



# OHS BULLETIN

5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5

Issue 85 • May - June 1993

## OHS recognizes excellence in heritage community

BY JUDY MCGONIGAL  
AND DONALD AKENSON,  
Co-Chairs, OHS Honours  
and Awards Committee

"Congratulations to the winners of The Ontario Historical Society's 1992 Honours and Awards.

**B. Napier Simpson Junior Award of Merit:** Petrolia Heritage Committee, nominated by Rowena Cooper.

**Carnochan Award:** Sue and Harvey Anderson, Rama Township, nominated by Tim Crawford; John and Diane Giangrande, Richmond Hill, nominated by the Richmond Hill LACAC.

**Fred Landon Award:** Bruce Elliott, Ottawa, for *The City Beyond: A History of Nepean, Birthplace of Canada's Capital, 1792-1990*, nominated by the City of Nepean.

**Joseph Brant Award:** Peter Schmalz, Walkerton, for *The Ojibwa of Southern Ontario*, nominated by University of Toronto Press. Honourable Mention goes to Allen P. Stouffer, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, for *The Light of*

*Nature and the Law of God: Antislavery in Ontario, 1833-1877.*

**Museum Award of Excellence:** Woodland Cultural Centre Museum, Brantford, nominated by Beth Hanna.

**President's Award:** James Reid, Limited, Kingston, nominated by Janet Oullahan.

**Riddell Award:** Barry Wright, Ottawa, for "Sedition in Upper Canada: Contested Legality", published in *Labour/Le Travail*, 29 (Spring 1992), nominated by G.S. Kealy and Carl Benn.

**Scadding Award of Excellence:** Kingston Historical Society, nominated by Francis Milledge; Waterloo Historical Society, nominated by the Waterloo Historical Society Board of Directors.

**Special Award of Merit:** The late Dan Pine (Shingwauk). Announced posthumously in recognition of his achievements. Pine's life embodied all the traditional qualities of elderhood; his wisdom and teachings remain to guide others.

The awards were presented at The Ontario Historical Society's Annual Conference in Peterborough on May 15 by Judy McGonigal, Co-chair, Honours and Awards Committee, and Kenneth McLaughlin, OHS President. Many thanks to all those who took the time to send a nomination. Numerous worthy candidates were brought forward, making the selection process a challenge. Congratulations to all this year's winners!



The first industrial heritage workshop presented by the OHS took place on April 24 in Sault Ste. Marie. Here speakers Chris Andreae (left), OHS Board Member with Historica Research Limited, London; Chris Tossell (centre), Sault Ste. Marie architect; and Spencer Higgins (right), Toronto architect, discuss a pattern of industry used in the Sault area. (Photo courtesy of Dorothy Duncan.)

## Explore the Simcoe legacy

All roads lead to Navy Hall in Niagara-on-the-Lake on Saturday, July 10 when the workshop **The Simcoe Legacy: His Legislative Agenda** will explore the life and times of John Graves Simcoe, our first Lieutenant Governor in Upper Canada. Some of the significant legislation passed during his brief tenure will be discussed with special emphasis on the Act passed on July 9, 1793, "to prevent the further Introduction of Slaves and to limit the term of contracts for servitude within this Province."

Topics to be covered in this one-day workshop will include: Newark in 1793, John Graves Simcoe and His Relations with the Legislative

Assembly and Legislative Council, Upper Canada and Antislavery: the Act of 1793, The Immediate Effects of the New Legislation on Blacks in British North America and a Case Study showing the Lasting Effects of the Legislation.

Speakers during the day will include Professor Stanley Mealing, Carleton University in Ottawa; Professor Allen P. Stouffer, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia and author of *The Light of Nature and the Law of God: Antislavery in Ontario 1833-1877*; Angelique Davis, Ontario Black History Society; William Severin, Curator of the Niagara Historical Museum; Dr. Bryan Walls, Curator of The John Freeman Walls Historic Site and Underground Railway Museum in Essex County and author of *The Road that Led to Somewhere*; Ronald Dale, Superintendent of Niagara National Historic Sites and Nona Macdonald, President of the John Graves

Simcoe Association that amalgamated with The Ontario Historical Society last year.

Other highlights of the day will include a fife and drum presentation during lunch by the Fort George Guard and an informal session in the afternoon when participants will be refreshed by samples of foods and beverages made from historic 18th century recipes that the Simcoe family or their neighbours in the tiny capital of Newark might have enjoyed.

The cost for registration is \$25.00 for members of The Ontario Historical Society, The Ontario Black History Society, the Friends of Fort George or the Niagara Historical Society or \$40.00 for non-members. The fee includes all sessions, lunch, refreshments and a kit of resource materials.

Registration for this workshop is limited, so do not delay! Register today!

For further information contact Lorraine Lowry at the OHS office, (416) 226-9011.

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## Symposium investigates diversity of Canadian celebrations

Plan now to attend **Canadian Holidays and Holy Days**, a two-day symposium to be held at Black Creek Pioneer Village in August, exploring the celebrations that have been observed over the years in the land that is now known as Canada.

The event has been designed to reflect changes through the centuries and to give us a greater understanding of the origins of many of our special observances as we approach the 21st century. Sessions will cover the feasts of the First Nations and the special celebrations of the newcomers from France, Great Britain, Europe

and the United States in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The traditions brought in this century by new arrivals from all over the world, who have chosen Canada as their homeland, will also be examined.

The changing of the Gregorian to the Julian calendar, and the recognition and worship of the land and its harvest during the Fall and Winter seasons will be investigated. The festival of Christmas, the Winter Solstice, Twelfth Day and Twelfth Night, Chanukah, and the diverse ways of welcoming the new year, ranging from Scottish Hogmanay to the (See **Canadian celebrations** p.2)

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# Executive Director's report

By DOROTHY DUNCAN,  
OHS Executive Director

## It's not too soon

To mark your calendar for the 1994 Conference to be held at the Holiday Inn in Hamilton, May 13 and 14. The Head of the Lake Historical Society will be celebrating 50 years of service to the community and the theme of the Conference will be "Celebrations".

## Come and say hello

On the weekend of August 21 and 22 when we will be at the John R. Park Homestead in Harrow presenting a series of workshops called "Blueberry Bounty" as part of the Homestead's Craft Fair and Blueberry Social.

## Plans are shaping up

For two great events sponsored by the OHS: The Simcoe Legacy: His Legislative Agenda at Navy Hall, Niagara-on-the-Lake on Saturday, July 10, and the Symposium exploring Canadian Holidays and Holy Days at Black Creek Pioneer Village on August 9 and 10.

Details of both events appear elsewhere in this issue.

## Congratulations

To OHS Board member, Donald Akenson, who has won the international Louisville Grawemeyer Award for his book *God's Peoples: Covenant and Land in South Africa, Israel and Ulster*. Don is a Professor of History at Queen's University in Kingston, and has served on the OHS' Board of Directors since 1990. His prestigious new award brings with it a cash prize of \$150,000 as well.

## It was great fun

To be invited by the Guelph Historical Society to join the celebrations honouring Ruth and Eber Pollard. There were speeches, presentations, plaques, flowers, certificates, gifts, food, and a standing room only crowd sang happy 50th anniversary. The evening also marked 20 years of service to the Society with Ruth as President and Eber as a member of the Executive.

## And also

To attend the Clarke Muse-

um and Archives Annual Board of Directors Reception in April to represent both The Ontario Historical Society and the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

## Speaking of anniversaries

*Century Home* magazine, published in Port Hope, is celebrating ten years of publication with a series of special issues and a wealth of special events in the community. Congratulations!

## Farewell

To Gail Sussman, a well-known member of the Architectural Conservation unit of the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, who has accepted a position in Jerusalem to work at the Israel Antiquities Authority.

## An update

On our New Home Fund raising initiatives. "Be a Partner in Parkview" has brought the total to over \$70,000 by the end of April.



Frank Whilsmith, President of the North York Historical Society, presents Dorothy Duncan, OHS Executive Director, with a cheque for \$1000 at a NYHS meeting in April. The cheque is a donation towards the OHS' new home at 34 Parkview Avenue in Willowdale. (Photo courtesy of Barbara Kane.)

# Grants available for folk arts organizations

Folk Arts Organizations Project Grants is a granting programme of the Community Arts Development Office of the Ontario Arts Council.

Project grants are available to Ontario-based, non-profit organizations which are supporting, presenting and/or producing the work of professional folk artists. A professional artist is one whose work, through commitment and development of expertise, is of a high level, resulting in the artist receiving acknowledgement, recognition and remuneration for his or her work.

Project grants assist in the cost of specific time-based pro-

jects or events such as a special concert or workshops with a master teacher. Project grants are directed towards folk arts-related costs and may include professional artists' fees and travel costs, exhibition fees and publicity costs associated with the event.

For further information on eligibility requirements, deadlines and to receive application forms, please contact the Community Arts Development Office, Ontario Arts Council, 151 Bloor Street West, Suite 500, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1T6, (416) 969-7424 or toll free 1-800-387-0058.

# Elizabeth Simcoe's drawings to be displayed

The Art Gallery of Ontario, in association with the Toronto Historical Board, will display Elizabeth Simcoe's album depicting her views of Upper Canada painted on birch bark. The installation opens at the AGO July 30, exactly 200 years to the day when Mrs. Simcoe first arrived in Toronto, and runs until September 26.

The album, described on its title page as "Views of North Canada", was assembled following a four-year stay in the province with her husband, John Graves Simcoe, the first Lieutenant Governor. The album was a gift from Governor Simcoe to the reigning monarch, George III. It was transferred to the British Museum, along with the rest of the king's collection of topographical views and

maps in 1828, and is now housed in the British Library. The installation, entitled *Mrs. Simcoe's Upper Canada Album*, comprises 32 small oval drawings mounted in the album as well as a map of Upper Canada, all executed with pen and brush in ink on birch bark.

While some of the drawings are of natural scenes, the bulk are of European settlements at Kingston and Niagara, as well as the village of the Six Nations Loyalists on the Grand River. Six views in the region of York, or Toronto, are depicted also.

Although the album was meant primarily to demonstrate to the King the extent and general nature of this new colonial outpost, it was also a vehicle for displaying Elizabeth Simcoe's taste and skill. Trained in the

use of watercolour washes, she painted almost every day, and has captured not only the appearance of her subjects, but a strong sense of the moods of various places and of the way they affected her. She usually worked on paper, but for this royal presentation album, sought to achieve an added Canadian dimension by experimenting with painting on birch bark.

*Mrs. Simcoe's Upper Canada Album* is being lent to the Art Gallery of Ontario by the British Library. The Ontario Historical Society is pleased to be a sponsor of this exhibit, along with Nona Macdonald Heaslip, former president of the John Graves Simcoe Association, which amalgamated with the Society last year.

# Celebrate the Emancipation Act

Everyone is invited to participate in the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the passage of Upper Canada's antislavery legislation at Niagara-on-the-Lake July 9, 10 and 11. The Niagara-on-the-Lake Citizens Committee on Ontario Heritage Years will present a weekend of events commemorating the passage of this law.

On Friday, July 9 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., a re-enactment of the passage of the legislation will take place in Simcoe Park. In a three-act play, the story of Chloe Cooley's abduction and mistreatment by owner William Fromond is told to the Executive Council. Council decides to prosecute Fromond, but is unable to do so under the current laws regarding slaves. The proposed antislavery legislation is introduced in the House of

Assembly and is, at last, passed.

The workshop, The Simcoe Legacy: His Legislative Agenda takes place on Saturday, July 10, presented by the OHS. If you enjoy outdoor music, delight to Blues and Jazz in the park throughout the day. (For further information on the workshop, please see the article on page one of this issue.)

Be revitalized at a Revival Church Service with Gospel Choirs on Sunday, July 11 in Simcoe Park. From 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., congregations from the New Hope Baptist and the St. John American Methodist Episcopal Churches will be participating.

Throughout the weekend, Black History displays and exhibits at Platoff Street Community Centre will be open for viewing.

For further information, please contact the Citizens Committee at Box 100, Virgil, Ontario L0S 1T0.

## Calling all bookworms

The Ontario Historical Society is having a book sale. If you are interested in a wide variety of books, ranging from mysteries to school textbooks, come to the parking lot beside 5151 Yonge Street on **Saturday, July 3** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If it is raining, the sale will be moved across the street to The Gibson House at 5172 Yonge Street. See you on July 3!

# Canadian celebrations *continued from p.1*

Chinese celebrations, will also be addressed.

Lectures, panel discussions, tours, audio-visual presentations and hands-on workshops dealing with festive foods, crafts and the interpretation of these holidays and holy days will be part of the programme.

Sessions will also explore new ideas and concepts in interpreting, observing and presenting the special events, celebrations, holidays and holy days of the many cultures that compose our modern communities.

Speakers include Mary Lou Fox, Ojibwe Cultural Foundation, Manitoulin Island; Dr. Douglas Leighton, History Department, University of Western Ontario; Dr. Jean Burnet, author of *"Coming Canadians": An Introduction to the History of Canada's Peoples*; Marty Brent, Manager and Lorraine O'Byrne, Assistant Curator, Black Creek Pioneer Village; Carolyn Parry, folklorist and author of *Let's*

*Celebrate Canada's Special Days*; Joyce Lewis, Social Historian; Dorothy Duncan, The Ontario Historical Society and many others to be announced.

Canadian Holidays and Holy Days will be held at Black Creek Pioneer Village in Metro Toronto on **August 9 and 10 (please note change of date)** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day. The registration fee of \$45.00 for OHS or Village members includes all sessions, admission to the Village, samples of historic foods and beverages, materials for craft workshops and a kit of resource materials. It does NOT include lunch either day. The fee for non-members is \$60.00.

The Ontario Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the support of our co-sponsor, Black Creek Pioneer Village, and the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation. For further information or registration forms, contact Lorraine Lowry at the OHS office, (416) 226-9011.

## Information wanted

Peter Easthope of British Columbia is seeking information on the history of the MacGregor, Gourlay Company, Limited, formerly of Galt, Ontario. He is also interested in a woodworkers jointer, a machine the company manufactured. Anyone with information about the company or the production of the machine is asked to contact Mr. Easthope at 2701 Privateers Road, R. R. #1, Pender Island, B.C. V0N 2M0.



## President's message

BY KENNETH  
McLAUGHLIN, OHS  
President

### The Ontario Historical Society revisited

It seems hard to believe that it was nearly a quarter century ago that I was sitting in my garret-like office in the History Department at Dalhousie University in Halifax when I had the first inkling that The Ontario Historical Society was about to play an important part in my life.

I was at Dalhousie University as a Killam Visiting Fellow, and had just been invited to return to my alma mater in Ontario, the University of Waterloo, to take up a position as a Lecturer in the Department of History. Professor Paul Cornell, who was at the time serving as the editor of *Ontario History*, had just written to ask if I would be interested in adding the co-editorship of the OHS' quarterly journal to my new duties when I arrived at

Waterloo.

Of course, I had known *Ontario History* as an undergraduate student and had been fascinated by the judicious blend of academic and local history, the new research findings of graduate students, documents and other related materials which were the stock-in-trade of that highly-respected periodical. At the time, I knew scarcely anything about the wide range of other interests that were represented in Ontario's oldest historical society. My education was about to begin.

On arriving in Waterloo that July day in 1970, I was presented with what we called the "blue box", not a box used to recycle goods as blue boxes are now, but a file box containing the articles and correspondence relating to materials submitted for publication in *Ontario History*. Eagerly, I opened this treasure trove of articles and manuscripts and started reading. Who would have suspected such a range of interests, topics and

authors? I can still remember with delight the first articles that I edited and that appeared in the 1970 issues of the journal.

More to the point, I also learned a hard lesson. In my desire to be efficient, I also rejected a score of articles in the early spring of 1971. By coincidence, the annual meeting of the OHS in 1971, just as it is in 1993, was held in Peterborough. Far from being greeted by well-wishers, complimenting me on my choice of articles for *Ontario History*, I was met by a barrage of indignant authors whose articles had been returned to them with notes suggesting revisions, or in some cases even rejection. I quickly learned that the readers and the contributors to *Ontario History* were a feisty group. Not much has changed over the last two decades.

As a co-editor of the journal from 1970 to 1978, I was invited to serve on the Board of Directors. This committee is the same one that, as the new presi-



Charis Newton (left), President and Everette Moore (centre), Executive Director of the Ontario Black History Society, along with Vida Clarke-Stevens of the City of Toronto, discuss the **Foods of the African Diaspora** workshop, held February 27 with the OHS at The Gibson House in North York. The OHS and the OBHS will work together again on the workshop, **The Simcoe Legacy: His Legislative Agenda** taking place July 10 at Niagara-on-the-Lake. (Photo courtesy of Dorothy Duncan.)

dent of The Ontario Historical Society, I have been invited to chair. As the president, I can't help recalling the many gifted and talented presidents that have led the OHS since its founding in 1888. They have shared a strong commitment to preserving, recording and recognizing the importance of understanding our past as we plan for Ontario's future. What a

remarkable range of personalities, skills, passions and commitment they have brought to serving the people of Ontario and to preserving our common heritage. I hope that with the help of the Board, we shall be able to ensure that these ideals and standards are maintained as we face the very different and difficult challenges of the 1990s.

## Across the Province

BY DOROTHY DUNCAN,  
OHS Executive Director

The **Richmond Hill Historical Society** sponsored a very innovative programme recently when Grace Bly, a certified handwriting analyst, analyzed the handwriting of Rowland Burr, who constructed the Burr House at Black Creek Pioneer Village and the local Burr House in Richmond Hill. She also studied the writing of Robert Moodie who was fatally shot in 1837 at Montgomery's Tavern at the beginning of the Rebellion of Upper Canada.

The **Canadian Railroad Historical Association** will hold its 1993 Conference in Toronto, July 29 to August 1. Contact P. Bowles at (416) 463-0212 (evenings) for further information.

The **Tweed and Area Historical Society** recently held its election of officers. Congratulations to President Tom Stephens and the full slate of officers who will lead the Society into the new year.

The **Lennox and Addington Historical Society** has announced the production of 10,000 copies of a new brochure highlighting the historically significant places within the County. Ten locations are featured to remind tourists of the rich history of the area.

The **Lincoln and Central Owners Club** has announced that the Great North American Land Yacht Regatta '93 is returning to Cobourg on August 6, 7 and 8. For further information contact (416) 461-6032.

The **Glengarry Historical Society Newsletter** brings the sad news that Sangster's General Store in Bainsville (the finest old time general store in eastern Ontario) was demolished by fire in January. The

April meeting of the Society, with Agnes Petrie as speaker, reviewed the importance of the store to the community and the surrounding area.

The **Governor Simcoe Branch of the United Empire Loyalists** under the leadership of June Pierson has announced the programme for the coming year and it spans walking tours, exhibits, speakers and much more! Contact (416) 486-7651 for dates, times and places.

The **Waterloo Historical Society** is encouraging the City of Kitchener to support **Doon Pioneer Park Community Association's** proposal for the preservation of scenic roads that are threatened by development within the city.

It was a very gala evening at the **Guelph Historical Society** on April 13 when Ruth and Eber Pollard were surprised by their friends and colleagues with a celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary and 20 years of Ruth's presidency of the Society.

The **Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society** announces the 12th Annual International Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy to be held at the Park Plaza Hotel in Toronto, June 27-30. For further information contact (416) 533-5825.

The **Voyageur Heritage Network** Spring meeting was held at the Anderson Farm Museum in Lively, May 29 and 30, with a very successful programme. The topic was "Fun on the Farm" as the Network celebrated its tenth anniversary.

The **Scarborough Historical Society** is looking for an ICE BOX and Scarborough ghost stories! Yes - we mean it. If you can assist call (416) 282-2710.

The Annual Meeting of the **Cochrane Temiskaming**

**Museums and Galleries Association** was held on April 30 at the Museum of Northern History - Sir Harry Oakes Chateau in Kirkland Lake.

The **Innisfil Historical Society** gave its membership a challenge at the March meeting when they had to describe their favourite history book in five minutes or less. How would your members respond to the question?

The **Historical Lighting Society of Canada** held its Spring meeting in Barrie. For further information about this organization contact Box 561, Station R, Toronto, M4G 4E1.

The **Ontario Black History Society** announced the winners of the 15th Anniversary Raffle on March 27 as follows: first prize, a trip for two to Dakar, Africa to Leroy Gordon of Toronto; second prize, a trip for two to Washington, D.C. to Murray Elliott of Stratford and third prize, a tour for a family of four to Discover Black History in Toronto, won by Sharon Boodram of Weston. Proceeds from the raffle will go toward production of a new film on African-Canadian history.

The **Kingston Historical Society** has finalized arrangements for the centennial people's art show, 'Art 100', to be held in the Kingston Public Library from October 17 to 20. Original oil paintings, watercolours or ink drawings of local historical interest are being solicited. If you can loan, call Bill Fittell at (613) 549-8354. The Society has also announced that the first *Historical Vignettes* are printed, and 16 more will follow! These publications are designed for students in grades seven and eight. For further information contact Box 54, Kingston, K7L 4V6.

The Second Heritage

Gardens Tour of the Port Dover - Marsburg area will be held Sunday, June 27. Interested? Call the **Norfolk Historical Society** at (519) 426-1583 to reserve your tickets.

The **Kingston Heritage Tattoo Society** has announced that due to the generosity of the **Kingston Martello Tower Society** which has provided support funding, "Heritage Tattoo '93" will be held on Saturday, June 26 at Fort Henry, beginning at 8:00 p.m. The theme is "Two Hundred Years of Scottish Settlement in Canada", and will involve 600 performers. For further information and to order tickets contact (613) 545-2473.

The **North York Historical Society** has announced its 1993 programme including a walking tour led by Frank Whilsmith of the Milne Mills and Edward's Crooked Wilket Creek on June 20; a celebration of Toronto 200 at Todmorden Mills on September 26; a heritage citizen's committee discussing the area's history on October 13; an illustrated talk, "Riding the Rails of the 1800's in 1993" on November 10 and a Christmas and Holiday programme at The Gibson House on December 8. For further information contact Box 63, Station A, Willowdale, M2N 5S7.

Congratulations to Vera Wright of The **North Erie Shore Historical Society** for being awarded a Canada 125th Commemorative Medal.

The **Historical Society of Ottawa** has just published #44 in the Bytown Pamphlet Series, *Bytown and the Cholera Epidemic of 1832*.

Everyone became involved when the **Madoc Historical Foundation** held the Sixth Annual Victoria Day House Tour on Sunday, May 23, covering both town and country

locations. Merchants opened their stores, the Queensborough Hotel in Queensborough served luncheon and afternoon tea and the Madoc Bakery and Tea Room served tea. Many businesses in the surrounding area sold tickets and, of course, the whole area benefitted from the interest and support of the visitors.

The **Pelham Historical Society** is planning a Canada Day Tea to be held July 1, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the home of Ingrid and Hugo Harms. Work has also started on the Historical Calendar for 1994. For further information contact Box 903, Fonthill, LOS 1E0.

The **Oxford Historical Society Newsletter**, edited by Mary Evans, brings us news of a new historical society in Ingersoll. Also appearing is an interesting article on Town Criers, including William Dill who was a Town Crier in Oxford in 1801 and Scott Fraser, Woodstock's present day Crier.

The **Prince Edward Historical Society** enjoyed Gerry Boyce's 278th lecture on the Gold Rush at Eldorado at the Society's March meeting. In May the unveiling of the mural commissioned by the Society and executed by Marcel Blancette on the wall of Gardiner's Village Centre took place.

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# Upcoming Events

**April-September 26:** With the cooperation of the Shaw Festival, the St. Catharines Museum presents **Fabulous Fakes: Props from Shaw Festival**. This hands-on interactive display demonstrates the artistry of props. Contact the museum at 1932 Canal Road, (416) 984-8880.

**June, July, August, September:** In celebration of Toronto's 200th birthday, the Toronto Historical Board is presenting several free, guided **walking tours** that highlight the built and natural landmarks of the city's history. All tours take place on Sundays, and most begin at 1:30 p.m. Contact the THB at (416) 392- 6827.

**June 12-September 26:** Visit the Market Gallery of the City of Toronto Archives for **Engineering Toronto: City Maps, Drawings and Documents from 1834-1900**. This exhibition documents the evolution of Toronto as seen through the eyes of the engineers and surveyors who created the maps, drawings and plans of public works projects during this period of growth and change. Contact the Gallery on the second floor, South St. Lawrence Market, Front and Jarvis Streets, (416) 392-7604.

**June 25:** The Fifth Annual **History of Canadian Psychiatry Research in Progress Seminar** takes place at the Queen Street Mental Health Centre in Toronto. The programme, presented by the Archives on the History of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health Services, enables researchers from all disciplines interested in the history of Canadian psychiatry, mental health services and homelessness the opportunity to meet and to share information about their research interests and projects. Contact Betty Jo Moore, (416) 535-8501, ext. 2172.

**July:** Muskoka Pioneer Village in Huntsville has a busy month planned, including **Canada Day Celebrations** on the 1st featuring cake, a variety of Festival of the Arts presentations and the opening of a new saw mill. Don't miss the August events, as well. Visit **Market Day** on the 14th. Contact (705) 789-7576.

**July-August:** The John R. Park Homestead in Essex County near Harrow has many special events planned for these summer months. Enjoy **Kid's Day** on the 11th, when children can dress up in pioneer costumes, ride in a pony cart and play old fashioned games and music. Return of the 17th and 18th for **Militia Muster**, as costumed re-enactors have drills and demonstrations. On August 8, don't miss **Ice Cream Sunday**. Learn how to grow and decorate with dried flowers on the 15th at **Everlastings**. On the 21st

and 22nd, visit with your OHS friends as we participate in the **Craft Fair and Blueberry Social**. Contact Janet Cobban, Curator, (519) 738-2029.

**July 1:** See Canada Day celebrations - 1867 style - at an **Old Fashioned Militia Muster** at Black Creek Pioneer Village in Metro Toronto. The Village also presents a variety of activities and exhibits. Don't miss the vitality of the gardens. From July to September, history truly comes alive with Theatre-on-the-Move, the village's resident theatrical troupe, presenting vignettes illustrating early settlement in Canada. Contact the Village at Jane Street and Steeles Avenue West, (416) 736-1733.

**July 2-4:** The Canadian Society of Decorative Arts sponsors **CSDA Symposium 93**, in Toronto in celebration of the bicentennial of the founding of York in 1793. The symposium explores **The Canadian Arts and Crafts Movement** through tours, sessions and presentations. CSDA delegates receive free admission to the recently expanded Art Gallery of Ontario, where many of the sessions take place. Contact Olga Williams, Director, CSDA Symposium 93, (416) 260-8388.

**July 3 - September 6:** Heritage House Museum in Smiths Falls celebrates the creative talents of generations of industrious weavers and quilters in **Cherished Bedcoverings**, an exhibition of quilts and hand-woven coverlets. Over 60 examples, most on loan from private collections, date from the mid 19th century or have been faithfully reproduced. To complement this exhibition, three craft days are being held on July 18, August 1 and 15, where volunteers demonstrate pioneer crafts and skills. Contact the museum on Old Slys Road, (613) 283-8560.

**July 10, 11:** Discover a time when women's home remedies were the first defence against the effects of illness and injury at The Gibson House's **Cures and Concoctions**. Learn how people in the 19th century used garden plants and a variety of other mixtures to create cures or even impart wisdom. Cures and Concoctions will be repeated on July 17 and 18. Contact the House at 5172 Yonge Street in North York, (416) 395-7432.

**July 11:** Enjoy the **Collectors Day and Strawberry Social** presented by the North Bay Area Museum. This popular event is always well attended so come early. Contact Pam Handley, Curator at the museum on Riverbend Road, (705) 476-2323.

**July 11:** Take **A Summer Evening Stroll Around Old Drummondville** with the

Lundy's Lane Historical Society. This guided tour begins at the Lundy's Lane Historical Museum. On July 25, the annual **Battle of Lundy's Lane Commemorative Service** takes place on the site of the battle at Drummond Hill Cemetery, Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls. Contact the historical society at the Lundy's Lane Historical Museum, 5810 Ferry Street, (416) 358-5082.

**July 18:** Join the curator of the Allan Macpherson House for a **walking tour of historic Napanee**. The tour begins at 1:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 124 John Street, and concludes with admission to the museum. The tour is repeated on August 22. The House also hosts a **Guest Weekend** from August 6 to 8. Highlights of the programme include early admission to the Odessa Antique Show, a tour of heritage homes and local collections, and meals recreated from 19th century menus. Contact the Allan Macpherson House at 180 Elizabeth Street in Napanee, (613) 354- 5982.

**July 23-25:** Guelph's Hillside Festival celebrates its **10th Anniversary** with a line-up of nationally recognized musical talent, plus theatre, dance, children's performances, food and a variety of other activities. Contact (519) 763-6396.

**July 24, 25:** Fanshawe Pioneer Village in London presents **Children's Heritage Weekend**, a special event weekend for children of all ages. Contact the village at R. R. #5 in London, (519) 457-1296.

**July 25:** The County of Grey-Owen Sound Museum presents **Spoke and Bustle** from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The action-packed day includes a wide variety of crafts and skills, including blacksmithing, timber squaring, soap making, sheep shearing and much more. Contact the museum at 975 6th Street East, (519) 376- 3690.

**July 31, August 1:** The Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum presents **Canal Days**, a unique event celebrating the maritime heritage of the area. Over 50 handcrafters and artists, model boat demonstrations and displays, food, entertainment and much more are available. Contact the museum at 280 King Street, (416) 834-7604.

**August 1:** Todmorden Mills Museum in East York invites you to **Celebrate Toronto's 200th Birthday**. Witness the arrival of Lieutenant Governor Simcoe and his wife, view the King's Royal Yorkers military re-enactment and see artisans create traditional crafts. Contact the museum at (416) 425-2250.

**August 7, 8:** Visit the home of Central Ontario's largest quilt display at **The Cannington**

**Village Annual Quilt and Craft Sale**. This yearly event, sponsored by the Cannington and Area Historical Society and taking place at the Cannington Community Centre, offers a juried show and sale of over 60 southern Ontario artisans' productions, a bar-b-que, raffle, plus dozens of wonderfully handcrafted quilts. Contact Angela Hennessey, (705) 432-3053.

**August 13, 14:** In response to a growing interest and support for Rails to Trails initiatives across Canada, The Canadian Rails to Greenways Network is sponsoring the first annual **Canadian Rails to Greenways National Conference** at Trent University in Peterborough. Share experiences, ideas and issues, and help create an inclusive national network of organizations and individuals supporting the conversion of abandoned rail ways into recreational greenways. Contact Dr. John Marsh, Frost Centre at Trent University in Peterborough, (705) 748-1795.

**August 22:** Take part in a new walking tour presented by the Guelph Arts Council. **Brooklyn and the College Hill** explores the south side of the Speed River, one of Guelph's early industrial sections, containing several excellent examples of masonry and stone carving. The

tour is repeated on September 26, and is just one in five walking tours the council is offering throughout the summer. Contact the Guelph Arts Council at 10 B Carden Street, (519) 836-3280.

**August 29:** Visit the **Annual Antique and Classic Car Show** at the Wellington County Museum and Archives. The show starts with a parade leaving the Fergus Recreation Centre at 12:30 p.m. and finishing at the museum at 1:00. Contact the museum on County Road 18 between Fergus and Elora, (519) 846-0916.

**September 29-October 2:** **APT XXV CAN - Adapting in a Changing World**, the Association for Preservation Technology International's 25th anniversary conference, takes place at the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa. The conference brings together architects, engineers, conservators, historians, craftspersons, preservationists and other professionals involved in the maintenance and preservation of our built heritage. Training courses on Historic Roofing and Masonry, and a colloquium on Conservation Management precede the conference on September 26 to 29. Contact Robert Hunter, APT CAN Conference Chair, (819) 997- 6974.

## Upcoming OHS Workshops

DATE	WORKSHOP	LOCATIONS
June 19	Ontario's Industrial Heritage	Welland
July 10	The Simcoe Legacy: His Legislative Agenda	Niagara-on-the-Lake
August 9, 10	Canadian Holidays and Holy Days	Toronto
August 21, 22	Blueberry Bounty	Harrow
September 18	Ontario's Industrial Heritage	Sudbury
October 16	Ontario's Industrial Heritage	Cornwall
October 30	Ontario's Industrial Heritage	Toronto
November 20	Ontario's Industrial Heritage	Windsor

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



# Trafalgar Castle - a heritage treasure



Built in 1859 by Nelson Reynolds, the Trafalgar Castle received many members of royalty as guests. This stately building in Whitby is now known as the Trafalgar Castle School, formerly the Ontario Ladies College. (Photo courtesy of Beve Robertson.)

Trafalgar Castle School, located in Whitby, has a long and rich history. Built in 1859 by the flamboyant Sheriff of Ontario County, Nelson Gilbert "Iron" Reynolds, Trafalgar Castle remains a unique Canadian treasure.

Designed by the Toronto architect, Joseph Sheard, the castle was built of limestone and stone in the Elizabethan style. It boasts 15 towers, secret passageways, a tunnel to Lake

Ontario, and was reputed to have cost the astounding sum of \$70,000.

Guarded by the stone Trafalgar Lions, the main entrance doors of solid oak lead into a wide hallway some 105 feet long. This central hall faces a massive carved oak staircase dominated by four stained glass windows incorporating the Arms of England, Scotland, Ireland, Canada and the Reynolds families. The castle

housed 73 separate apartments, and many of the materials and furnishings were imported from Europe. The structure was lit by gaslight, manufactured in its own gashouse on the extensive grounds. Some of the marble fireplaces were carved by Jonathon Wolfenden of Whitby.

Nelson Reynolds fathered 24 children with two wives. An officer in the 11th Lancers of England, he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada. Reynolds prospered as the president of the Marmora Foundry, and was involved in banking, mercantile business, railroads and shipping.

During their years in residence, the Reynolds lived and entertained lavishly. The glittering receptions and balls made Trafalgar Castle the centre of society, and counted among its guests, Prince Arthur, third son of Queen Victoria, and later, the Duke of Connaught, who became Governor General of Canada.

Beset with financial difficulties, Reynolds was forced to sell his dream home to the Methodist Church. In 1874, the

castle became the Ontario Ladies College, an exclusive residential school for young ladies. Nelson Reynolds served on the Board of Directors until his death in 1881.

More that 100 years later, O.L.C. was renamed Trafalgar Castle School, and remains to this day a school for young ladies.

In honour of this proud history, the Alumnae Association of Trafalgar Castle School will be presenting its second annual antiques fair, featuring exhibits of period and country pieces. The show will take place Friday, August 27, Saturday, August 28 and Sunday, August 29. A Gala Premiere from 7:00

to 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 26 will launch the event. At 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Brian Musselwhite, Curatorial Assistant at the Royal Ontario Museum will present the illustrated lecture, "The Georgians". All collectors are invited to meet with noted antiques authorities from 1:00 to 3:00 on Friday and Saturday afternoons to have your items identified.

For further information on times and fees, and to order tickets for the premiere, please contact the School at 401 Reynolds Street, just east of Highway 12 on Dundas Street in Whitby. Call (416) 844-7062.

## Welcome new members

The Ontario Historical Society welcomes new members:

*Blind River:* Susan Corbett  
*Bolton:* Cedar Glen Outdoor Education Centre  
*Burlington:* Jennifer Earle  
*Chatham:* Annie Reaume  
*Espanola:* Jason Morrow  
*Etobicoke:* Joan Harris  
*Guelph:* Michele Gibson  
*Hamilton:* Andrew C. Holman  
*Long Sault:* K. M. Irwin  
*Martintown:* Cornwall Township Historical Society  
*Mindemoya:* Central Manitoulin Historical Society  
*Mississauga:* Mississauga University Women's Club (Canadiana Group)  
*Parkhill:* The Corporation of the Town of Parkhill

*Simcoe:* Backus Heritage Conservation Area  
*Stouffville:* Valerie Tait  
*Terra Cotta:* Verna Jespersen  
*Thornhill:* Mr. and Mrs. Don Galinsky  
*Thunder Bay:* A. Ernest Epp  
*Toronto:* Ruth Johnson, Pamela Kaufman, Tom Richardson  
*Waterloo:* Kathleen Burke, Leonard Friesen  
*Wawa:* Anna M. Golob  
*Willowdale:* Jeanne Hopkins, Natalie N. Riegler

**Out of Province**  
*Berkeley, California:* Dorothy Annesser

## We gratefully acknowledge

BY JAMES CLEMENS, Chair, New Home Task Force

The Ontario Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following donors to our New Home Fund.

- |                          |                       |                              |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| James Agnew              | John Larocque         | Bay of Quinte Branch,        |
| Jean Agnew               | Dorothy Lavers        | United Empire Loyalists      |
| John and Muriel Anderson | Robert Leverty        | Beaverton Thorah Eldon       |
| Dineen Baran             | Marion Leithhead      | Historical Society           |
| Garth Baron              | Marion Lick           | Beverly Heritage Society     |
| Maureen and Paul Bator   | David Lowry           | Bruce County Historical      |
| Robert Beattie           | Douglas Lowry         | Society                      |
| Marty Brent              | John Loughheed        | Burford Historical Society   |
| Jean Burnet              | Grace Lyons           | Canadian Canal Society       |
| John Carter              | Margaret Machell      | Collingwood and District     |
| Dennis Carter-Edwards    | Dorothy MacEachern    | Historical Society           |
| Lois Chipper             | Hugh MacMillan        | Essa Historical Society      |
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| Gordon Duncan            | James Monkman         | Society                      |
| Dorothy Edleston         | Everette Moore        | Heritage Renfrew             |
| Joyce Elkin              | Heather Jane Moore in | Huntley Township Historical  |
| Corson Ellis             | memory of Ted Moore   | Society                      |
| David Epstein            | John Morrison         | Innisfil Historical Society  |
| Mary Evans               | Daniel O'Brien        | Kent Historical Society      |
| Cathy Febbraro           | Lorraine O'Byrne      | Longlac Historical Society   |
| Donald Douglas Fox       | Patrick O'Callaghan   | Milton Historical Society    |
| Donna Fox                | Cliff Oliver          | Nasagieweya Historical       |
| Mary Lou Fox             | Bill Paré             | Society                      |
| Donald Galinsky          | E. V. Ralph           | Oliver Graphics Inc.         |
| Joan de Guerre           | Paula Robertson       | Ontario Black History        |
| Marie Gatley             | Ellie Ronaldson       | Society                      |
| Pamela Handley           | Peter Sabbagh         | Pass Lake Historical Society |
| Beth Hanna               | Barbara Seargeant     | Peterborough Historical      |
| Jean Harding             | H. Marie Smibert      | Society                      |
| Clifford Hastings        | Russell David Smith   | Richmond Hill Historical     |
| Eileen Hodgson           | Alexander Stahl       | Society                      |
| Jeanne Hughes            | Pat Taylor            | Sheldrake Second Mile Club   |
| James Hunter             | Patricia Taylor       | South Norwich Historical     |
| Norman Hutchison in      | Norman Thomas         | Society                      |
| memory of Helen          | Tina Tsalacopoulos    | Unionville Historical        |
| Hutchison                | Frederick Turp        | Society                      |
| Rae Hutt                 | Peter Tuffnell        | Zippy Print, 5169 Yonge      |
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| Hazel Kitto              | Ancaster Township     |                              |
| James Grant Laidlaw      | Historical Society    |                              |

## Ontario History - the September issue

BY JEAN BURNET, Editor

It is hoped that the September issue of *Ontario History* will be on the history of the First Nations, with all authors, members of the First Nations.

Because the authors are in many instances engaged in historical research concerning land claims, which makes urgent and unpredictable demands on their

time, it is not possible yet to indicate the contents of the issue. However, among the scholars who have been working on articles are George Beaver, Michael Doxtater, Richard Green, Bernice Hill, Lynda Powless, Margaret Sault, Sheila Staats and Doug Williams.

The December issue will be on the history of education in Ontario. The guest editor is Dr. Harry Smaller.

## Eastern Ontario Township needs your help

The Bi-Centennial Committee for the Township of Bastard and South Burgess is researching local history and requests help in gathering data, photographs and human interest stories. The committee hopes to have this collection commemorating 1794 to 1994 ready for publication by the end of 1993.

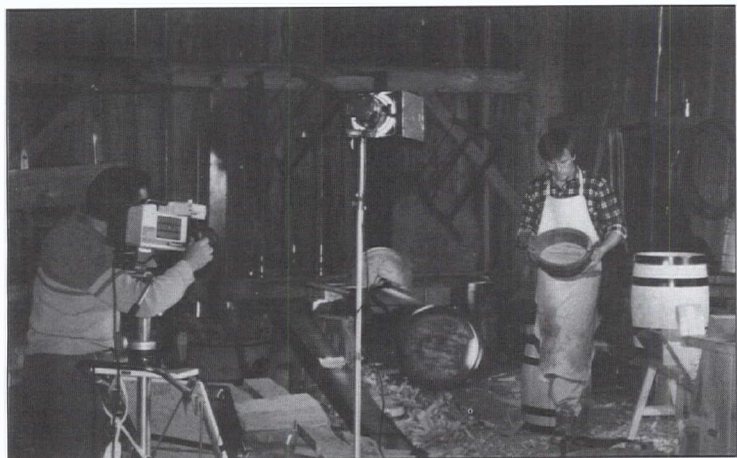
This north Leeds County township is mid-way between Kingston and Ottawa, and approximately 25 miles from Brockville. The committee is interested in showing the development, growth and change of local communities and rural areas paying particular attention to our agricultural heritage. Members will draw upon information relating to settlement, farming and supplementary forms of rural income, cheese factories, business and industries, transportation, shipping, churches, schools, medical services, political activities and social life. Diaries, letters, journals and photographs are especially needed.

To assist with this project, please send any applicable information to Barbara Gibson, R. R. #1, Lombardy, Ontario K0G 1L0, (613) 272-2489 or Diane Haskins, R. R. #1, Portland, Ontario K0G 1V0, (613) 272-2662.



# Museum News

## Coopering craft captured on video



Dan Zaroski, volunteer cooper at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum, displays the disappearing skills of making barrels in the museum's new video, **What's a Barrel Maker Called?** (Photo courtesy of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum.)

The mastery of a woodworker, knowledge of geometry and an understanding of the properties of wood and metal are important skills to a cooper. The Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum has preserved these

skills in the video, **What's a Barrel Maker Called?** This video documents the construction of a firkin, a nine gallon cask, by the museum's volunteer cooper Dan Zaroski.

A long apprenticeship is

required to learn and refine the necessary woodworking and metalsmithing skills. Zaroski, who has developed his craft over a number of years, takes the raw materials of wood and iron and shapes them into staves, hoops and heads in the creation of a cask.

The cooper's craft is now a dying art but machine and handmade casks can still be found in the distilling and wine-making industries. This video has preserved the skills of coopering and will keep them alive for future record.

For further information and to order a copy of the video, please contact Andrea Wilson, Curator, Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum, R. R. #1, Gormley, Ontario L0H 1G0, (416) 727-8954. The video sells for \$18.95 plus shipping, handling and GST.

## Support from around us - fundraising in the '90s

In this installment of fundraising strategies, the initiative is focused specifically on supporting the physical aspects of the site. The aim of this project is to overcome the difficulty of trying to raise money for a project that does not provide any tangible results for the potential donor. By providing a real token related to the project, the museum attempts to supply the potential donor with some tangible return for his or her contribution. This approach may be seen in various forms commonly used to

address site repairs. These initiatives might take the form of tying contributions to specific materials or hardware needed in the project.

### Buy a shingle - build a roof

The community is invited to participate in helping the museum to repair the main roof of the farmhouse by purchasing a shingle. Donors will actually get two shingles for the price of one! For each donation, the contributor will receive an original hand-split 'shake' inscribed with the date and museum logo

to commemorate the "roof raising". Donors' names will also be displayed on the "Roof of Fame" in the main foyer.

Donations may be made towards a single shingle for \$10.00, a bundle for \$25.00 or a square for \$100.00. In all cases receipts will be issued for income tax purposes.

**REMEMBER:** If you have any fundraising ideas you would like to share, please forward them to the *OHS Bulletin* Museum News editor for future installments.

## Eberts papers displayed at Chatham museum

In February 1993, Chris Kohl, a Chatham marine historian, launched a fundraising campaign on behalf of the Chatham Kent Museum to raise money to purchase the Eberts Family Papers. The response was overwhelming and the necessary funds were raised within six weeks. The Eberts Papers returned home to Chatham.

The documents come from the family of William Duncan Eberts and his wife, Mary Belle. William Duncan, born in 1811, was the eldest son of Joseph Eberts and Anne Baker. William Baker, Anne's father,

was commissioned by John Graves Simcoe to build the naval ships at Chatham in 1794. Joseph and Anne Eberts settled on the Baker farm in 1816, where they operated a store and inn for many years.

The Eberts Papers, which date back to 1807, provide an excellent cross section of information about the business activities of William Duncan Eberts, who entered into partnership with his brother, Walter. W.D. & W. Eberts was one of Chatham's most successful business ventures. The Eberts brothers were major

shipbuilders, merchants, property owners and developers, and were intimately responsible for much of Chatham's growth and prosperity. The personal papers include Mary Belle's diary, and letters from her children and grandchildren.

A selection of the Eberts papers is on display until August 8 at the Chatham Kent Museum. The museum is located in the Chatham Cultural Centre at 75 William Street North. For further information, please contact Kathryn Schwenger, Curator, at (519) 351-7779.

## Coverlet woven to celebrate 25th anniversary

The Allan Macpherson House in Napanee, Ontario celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1992. The 166 year old home, operated by the Lennox and Addington County Historical Society, opened to the public in 1967. To mark the commemorative year, museum officials commissioned master weaver Susi Reinink to reproduce a

coverlet from the house collection.

The original blue and white coverlet was woven in the Napanee area during the 1830s or 1840s, when the Macpherson family occupied the house. A companion piece in rose and indigo is now in the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum. Irregularities in the

pattern of both coverlets, attributable to an error in warping the loom, indicate that the two coverlets were woven at the same time.

Throughout the 1992 season, Reinink wove her coverlet on the loom in the corner of the Macpherson House kitchen, correcting the errors of the earlier weaver. A draw for the

completed coverlet will take place on December 1, 1993. All proceeds go towards supporting the operation of the house. Single tickets may be purchased for \$2.00 or a book of 6 for \$10.00.

To buy your tickets, contact the Allan Macpherson House at Box 183, Napanee K7R 3M3, (613) 354-3982.

## Hastings County Museum celebrates 20 years

The Hastings County Museum is celebrating 20 years as a museum in the 1883 restored home, Glanmore. The museum has actually been operating for almost 40 years; the previous 20 were at the Belleville Registry Office.

To commemorate the anniversary, the museum is presenting many special events and activities throughout the year. For information, please contact the museum at 257 Bridge Street East in Belleville, (613) 962-2329.

Congratulations Hastings County Museum on achieving this milestone.

## Woodland Museum wins award

The Woodland Cultural Centre Museum in Brantford is the winner of the 1992 Museum Award of Excellence. This award is presented annually by The Ontario Historical Society to a non-profit, public museum demonstrating ongoing excellence in community support and involvement.

The Woodland Museum is operated by six Bands, based across southern Ontario from Georgian Bay, to the Bay of Quinte, to the Thames River near Chatham. The Museum provides a crucial link among First Nations and between First

Nations and the general public. Its activities include educational programmes, exhibitions, publications, workshops and conferences. In addition, the museum staff provide advice and information to other museums and historical organizations in Ontario and around the world.

Is there an outstanding museum in your area? Nominate it for next year's Museum Award of Excellence. Nomination forms are available from the OHS office, and the deadline for submissions is December 31, 1993.

## Niagara Peninsula Needle Arts Guild works with area museums

In early May, the Niagara Peninsula Needle Arts Guild unveiled a stitched wall hanging at the Tourist Information Centre at the Lock 3 Complex. The 81 inch by 65 inch Historical Map incorporates 27 separately stitched scenes depicting the growth of the Niagara Peninsula. The wall hanging has been donated to the St. Catharines Museum, and will be on loan to the Chamber of Commerce Tourism Centre.

The map is embroidered with the original township boundaries, canals, rivers and shorelines. These depictions are embellished with 16 flowers that are native to the area. Thirty-seven Guild members and advisors stitched, planned, designed and assisted with the completion of the project. A conservative estimate of 20,000 hours of work was needed to complete this hanging.

The Guild is also working with the Niagara Historical

Society Museum in presenting **Uncommon Threads**, an exhibition of samplers from 1749 to 1993. The museum's collection of 18th and 19th century samplers will be enhanced by contemporary samplers and other fine needlework done by members of the Guild.

The exhibition runs until October 31 at the Niagara Historical Society Museum, 43 Castlereagh Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake. For further information, please call (416) 468-3912.

## Woodstock Museum moves

Effective July 1 the Woodstock Museum will be moving its operation to 514 Peel Street. During the month of June the second floor of the current building at 466 Dundas Street will be closed to the public while museum staff dismantle exhibits and move displays to the new quarters. The museum will maintain operations at the Dundas Street address during the month of June, but only the first floor will be open to the public.

The museum will operate at 514 Peel Street until February 1994. For further information, please contact the Woodstock Museum at (519) 537-8411.



# From the Bookshelf

BY CHRIS AND PAT  
RAIBLE, Editors

## Another World

by Pat Bear Claw



### Life Story

**Another World.** By Pat Bear Claw. Scarborough: Bear Claw Publications, 1992. 42 pages. Illustrations. \$6.00 (\$8.00 by post) paper.

When the author, who grew up on a trapline in northwestern Ontario, first publicly performed her life story, the response was so favourable she published this booklet. "Over the years, I made peace with the pain of my life. I recognized that I did acquire a lot of good things from my family - my mother's gift of writing (vocabulary), my father's photographic eye - both my parents' artistic ability and, something else - a deep spiritual belief from the wilderness."

### Novel History

**A Chronicle of Lower Canada: Book 1, Welcome Niall O'Donnell, Emigrant.** By Jan Henry Morgan. Nepean: Chanticleer Press, 1992. 510 pages. Illustrations. \$18.50 paper.

A carefully researched and exhaustively detailed story of an Irish orphan emigrant who arrives in Lower Canada in 1828, just in time to become immersed in the political conflicts of the day. Many of the Lower Canadian problems in that pre-Rebellion era were paralleled in Upper Canada - indeed William Lyon Mackenzie is a character in one chapter. The book grew out of a history teacher's difficulties in explaining to her students the reasons for the Rebellions, their failure and their lasting influence.

### Churches Celebrate

**Chronicles of The Church of St. Clement, Eglinton: 1891-1991.** By Joyce C. Lewis. Toronto: 1992. 164 pages. Illustrations. \$26.75 (\$31.75 by post) paper.

In 1891 Eglinton had been incorporated as a village two years, a town one, and connecting electric railway service to the city of Toronto had only just been established. It was an opportune time to create a new Anglican church to serve the rapidly growing suburb. In the course of the next century, as the area moved through radical changes, St. Clement's Church continued to serve its members and to be a significant influence on its community.

**Memorial Windows & Stitchery: St. George's United Church Toronto.** Edited by John E. Macdonald. Toronto: 1992. 64 pages. Illustrations. \$20.00 cloth.

In celebration of its centenary of service to North Toronto (it was organized as a Presbyterian mission in 1889), St. George's Church decided not to publish its history, but to publicize its memorial works of art. The result was this exquisitely produced volume of coloured plates. The accompanying prose not only explains the meaning and symbolism of each work presented, it also presents a sketch of the life of the person memorialized.

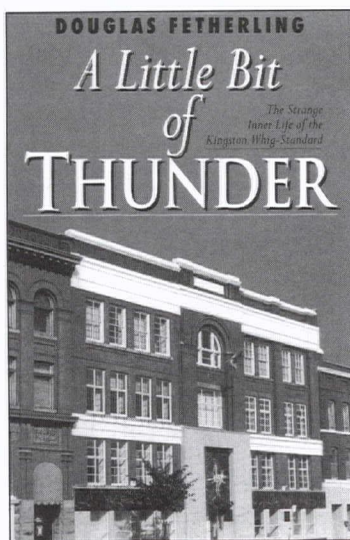
### Early Ontarians

**The Old United Empire Loyalists List.** Edited by Milton Rubincam. 334 pages. \$25.00 U.S. cloth.

**Ontario People: 1796-1803.** Transcribed by E. Keith Fitzgerald. 261 pages. Maps. \$25.00 U.S. cloth.

**Early Ontario Settlers: A Source Book.** By Norman K. Crowder. 259 pages. \$25.00 U.S. cloth. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1993.

Three volumes of especial interest to genealogists, compiling the records of thousands of settlers who emigrated to Upper Canada in the first years of the province. *The Old U.E.L. List* (originally issued in 1885) contains some 7,000 names alone, with information about places of residence, military service and family relationships. *Ontario People*, compiled much more recently, is based on land records and petitions and thus overlaps but complements the older volume. *Early Ontario Settlers* combines data on early settlers found in official location lists, provisioning lists and lists of immigrant arrivals, most of them for 1784 and 1786. Fortunately, the latter two books are well indexed.



### Paper Trail

**A Little Bit of Thunder: The Strange Inner Life of the Kingston Whig-Standard.** By Douglas Fetherling. Toronto: Stoddart Publishing Co., 1993. 386 pages. \$24.96 cloth.

The main focus is the independent (until 1990) newspaper's modern period, ending when it gained a national reputation for investigative intelligence. But imbedded in the memoir (Fetherling was a member of the staff) is the century-and-a-half story of "Canada's oldest daily newspaper" (it started in 1834).

OHS members may find the chapter telling tales of the *Whig-Standard's* founder, Edward John Barker, as fascinating at the contemporary anecdotes about publisher Michael Davies. In its way, this book is both a reflection on and a critique of the whole development of Canadian journalism.

### Oral History

**In the Shadow of the Shield. The Development of Wireless Telegraphy and Radio Broadcasting in Kingston at Queen's University: An Oral and Documentary History, 1902-1957.** By Arthur E. Zimmerman. Kingston: Self-published, 1991. 658 pages. Illustrations. \$29.95.

Perhaps a unique volume, a documented history of broadcasting from one station - it became CFRC, Queen's University. Of special interest, perhaps, is the material dealing with the very early years - the first documented broadcast from the Queen's campus was in 1902.

### St. Catharines Heritage

**Touring St. Catharines in a REO, circa 1910-1920.** By Robert R. Taylor. St. Catharines: St. Catharines Museum, 1992. 195 pages. Illustrated. \$9.95.

A imaginative way to explore the past, the author (a Brock University history professor) takes an imaginary "auto tour" of the community's architectural heritage in a St. Catharines-built car. The reader learns about the city 70 years ago and something of the trials and joys of early automobile travel.

### Influential Hamiltonians

**Dictionary of Hamilton Biography, Volume 3.** Editor-in-Chief J. Melville Bailey. Hamilton: 1992. \$37.50 (plus \$2.00 postage and handling.)

Researchers who have used this impressive and highly useful reference series will welcome news that a third volume has now been released. It covers the years from 1925 to 1939. All three books - Volume 1 (origins to 1875); Volume 2 (1876-1924) - are available at a special price of \$99.00.

### Village Memories

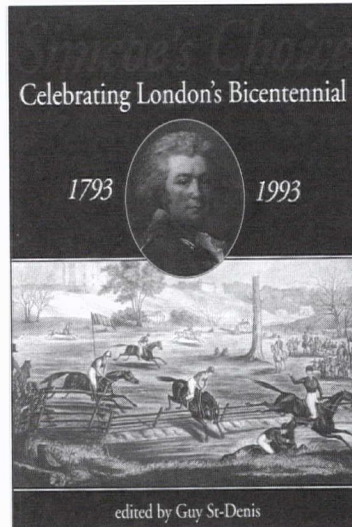
**Memories of a Place Called Humber Bay.** By Blanche Hall and Harry Hall. Etobicoke: Humber Bay Public School Alumni, 1992. 136 pages. Illustrations. \$18.00.

A depiction of life in the village of Humber Bay from 1900 to 1950. The village (now part of the City of Etobicoke) covers the area from Lakeshore Blvd. to Berry Road and from the Humber River to Mimico Creek. Included with the book is a separate map of the area.

### Early History, Later Story

**Simcoe's Choice: Essays Celebrating London's Bicentennial 1793-1993.** Edited by Guy St-Denis. Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1992. 270 pages. Many illustrations. \$19.99 paper.

No city was founded at the forks of the Thames River until 1826, but John Graves Simcoe visited the spot in 1793 and



selected it for the capital of his new province. This year Toronto - and all of Ontario - is focusing on Simcoe, so the opening essay tracing the rise and fall and rise of the Lieutenant-Governor's reputation among historians is especially valuable. London in time witnessed the upheaval of Rebellion, experienced the disaster of great fires, knew the darkness of the Donnelly murders, struggled with questions of obscenity, rejoiced in the electrification of its railways, agonized over a London to London solo airflight, and did battle with plans for a freeway. All these issues are described, while other essays consider the legacy of a group of military artists and the architectural contributions of the Robert Flint family.

### The People's Choice?

**Direct Democracy in Canada.** By Patrick Boyer. Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1993. 312 pages. \$19.99 paper.

A survey of the century-long history of plebiscites and referenda in Canada. Prior to last year's vote on the Constitution, there were two nation-wide: on prohibition of alcohol in 1898 and on conscription in 1942. There were also many provincial and municipal questions determined by public ballot, such as whether streetcars should run on Sunday in Toronto, or whether Prince Edward Island needed a fixed-link crossing. This book provides the historical context for the author's other work on the subject: *The People's Mandate*.

### Irish Canadians

**Once Upon a Country Lane.** By Garfield Ogilvie. Nepean: House of Airlie, 1992. 342 pages. Illustrations. \$32.00 (\$35.00 by post).

Early in the 19th century, the culture of Ireland was imported to Canada, including into what became the village of West Huntley in Carleton County. The social history of this Ottawa Valley community is recounted, along with anecdotes, folklore and limericks.

## Directory of Publishers

**Arthur E. Zimmerman,**  
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**House of Airlie Publishing Co.,**  
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**Humber Bay Public School Alumni,**  
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**Riverbank Traders,**  
57 Main Street,  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 4T8.  
**St. Catharines Museum,**  
Box 3012, 1932 Government Road,  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7C2.  
**St. George's United Church,**  
35 Lytton Boulevard,  
Toronto, Ontario M4R 1L2.  
**Stoddart Publishing Co.,**  
34 Lesmill Road,  
Toronto, Ontario M2B 2T6.

## Turning the pages

A great deal of fascinating Ontario history, as the listings on this page testify, continues to be published - by historical and genealogical societies, museums and individuals. Unfortunately, much of it remains unknown outside its immediate geographical area. If publishers will send us copies of new works, or older volumes that are still in print, as space permits we will bring them to the attention of *OHS Bulletin* readers. Please be sure to include prices and addresses where they may be ordered.

Historians and genealogists take note: the Hastings County Museum informs us that it has recently acquired the 1844 to 1847 minute book of the Congregational Church of Belleville. Are there other newly acquired old materials which might be brought to the attention of Bookshelf readers? If so, please tell us about them.  
*Chris and Pat Raible*

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# Learning from the past - a report on teaching history in our schools

The following is a summary of a report prepared by the Education Committee of The Ontario Historical Society in response to pending changes in the Ministry of Education's curriculum guidelines. Members of the committee are Professor Ron Stagg, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto; Penny Potter, North York teacher and Gerald Boyce, Belleville historian and teacher. The complete report is available from the OHS office.

The amount of history taught at the primary and secondary levels, although it appears to be substantial when reading curriculum documents, has actually shrunk over the years. Part of

this reduction has been caused by a shift in thinking at the Ministry of Education. Discipline-based education is out of favour because it is seen as inhibiting the students' ability to make connections between different types of knowledge. Also out of favour is the concept of imparting a traditional, standard body of knowledge to use as a basis for making decisions in life. Instead, increased emphasis has been placed on teaching about the current world and "life skills".

The current curriculum makes it possible to introduce students to a small amount of anecdotal history as early as

Grade Three, but the real introduction comes at the Grade Seven-Eight level. The equivalent of two half courses, "The Emerging Canadian Community: Early Canadian Communities" and "The Emerging Canadian Community: Building The Canadian Nation" look at eight relatively distinct topics. These subjects include the First Nations of Canada, the Rebellion of 1837 and the opening of the West to 1914.

Major problems exist with these offerings. Many teachers leave out some or all of the specified units. Non-specialists as well as specialists teach the course and the former often are not trained in historical methodology or in history. If a specialist is brought in, it is for a 40 minute period, often seen by students as a break from regular education. The Ministry has compounded the problems by emphasizing the teaching of process over content in its curriculum publications. No check is made as to whether teachers are teaching the required content. In addition, curriculum resources which are readily available are not usually affordable.

In either Grade Nine or Ten, students must take a required history course, "Contemporary Canada: Life in the Twentieth Century". Almost all of the problems associated with the Grade Seven-Eight course are also true of this one: the teaching of non-integrated topics, ignor-

ing the curriculum, non-specialists teaching the facts without any sense of what they mean in terms of understanding Canada, the inclusion of non-historical material (in Nine-Ten these subjects include Canadian government and law) and lack of resources.

While several history courses are available as options beyond Grade Ten, probably less than half of the students take another course; none of the courses deal exclusively with Canada, and none deal with the European roots of the country. An unscientific survey suggests that a majority of students emerge from secondary school with very little knowledge of Canadian history and therefore little sense of why Canada is the way it is.

A new curriculum has recently been proposed for Grades One to Nine. If implemented, this curriculum will complete the work of integrating disciplines. History will be lumped into one of four core programme areas, "Self and Society", along with geography, physical education, health, sociology and perhaps bits of other disciplines. Since school boards are free to design the way in which all this material is integrated, variations will exist from board to board and even from school to school as to what is taught. The result is likely to be a confused jumble of information rather than a coherent educational experience. Even if the "Self and Society" area were made to work by bringing

in experts in the various fields to design the curriculum, very little if any history would survive in Grade One to Nine. Since the compulsory history course is taught in Grade Nine or Ten, the future of compulsory history is very much in question.

What is needed, as a bare minimum, is teaching of the current curriculum in its entirety by people who can connect the disparate parts and explain the meaning of history in terms of how it has influenced the development of our culture and institutions. The ideal situation would involve increased offerings of Canadian history, with more emphasis on French-English relations, combined with discussions of Canada's European roots and what they mean in terms of the country's development. Other topics that would logically be included are the roots of multiculturalism, the historical reasons for regional rivalries (partly covered in the existing offerings) and the development of our relationship with the United States (leaving much of the latter for the optional course, "Canada in a North American Perspective"). The overall goal should be an understanding of the nature of the country and its people.

For lobbying to be effective it must go beyond general demands for more history, to specific reasons why history should be increased (or at least maintained), not decreased, in the curriculum.

## Heritage Railway beginning second season

BY JOHN THOMPSON

Ontario's only steam-operated heritage railway, the four-mile South Simcoe Railway at Tottenham, has launched its second season.

The railway, which is an all-volunteer operation, began running trains between Tottenham and South Beeton in June of 1992, using a former Canadian Pacific Railway diesel locomotive built in 1960, and a 1920s-vintage ex-CPR coach. Response from the public was overwhelming, even with this limited train power.

On Labour Day weekend, the railway's star performer, ex-CPR steam locomotive 136, took over the chores of hauling what was now a two-car train. The sight and sound of an

operating steam engine recalled fond memories for adults and gave children the thrill of experiencing for the first time a vital part of Canadian history.

The 1993 operating season began in May and continues until Thanksgiving weekend. Trains will run on Sundays, and on the following holiday Mondays: May 24, August 2, September 6 and October 11. Steam locomotive 136 is scheduled for all days except June 27, July 25, August 29 and September 19, subject to availability.

Trains depart from the SSR depot on Lorne Street in Tottenham on the hour from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For further information on location and fares, call (416) 936-5815.

## Laurence Grant wins Ambassadors' Tourism Award

The Convention and Visitors Bureau of Windsor, Essex County and Pelee Island recently awarded Laurence Grant, curator of La Maison François Baby House, the Ambassadors' Tourism Award for the exhibition "Bienvenue à Windsor: la survivance d'une culture française".

Laurence was responsible for implementing this exhibit which depicts the importance of the early French-Canadian culture in the development of Windsor and Essex County. This impressive project was funded by the History of Ontario's Peoples Grant Programme administered

by the OHS and The Multicultural History Society of Ontario. The exhibition showcased at the museum from

November 1992 until the beginning of June. Congratulations for an outstanding exhibit and this well deserved award!

## Send us your buttons!

The Ontario Historical Society has been invited to participate in a Heritage Showcase, taking place at the CNE in Toronto from August 18 to September 6. We will be showing young people how to make a buzz saw, an historic toy involving a large button twirling on a string. We anticipate needing lots and lots of buttons for this activity, and therefore need your help. Do you have large buttons, at least the size of a quarter with two holes, that you can spare? We will gratefully accept all buttons that meet these requirements. Please send them to the OHS office by August 9. Many thanks!

## New publication available

The OHS is pleased to announce the publication of the *Ontario History Index 1973-1992*.

This 200 page volume lists the articles, notes and book reviews that have been published in *Ontario History*, the Society's quarterly journal during those years. Dr. Elizabeth Bloomfield of Guelph, with the assistance of Linda Foster of Cambridge, have compiled this excellent reference tool in book form and on disk as well.

The *Index* in book form sells for \$20.00 to subscribers and \$25.00 to non-subscribers, and is available now from the OHS.

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Enquiries concerning submissions and advertising rates should be directed to The Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011 or fax (416) 226-2740.

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 for \$32.10 and to non-member individuals for \$42.80.

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