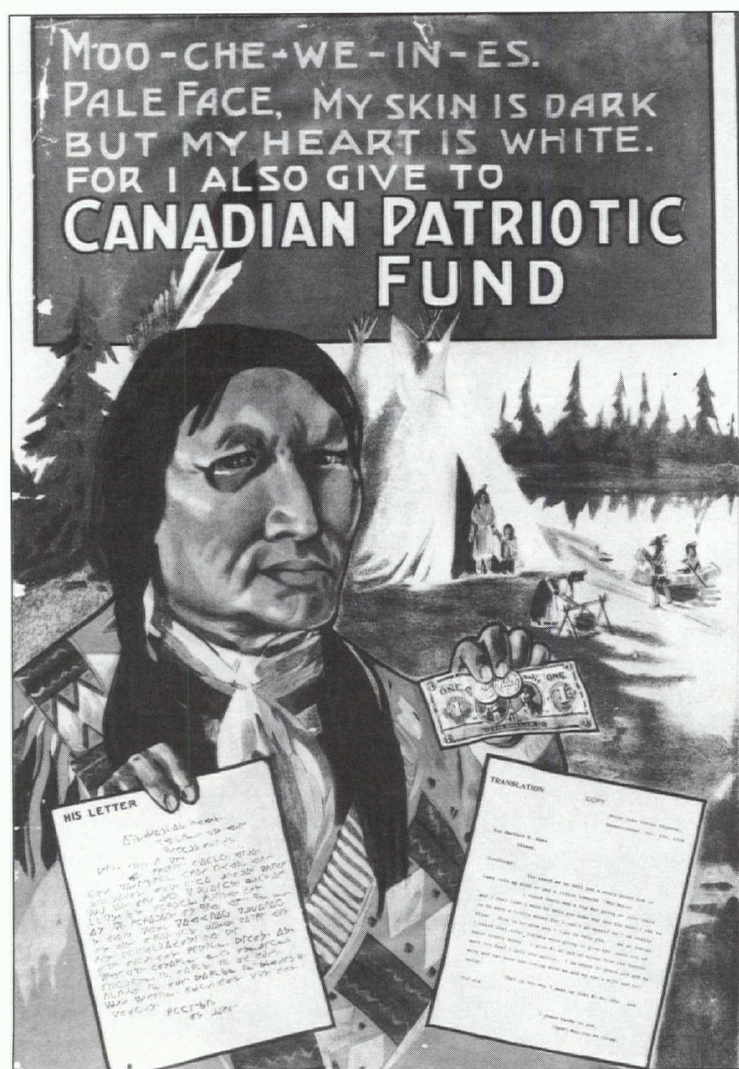
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Upcoming Events



The Royal Ontario Museum, in co-operation with the Woodland Cultural Centre in Brantford, is presenting *Fluffs and Feathers: An Exhibition on the Symbols of Indianness*. Opening November 7 the exhibit offers a First Nations perspective on how Indian stereotypes have been generated over time, how they are reinforced and accepted and how these stereotypes influence and affect every one of us. The display continues until February 28, 1993. (Photo courtesy of the Royal Ontario Museum.)

June - December 31: The Anchorage, the newest addition to the Bradley Museum, showcases **Cottage Life**, an exhibition focusing on the historical development of cottage life and other recreational activities that have taken place along the shores of Lake Ontario within the last century. Contact the Bradley Museum, Orr Road at Meadow Wood Road in Mississauga, (416) 822-4884.

August - November 15: Who was Jack? While the origin of the proper name is in dispute, the use of this word throughout our history has been common, from wagon jacks to jack hammers. Discover the answer to the multi-faceted personality of the word "jack" at the Joseph Schneider Haus through an interactive exhibit of artifacts and images designed for the child in each of us. Contact the Haus at 466 Queen Street South, Kitchener N2G 1W7, (519) 742-7752.

September - January 10, 1993: Enter **The Writer's World** at Eldon House in London. This showcase of writing instruments and related accessories from past times recalls the days when writing was an art and penmanship was all-important. Contact Janette Veal at Eldon House, 421 Ridout Street North, London N6A 5H4, (519) 672-4580.

September - November 22: Terra Cotta: Artful Deceivers takes place at the London

Regional Art and Historical Museums. This exhibit explores the use of Terra Cotta as a building material in late 19th and early 20th century Ontario through photographs and architectural fragments. Contact Mike Baker, Curator of Regional History at 421 Ridout Street North, London N6A 5H4, (519) 672-4580.

October - December 31: The Hamilton Children's Museum presents **Columbus and The Great Explorers**, an exhibit and programme for junior and intermediate school children, covering the period from 1492 to the early 1700's. Contact the Museum at 1072 Main Street East, Hamilton L8M 1N6, (416) 549-9285.

October - March 31, 1993: Take a new look at the shapes, colours and images of Toronto's port as photographer Gil Alkin challenges your impressions of the waterfront in **Unconventional Views: Toronto's Waterfront in Photographs**. This exhibit, being held at the Marine Museum, showcases images of ships, cranes, ladders, cargo and other marine objects. Contact the Toronto Historical Board at the Marine Museum, Exhibition Place, Toronto M6K 3C3, (416) 392-6827.

November: The Seagram Museum presents a wide variety of **wine seminars and tastings** on Thursday evenings, beginning on the 5th with practical

advice for stocking the home wine cellar. Preregistration is required for all sessions. Be sure to visit the Museum from the 21st to the 24th for St. Mary's Hospital Festival of Trees and Lights. Contact the Museum at 57 Erb Street West, Waterloo N2L 6C2, (519) 885-1857.

November 5: The Grange presents its Fall Luncheon Lecture Series beginning at 11:00 a.m. Author Mary Beacock Fryer presents **His Majesty's Yankees - The United Empire Loyalists**. On November 19 return to The Grange for another installment in the series: **Myth Vs. Reality - The Irish**, with speaker Professor Cecil Houston of the History Department of Erindale College, University of Toronto. The fee of \$14.00 for members and \$16.00 for non-members includes lunch. For tickets contact The Grange, c/o The Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas Street West, Toronto M5T 1G4, (416) 977-0414, Ext. 263.

November 5: The Heritage Resources Centre of the University of Waterloo presents **Planning for World Heritage Sites**. The seminar explores and assesses how well the World Heritage Convention protects outstanding heritage sites in Canada and other countries. Return to the Centre on November 20 for **Heritage Planning in an Urban Context**. Explore the social, economic, political and aesthetic dimensions of heritage planning in cities. The registration fee for each workshop is \$45.00, and enrolment is limited to 100 persons. Contact Lisa Weber, Heritage Resources Centre, Environmental Studies Building 1, University of Waterloo, Waterloo N2L 3G1, (519) 885-1211, ext. 2072, Fax (519) 746-2031.

November 7, 1992 - February 28, 1993: For a First Nations perspective on the stereotyping of Indians visit **Fluffs and Feathers: An Exhibition on the Symbols of Indianness** at the Royal Ontario Museum. The display, illustrating how stereotypes of Indians have been generated over time, is organized by the Woodland Cultural Centre in Brantford. A number of special complementary events take place while *Fluffs and Feathers* is being presented. When the exhibition closes in February the ROM will circulate it across Canada on behalf of the Woodland Cultural Centre. Contact the ROM at 100 Queen's Park, Toronto M5S 2C6, (416) 586-5551.

November 8: The Chatham LACAC presents a series of lectures on **Preserving Our Sacred Architecture**. The third installment, at 2:00 p.m. in St. Joseph's Church, discusses **Preserving Religious Architecture** with Father Claude Turmel and Father

Jacques LaRoche of Quebec discussing the principles, challenge and need to ensure the survival of our sacred heritage. Admission is free. Contact the Chatham LACAC, 315 King Street West, Chatham N7M 5K8, (419) 436-3237.

November 11: The Toronto Historical Board and the Toronto chapter of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire (IODE) present a **Remembrance Day Service** honouring Canada's war dead at the Strachan Avenue Military Cemetery, west of Historic Fort York at 10:45 a.m. A procession begins at the entrance to the Fort. Visit the Fort for complimentary refreshments and a tour after the ceremony. Contact the Historical Board at the Marine Museum, Exhibition Place, Toronto M6K 3C3, (416) 392-6827.

November 14, 15: The Art Gallery of Ontario presents **AGorgeous Garage Sale** of art-oriented objects from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you have any articles you would like to donate to this fundraiser, the AGO would be appreciative. Contact the Art Gallery at 317 Dundas Street West, Toronto M5T 1G4, (416) 979-6661.

December: Christmas Music Concerts by local choirs are featured at The Seagram Museum on these six afternoons: 2, 6, 9, 13, 16 and 20. Take a quiet respite in the Museum's courtyard during this busy month. Contact the Museum at 57 Erb Street West, Waterloo N2L 6C2, (519) 885-1857.

December: Take a **Candlelight Tour** of the Bradley Museum on the 1st, 8th or 15th. Return on

the 20th for **Christmas in the Backwoods**. Contact the Museum at Orr and Meadow Wood Roads in Mississauga, (416) 822-4884.

December 3 - 6: The 1917 Explosion: Collision in Halifax Harbour and its Consequences commemorates the 75th anniversary of the explosion of the ammunition ship *Mont Blanc*, which devastated much of the north ends of Halifax and Dartmouth. This multidisciplinary conference brings together existing and new research on the explosion. Contact The Gorsebrook Research Institute, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3C9, (902) 420-5668.

December 12: The Scarborough Historical Museum presents a **Victorian Christmas Ornament Workshop** for children ages 6 to 13. Enjoy the spirit and setting of Christmas past while creating Victorian Christmas crackers, clothespeg angels and oriental lanterns. The session begins at 10:00 and ends at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$6.00 per child. To preregister, contact Suzanne Tate. On the 12th and 13th visit the Museum for the **Annual Christmas Open House** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day. Discover how Christmas was celebrated 19th century style. Contact the Museum, 1007 Brimley Road, Scarborough M1P 3E8, (416) 431-3441.

December 20: Experience a pioneer winter at Lang Pioneer Village's **Christmas Festival**. Visit Father Christmas, make festive decorations and enjoy music, horse and sleigh rides. Contact the Village at R. R. #3, Keene K0L 2G0, (705) 295-6694.

Upcoming OHS Workshops

DATE	WORKSHOP	LOCATION
October 30	The Heritage of Ontario Cemeteries	Peterborough
October 31	New Partnerships in Museum Interpretation: First Nations	Campbellford
November 4	Let's Bake Bread	Almonte
November 5	Deck the Halls	Almonte
November 7	Our Marine Heritage is Disappearing	St. Catharines
November 14	Deck the Halls	London
November 21	Serve it Forth III!	Timmins
November 22	Deck the Halls	Timmins
November 28	Deck the Halls	Southampton
November 28	Deck the Halls/Serve it Forth!	Wallaceburg

For further information on these workshops, and others in the planning stages, please contact The Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011 or Fax (416) 226-2740.



The Ontario Historical Society



OHS brings back some old favourites

The Ontario Historical Society is bringing back some favourites from our publishing past. We are pleased to announce that we have updated and revised two of our popular publications: *Discovering Your Community* and the *Directory of Heritage Organizations and Institutions in Ontario*.

Discovering Your Community, first published in 1984, is an invaluable resource for teachers and youth leaders, packed with activities and suggestions for developing local history projects for young people.

In addition to producing the publication in English, the OHS has entered into an agreement with Le regroupement des organismes du patrimoine franco-ontarien in Ottawa to translate and adapt *Discovering Your*

Community for the Franco-Ontarian community. The result will be a bilingual version - one side English, the other French.

The *Directory of Heritage Organizations and Institutions in Ontario* is also on the press. This listing of approximately 2000 historical societies, museums, cultural and heritage organizations is a must for anyone's library. Originally printed in 1989, the second printing of the resource has been expanded to include archives, cultural centres and First Nations band councils.

Both publications will be available early in 1993. For information on prices, please contact The Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011.

Donors

By Everette Moore and Elwood Jones, Co-Chairs, OHS Fundraising Committee

The Ontario Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following donors:

Nancy Cunningham
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Lois Chipper
Dorothy Duncan
Nancy Ironside, in memory of
Allan Ironside
Helen Irwin
Barbara Kane
Lorraine Lowry
Mavis McDonald, Canadian
Celebration
Jean Simmonds
Gavin Watt

Ontario History Endowment Plus
Jean Burnet

The Ontario Historical Society welcomes new members

The Ontario Historical Society welcomes new members:

Caledon East: Peter Elm
Chatham: Mary Angela Tucker
Don Mills: Marion M. Feir; Mavis L. McDonald
Fingal: Barbara and Bernie McGale
Guelph: Douglas and Laura Harding
Kanata: Alan Dorward
London: Tom Ross

Markham: Sally Sheppard
North York: Shirley Clinkard; Sheryl and John McLaren
Ottawa: Nicole Brousseau; Dennis Lloyd; Stephane D. Perreault
Penetanguishene: Catherine Haskell
Pickering: Judith A. Muzzi
Pickle Lake: Joseph Horawski
Scarborough: Lillian F. Stock
Tobermory: Holly M. Dunham

Toronto: Eileen Curwain; Marlene Clancy Diamond; John Graham; Helvi Hunter; Graycie Lesniak; Christine Lockett
Waterloo: Lori Lynn Banks
Willowdale: Margaret M. Kanada
Windsor: Melanie Townsend
Woodstock: Robyn Buffett

Out of Province:
Montreal: John Oja



On Monday, August 3 the Huron County Historical Society, in co-operation with Natural Heritage/Natural History Inc. publishing company of Toronto, launched The Old Log School and Huron Old Boys in Pioneer Days. This republication of Goderich's 1939 folk history by Gavin Hamilton Green was the product of almost four years of work. The launch, held at the Huron County Museum on North Street in Goderich, was followed by a tour of the town square, led by Paul Carroll of the Huron County Historical Society. The tour retraced a short trip described by Green in his book. Here Carroll points out one of the tour's highlights. (Photo courtesy of Wes Rochester.)

Ontario History focuses on women in December

By Jean Burnet, Editor

The December issue of *Ontario History* focuses on biographies of women. Guest editor, Dianne Hallman, of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education has collected four articles which feature prominent women in Ontario's past.

The issue includes a study of Letitia Youmans, one of Ontario's first temperance agitators and educators, by Sharon Anne Cook of the University of Ottawa. Rachel Gray provides an essay about her aunt, Alice Gray, who attended the University of Toronto in the interwar years and became a secondary school teacher. A third article examines Hanna Newcombe, a peace researcher and world federalist, by Lucille Marr of the University of Waterloo. Laura Elizabeth McCully, an early feminist, is the subject of a fourth piece by Sophia Spardakos.

A number of books on women will be reviewed, along with several regular reviews.

Women's history commemorated in October

To recognize the accomplishments of Canadian women the federal Department for the Status of Women declared October as Women's History month.

In honour of the celebration The Ontario Historical Society will be publishing a special theme issue of *Ontario History* on the province's women in December. (For further informa-

tion, please see Jean Burnet's overview of the issue on this page.)

To receive your commemorative copy, please send \$10.00 for the single issue to the Society. Make your cheque or money order payable to The Ontario Historical Society. For information on annual subscription rates, please contact the OHS.

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(Cheque or money order, payable to "OGS Toronto Branch" must accompany order. Allow 4 weeks for delivery. Prices effective 1/9/92 and subject to change.)

Make History

Friesen Printers have put together an excellent slide presentation showing the various steps of compiling information and putting together a history book for your community.

A Friesen representative is available to show it to your committee or group of interested persons.

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Lets Make History Together

THB presents . . .

The Toronto Historical Board presents the following special events at its sites from November 18 to January 6.

Dickens Christmas at Colborne Lodge
Victorian Christmas at Mackenzie House
Edwardian Christmas at Spadina

From December 27 to January 6 all three sites wrap up the holiday season with Twelfth Night celebrations. Children can enjoy some special hands-on activities. Contact the Board at the Marine Museum, Exhibition Place, Toronto M6K 3C3, (416) 392-6827.

Museum News

Toronto's Archaeological Resource Centre – an educational experience

By Jack Kohane

One of the most exciting and inspired educational experiments in Canada is Toronto's Archaeological Resource Centre (ARC). Thousands of students participate in making thrilling discoveries in a programme that is, literally, ground breaking.

The south wing of Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute in downtown Toronto has become the headquarters for this bold venture. Utilizing several classrooms, the Centre consists of an artifact and information display area, administrative and computer facilities, and an extensive resource library of books, films and slides for use by teachers and students.

A state of the art laboratory is at the Centre's heart. Here unearthed artifacts are cleaned, analyzed, catalogued and restored; interpretations are made, theories developed or refuted. The lab provides students with an indepth exposure to the real archaeological profession.

Funded by the Toronto Board of Education and grants from the Ministry of Culture and Communications, ARC represents the first such permanent facility in the North American public education system, at the pre-university level.

Seven professional archaeologists make up the research team, each possessing specific expertise and a wide range of experience gained from working on other projects around the world.

The ARC Programme was initiated in 1985 in response to the growing urgency to recover historically significant sites before the frenzied pace of urban development obliterated them forever. The remarkable

response of educators, students and the general public demonstrated to governments and academics alike the need for integrating archaeology into the regular school curriculum.

The most viable approach was to set up a year-round programme so that research, conservation and excavations could continue uninterrupted. Digging could be intensively carried out throughout the summer months by high school students and volunteers; the remainder of the year devoted to analysis and conservation. Students in the programme can earn a credit towards their graduation. Over its seven years of existence, the programme has become so popular that courses of study have been expanded and digging seasons extended to three or four years on one site.

As an added bonus, excavations have become major tourist attractions. Each summer brings thousands of onlookers who witness pieces of Toronto's history being brought to light. A Public Interpretive Unit is always set up adjacent to each dig site. Tours and information material are provided for the benefit of the many visitors.

The ARC's first major project, started in 1985, was the Blackburn House Site, located on the grounds of the present-day Sackville Public School. Research conducted prior to the dig indicated that a prosperous 19th century family had lived there. The owner, it was later learned, was Thornton Blackburn who listed himself as "Cabman, Gentleman, Coloured", in the 1846 City Directory. Research showed that Thornton Blackburn was the very first of 50,000 runaway slaves to come to Canada via the Underground Railroad.

The current project, ARC's

eighth and most ambitious, is the Gore Vale Site at today's Trinity-Bellwoods Park on Queen Street, the locale of the former estate grounds of the Honourable Duncan Cameron, Secretary of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada.

Cameron had purchased the land in 1819 and immediately built the first brick house in the city's deeply forested west end, where unbroken wilderness stretched from Gore Vale to Niagara. Cameron undoubtedly foresaw the rapid expansion of Muddy York, and surmised that his property would eventually increase in value a thousand-fold.

In its prime during the Cameron occupation, Gore Vale was an extensive rural estate with a three-storey house, stables and a glass conservatory.

In the late 19th century, Gore Vale underwent further renovations and modifications by a succession of owners. By the 1920's, it was used as a community centre and also served as the headquarters of the Kiwanis Boy's Club of Canada. In 1926, it was demolished and covered by layers of landfill to increase the size of the Park.

Peter Hamalainen, Site Director and senior archaeologist on the project, reports that in their second year over 100,000 artifacts of all descriptions have been recovered. He also notes that a great deal of valuable material in excellent condition has been found in situ.

Hamalainen states that, "The excavation and analysis of the artifacts recovered will shed additional light on the former

residents of Gore Vale, and provide a rare opportunity to learn more about everyday life in the city's once rural hinterland and the changing lifeways of Toronto residents over the last 170 years."

The Archaeological Resource Centre plays an essential role in preserving our rich heritage. By taking students out of the classroom, putting them into a realistic learning environment, and allowing them to discover and handle actual artifacts for themselves, they can gain a sense of their own past and an historical perspective. Students and volunteers alike develop a conviction that, through their personal efforts, they can play an integral part in helping discover and preserve important elements of our collective history.



Toronto's Archaeological Resource Centre is currently excavating the Gore Vale Site, located in Trinity-Bellwoods Park on Queen Street. Here a student keeps a watchful eye for possible artifacts. (Photo courtesy of Jack Kohane.)

Vanishing trade of coopering featured on video

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum is producing a video this fall on the vanishing trade of coopering or barrel-making. With the assistance of a Reflections '92 Grant from the Ministry of Culture and Communications, the Museum will make a 14 minute video on the skill and technique of making various kinds of barrels and casks.

Over the past three years the Museum has presented an active exhibit on coopering. Volunteer tradesman Dan Zaroski has created a workshop in which he shares his knowledge and interprets this vanishing art. Through exhaustive research Mr. Zaroski has compiled valuable information that the Museum will utilize in the presentation.

The video, available for sale this winter, will compliment exhibits, lectures, school and outreach programmes.

For further information, and to order your copy, please contact Andrea Wilson, Curator, The Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum, R. R. #1, Gormley, Ontario L0H 1G0, (416) 727-8954.

THB offers new group programmes

The Toronto Historical Board is offering several new programmes, tours and activities for groups at its historic sites.

Historic Fort York features two new activities. Investigate early Toronto history by touring the 19th century garrison, listening to period music and watching a musket demonstration. The Fort also invites you to exercise while you learn several early 19th century dances.

Colborne Lodge in High Park invites you enjoy the charm of the Lodge and sample home baking from the historic kitchen. On a guided walking tour you will learn about rare plant life, the Hillside Gardens, Grenadier Pond and of course Colborne Lodge.

At the 1859 home of Toronto's first mayor, William Lyon Mackenzie, you will learn how this leader of the 1837 Rebellion in Upper Canada

lived. Take 'William Lyon Mackenzie's Toronto' as well, and see the Toronto the first mayor knew on this guided walking tour of the Market Gallery area.

Spadina, the 1866 estate of the Austin Family, invites you to step into Edwardian elegance as you visit the restored drawing, billiard and palm rooms. You can also roam through Toronto's only restored Edwardian gardens as your group tours the grounds and house, and has tea in the sunroom. Just steps from Spadina is Casa Loma. Take a guided visit of both estates on this tour.

All tours can be tailored to suit the special interests of your group. For information on times, fees and availability, please contact Sandra Molyneux at the Toronto Historical Board, Marine Museum, Exhibition Place, Toronto, Ontario M6K 3C3, (416) 392-6827.

Thames Art Gallery receives good news

The Thames Art Gallery located in Chatham has recently received good news regarding its grants for 1992/1993.

Early in August the Gallery received a Special Project Assistance Grant of \$1,000.00 from the Ontario Arts Council. A jury of peers selected from the province assessed 21 applications on the basis of each gallery's commitment to its

community and its ability to fulfil the goals of its project. The Art Gallery will utilize the funds for its Arts and Ideas Discussion Series that will commence this fall.

The Gallery also was advised of an increase in its Exhibition Assistance Grant from \$3,900.00 to \$4,275.00. The funding allows the Gallery to assist local artists with

expenses for exhibiting their work. The maximum allowable grant for each artist is \$1,000.00.

For further information on application criteria, please contact Sheelagh Carroll-de Sousa, Gallery Curator, The Thames Art Gallery, 75 William Street North, Chatham, Ontario N7M 4L4, (519) 354-8338.

From the Bookshelf

By Jim Clemens,
Bookshelf Editor

The Cordwainer

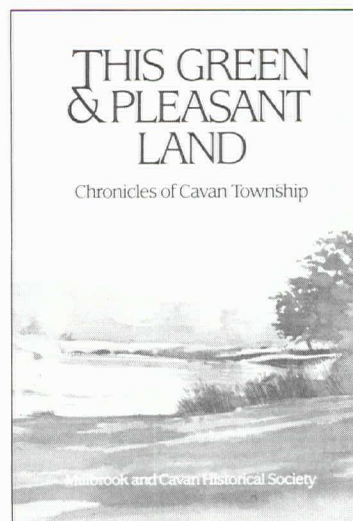
The Cordwainer's Scrapbook. By Lloyd Cartwright. 1991. 152 pp. Illustrated. \$18.00 paper (by mail, includes postage and handling.) (Available from the author, Box 1045, Walkerton, Ontario N0G 2V0.)

This new book is a collection of 200 columns written by Lloyd Cartwright under the name, "The Cordwainer", for the Walkerton Herald Times over the past 11 years. The columns describe life in Walkerton and environs over the past 130 years but the majority focus on the period since 1900. Mr. Cartwright describes local institutions such as schools, the post office, railway stations, restaurants, arenas, the creamery and factories as well as local residents and events like floods, fires, blizzards and even an earthquake. The information for the articles came from interviews with Walkerton residents and personal research. The book is filled with many photographs of the buildings and people. **The Cordwainer's Scrapbook** provides an excellent look at past life in an Ontario farming and small manufacturing community. (J. D. T., Toronto)

McQuesten

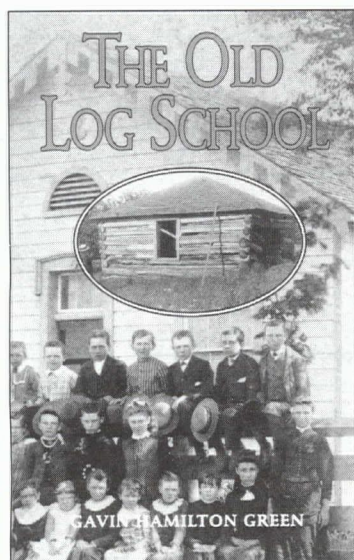
Thomas Baker McQuesten: Public Works, Politics and Imagination. By John Best. Hamilton: Corinth Press, 1991. 224 pp. Illustrations. \$32.95 cloth. (Available from the publisher, 101 Melrose Avenue South, Hamilton, Ontario L8M 2Y7.)

Thomas Baker McQuesten is the story of the father of the modern highway system in Ontario who oversaw the construction of the Queen Elizabeth Way, Canada's first super highway. McQuesten also commissioned international bridges: the Ivy Lea, Bluewater and Rainbow, all aimed at providing majestic gateways for American tourists. He was a founder of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton, developed the Niagara Parks system, and built parks in his native Hamilton. His life provides an interesting study not only of public works, but also of Ontario's politics in the first half of the 20th century. A full review of this book will appear in a future issue of *Ontario History*. (C. B., Hamilton)



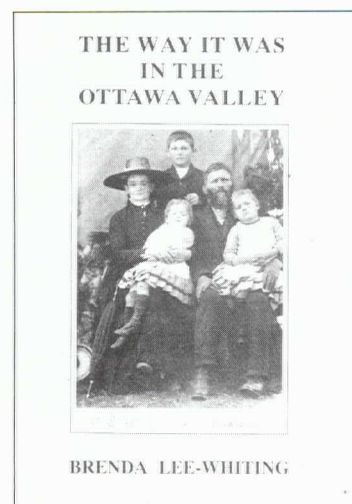
This Green & Pleasant Land: Chronicles of Cavan Township. Edited by Quentin Brown. Millbrook: Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society, 1990. 466 pp. Illustrations. \$25.00 cloth. (Available from the publisher, R. R. #3, Millbrook, Ontario L0A 1G0.)

This Green & Pleasant Land gathers together the narratives of the early schools, the chapels and churches, the farms, mills, taverns and roads, the militia, noted sons and daughters, the railroads, lodges, sports, the Cavan Blazers, entertainment and many other topics. Also included are 130 family histories, many harking back to pioneer days. The whole book is lavishly illustrated with photographs and maps.



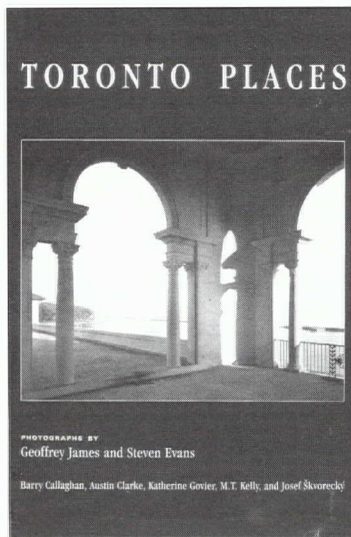
The Old Log School. By Gavin Hamilton Green. Toronto: Natural Heritage/Natural History Inc., 1992. 191 pp. Illustrations. \$12.95 paper. (Available from the publisher, Box 69, Station H, Toronto, Ontario M4C 5H7.)

Gavin Hamilton Green's (1862-1961) writings describe the colourful sometimes wily ways of pioneer history in Colborne Township and Huron County. Originally published in 1939, this expanded and newly designed edition offers the reader a unique opportunity to explore the change and development of a region and its people over a span of some 130 years. The reader is carried from chuckles to tears as she or he meets friends from the past and events unfold. Vintage photographs of old-timers and landmarks, a glossary of out-of-use words and phrases, a site reference list, and a biographical profile of the author are just some of the additions complimenting this account of a time and place that should not be forgotten.



The Way It Was in the Ottawa Valley. By Brenda Lee-Whiting. Deep River: Townsend Books, 1992. 181 pp. Illustrations. \$25.00 paper. (Available from the author, Box 467, Deep River, Ontario K0J 1P0.)

From the winner of the first Joseph Brant Award, presented by the OHS in 1987, comes this new book that concentrates on pictorial records of scenes, people, events and occupations that have disappeared from the Ottawa Valley. The illustrations are accompanied by brief stories, most of which have been published at greater length in newspapers and in periodicals over the last 30 years.



Toronto Places: A Context for Urban Design. Photographs by Geoffrey James and Steven Evans. Edited by Marc Baraness and Larry Richards. Toronto: The City of Toronto and the University of Toronto Press, 1992. 107 pp. Illustrations. \$50.00 cloth. (Available from the publisher, 10 St. Mary Street, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2W8.)

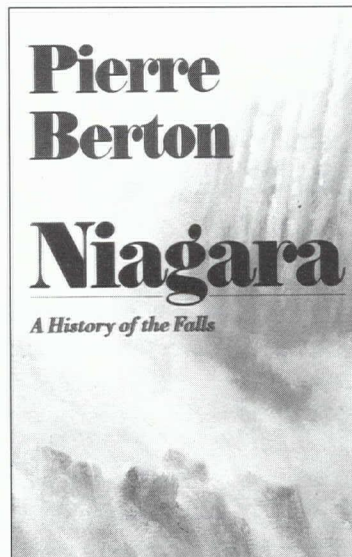
Toronto Places celebrates 25 of the best examples from Toronto's heritage of architectural and landscape design as chosen by an international jury. These places are the foundation of the Context collection, established by the City of Toronto to recognize achievement in urban design. The book presents each of the places in stunning photographs. An introductory essay by Marc Baraness explains the Context project. Larry Richards expands the report of the jury in his essay "Toronto's Treasury", and describes the award-winning places. Five distinguished Toronto authors: Barry Callaghan, Austin Clarke, Katherine Govier, M. T. Kelly, and Josef Skvorecky, have each contributed an essay. They write about the meaning of the city and its public places, about the role of urban design in creating an authentic public realm, and about the places within Toronto that matter to them.

Almost Lost

A Legacy Almost Lost: An Anthology of Kilworthy Country. By The Kilworthy Historical Committee. Kilworthy: The Kilworthy Historical Committee, 1992. 500 pp. Illustrations. \$22.95. (Available from The Book Store, Box 2070, 190 Muskoka Road

South, Gravenhurst, Ontario P0C 1G0.)

Since the fall of 1989, members of The Kilworthy Historical Committee have been collecting and compiling stories, illustrations, maps and diaries about the people and places of Kilworthy Country over the past 130 years. The result is **A Legacy Almost Lost**.



Niagara: A History of the Falls. By Pierre Berton. Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1992. 480 pp. Illustrations. \$29.95 cloth. (Available from the publisher, 21 Sackville Street, Toronto, Ontario M5A 3E1.)

Pierre Berton's sweeping history of Niagara Falls is crammed with the kind of unlikely characters that his readers have come to expect, ranging from Henry

Perky, the inventor of Shredded Wheat, to Marilyn Monroe. Here also are engrossing stories of the great cataract from its formation through its backward movement over 12,000 years from Queenston to its present site. But Niagara is more than a collection of heroes and villains, daredevils and eccentrics. The three-century story of how humans transformed a great natural wonder into a theatrical backdrop and created "the genie of electricity" that turned out to be the worst polluter on the continent, has a resonance for the present day.

Shipping

Shipping Literature of the Great Lakes: A Catalogue of Company Publications, 1852-1990. Compiled by Le Roy Barnett. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 1992. 165 pp. \$24.95 (U.S.) cloth. (Available from the publisher, 1405 South Harrison Road, Suite 25, Manly Miles Building, East Lansing, Michigan 48823-5202, U.S.A.)

This book identifies about 80 percent of all the literature ever issued by the shipping companies that plied our inland seas. Historians, librarians, business scholars, book dealers, maritime enthusiasts, travel specialists, collectors and the general inquisitive public will find in this volume a source of data that will help them in their endeavours.

Editor's notes

The Canadian Book Information Centre has informed us of the publication of the first ever **History Theme Catalogue**. This comprehensive collection of over 100 titles on Canadian history represents publishers from across the country. The first ten copies are free; more than ten are 15 cents each plus shipping and GST. To receive your free copy, contact the Centre at 260 King Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1K3.

I have written before of my delight in catalogues. Two 1992 fall catalogues from publishers recently crossed my desk: The Boston Mills Press, 132 Main Street, Erin, Ontario N0B 1T0; and Natural Heritage/Natural History Inc., Box 69, Station H, Toronto, Ontario M4C 5H7.

The Heritage Resource Centre, Environmental Studies Building 1, Room 345, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1, announces some new publications for 1992:

Signposts for the Future:

Environmental Assessment and Heritage in Canada (\$12.00)

Water Diversions and Export: Learning from Canadian Experience, 1992 (\$30.25)

Landscape Ecology: A Selected Annotated Bibliography - Initial Review (\$18.00)

Preparing for a Shoreline Management Plan for the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (\$12.00)

Resource Survey of the Lake Huron Coast: Technical Notes (\$15.00)

A friend of mine is preparing a book on places of historical, cultural, technological or natural importance in Canada. The book will provide information to parents on places of educational value to visit with their children when travelling across this country. To have your museum or historic/heritage site considered for inclusion in this volume, please send information about the location to E. J. Abeles, 148 Willow Farm Lane, Aurora, Ontario L4G 6K4, (416) 841-7078.

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A letter to our President

July 27, 1992.

Mr. Dennis Carter-Edwards
President
Ontario Historical Society
5151 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 5P5

Dear Dennis:

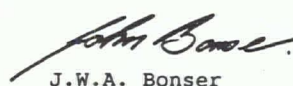
Since leaving the Executive of the Society a couple of years ago, I have until today resisted the temptation to write offering advice on the business of the Society.

A recent action of the Executive does however provide me with a compelling reason to write expressing my point of view.

The action to which I refer came to my attention through the most recent "Bulletin" and, is of course, the acquisition of a new home for the Society. This issue has been high on the Society's agenda for many years and even in my memory, presidents and members of the Board have devoted countless hours to the search for suitable accommodation.

To those of us who remember Forest Hills School and the nail biting times wondering just when 5151 Yonge Street would fall prey to the developers, acquisition of 34 Parkview seems almost too good to be true. I therefore want to express my thanks to you and the Board for putting an end to uncertainty for many years to come. I know that I speak for many other members when I say "Keep up the Good Work".

Yours sincerely,



J.W.A. Bonser

Pin us on!

Show your interest in Ontario's history and heritage by wearing an OHS pin.

The Ontario Historical Society's crest has been reproduced in exact detail on a three-quarters inch in diameter blue and white lapel pin. This fine piece of jewelry sells for \$4.00 each by mail, including postage and handling, or \$3.00 if you purchase one in person. The pins are available from the OHS office or at any of our special events and workshops.

Wear your enthusiasm for Ontario's past with pride.
Pin us on!

Heritage Canada and Canada Post co-operate for Heritage Day

Heritage Canada and Canada Post Corporation will be working together to celebrate Heritage Day 1993. The national heritage organization will be working in partnership with the postal system to develop next year's Heritage Day poster.

In 1993 Canada Post Corporation will be celebrating 300 Years of Postal Communications in Canada. The poster, produced by Heritage Canada each year, will focus attention on the leading role Canada Post plays in advancing postal technology throughout the world. In Canada, mail delivery has evolved from the earliest messengers of New France to the high tech, computer-automated processing of the future.

Both organizations will target the country's students in an effort to promote an awareness of the development of our national postal system and its impact on our everyday lives. In addition to distributing Heritage Day posters and the accompanying teachers guides to schools across Canada, Heritage Canada and Canada Post will send complimentary copies to municipalities, libraries and the heritage organization's members.

For further information please contact Veronica Vaillancourt, Director, Canadian Heritage Network, Heritage Canada, Box 1358, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5R4, (613) 237-1066.

Celebrate your Windsor roots

The Essex County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society is sponsoring **My Centennial Ancestor** in celebration of Windsor's 100th anniversary.

If your roots go back to 1892 Windsor, the project invites you to apply for a certificate to honour your ancestor. Anyone directly descended from a Windsor resident of 1892 is welcome to apply for this permanent remembrance of their family history and the Windsor Centennial.

For the purposes of this project, the boundaries are those of

today's greater Windsor, encompassing the City of Windsor and the former areas of the Towns of Sandwich, Walkerville, Ford City/East Windsor, Ojibway, Riverside and the annexed portions of both Sandwich West and East Townships.

For \$15.00 you will receive an application kit which includes a how-to guide for local family history research and the charts necessary for completing your application and the certification. All data furnished by applicants as proof of their lineage will be a valuable

addition to the history of Windsor and will be preserved for future generations.

To receive your kit, please send \$15.00 to the Essex County Branch OGS Centennial Project, Box 2063, Walkerville Station, Windsor, Ontario N8Y 4R5. All applications must be postmarked by December 31, 1992.

To place
Your advertisement
in the
OHS Bulletin
Call (416) 226-9011

Visit Gibson House for a Country Christmas

Take some time out of your busy schedule during Christmas and visit The Gibson House in North York for a quiet reminder of how the festive season was celebrated in years gone by.

Country Christmas begins at the House on November 23 and continues until December 23. During that time you can tour the historic 1851 house decorated with boughs of cedar and pine. Discover the Scottish traditions of holiday baking, gift giving and celebration. A taste of shortbread and a cup of cider complete the experience.

The weekend of December 5 and 6 are special times at the House when the entire family can participate in the creation of such Christmas gifts as pomanders and paper chains.

The Gibson House, located at 5172 Yonge Street in North York, just a few short steps north of the North York Centre subway station, is open Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and weekends, noon to 5:00 p.m.

For further information please contact the House at (416) 225-0146.

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The *OHS Bulletin* is the bimonthly newsletter of The Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011, Fax (416) 226-2740. Publication dates for 1992 are February, April, June, August, October and December. Copy is due the first day of January, March, May, July, September and November.

Enquiries concerning submissions and advertising rates should be directed to The Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011.

Unsolicited manuscripts are welcome, but cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The views expressed by the contributors and advertisers are not necessarily those of The Ontario Historical Society.



The several classes of membership in the Society are: Individual/Institutional \$15.00; Family \$18.00; Sustaining \$50.00; Life \$300.00; Patron \$500.00; Benefactor \$1000.00; Affiliated Societies \$35.00. 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 Society. The Society's quarterly scholarly journal, *Ontario History*, is available to member individuals for \$21.40 per year, member organizations and institutions and non-member individuals for \$32.10 and to non-member organizations and institutions for \$42.80.

Editor: Meribeth Clow
"From the Bookshelf" Editor: Jim Clemens
Printer: Hartley Gibson Company Limited

The members of the Executive Committee of The Ontario Historical Society are: Dennis Carter-Edwards, President; Kenneth McLaughlin, First Vice President; Janet Cobban, Second Vice President; Jeanne Hughes, Past President; James Clemens, Treasurer; Judy McGonigal, Secretary; Donald Akenson, Christopher Andreae, Rowena Cooper, Mary Lou Fox, Elwood Jones, Everette Moore. Legal Advisor: David McFall. Executive Director: Dorothy Duncan.

The Ontario Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the support of the Ministry of Culture and Communications.