



# OHS BULLETIN

34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2

Issue 90 • March - April 1994



Our hard hat tour of the John McKenzie House, held on Heritage Day, Monday, February 21, was a great success. Over 300 people saw restoration work in progress supported by jobsOntario and our many donors. Lorraine Lowry, OHS Workshop Co-ordinator (second from left), describes the renovations taking place on the second floor. By the time you read this caption, we will be moving into our new home at 34 Parkview Avenue in Willowdale. After 106 years, The Ontario Historical Society now has a permanent home. (Photo courtesy of Cathy Febbraro.)

## Are you ready to party?

May 13 and 14 are fast approaching. Have you registered for the OHS' annual conference yet? Don't delay too much longer as the registrations are pouring in daily. Our 106th conference, **Let's Party! Feasts, frolics and fun** takes place at the Ramada Hotel in Hamilton, and promises to be a party you will never forget.

We will explore the customs and traditions surrounding celebrations, anniversaries and special events through presentations, workshops, panel discussions, tours throughout the Hamilton area and mouth-watering meals and tasting sessions. Foods, symbols, plants, parades and music are a few of the topics to be explored.

The OHS' Museums Committee is celebrating 40 years of service to Ontario's museum community, and to mark the occasion will be presenting a feature performance on the Friday evening. The Society's honours and awards recipients will also be recognized that evening after dinner. The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Honourable Henry N. R. Jackman, will be a special guest at the President's lunch on Saturday.

Pick up your pen now and fill in your registration form. If you do not have your pink invitation to this premiere event, contact the OHS at (416) 226-9011. Come party with us in Hamilton.

## Manitoulin provides setting for summer workshop

The gentle rolling hills, formidable rocks and sparkling waters of that magic isle, Manitoulin, will again be the setting for the OHS' June workshop, **With My Own Hands: Crafts of the First Nations and Newcomers**. It is very appropriate that the workshop be dedicated to the late Jean Harding who loved Manitoulin Island, and loved the satisfaction and pleasure of creating beautiful things with her own hands, and teaching others to do the same.

The workshop will begin on Friday evening, June 17 with supper in West Bay at Abby's Restaurant. We will then move into that stunningly beautiful Immaculate Conception Church for a Wiping of the Tears ceremony for Jean, led by Mary Lou Fox, Director of the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation. The collection of handmade artifacts donated by Jean to the OHS just a few months before her death will be on exhibit. Following the dedication, the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation will host a reception.

Saturday, June 18 will be devoted to learning some of the crafts that were a part of our ancestors' daily lives, whether they were First Nations or newcomers to this province. The fun

and fellowship of another Pot Luck Supper, and the telling of legends and stories about why certain foods, dishes and recipes are very special to each of us will bring Saturday's programme to a close. The recipes from last year's programme, Kaashnaa Ki, have been combined in a booklet, and everyone attending this year's workshop will receive a complimentary copy. Additional copies will be available for sale.

Sunday, June 19 will be devoted to the demonstration and sale of handcrafts, and as well as the workshop participants, we are inviting the craftspeople on Manitoulin to come and join us at the Old Mill in Kagawong for a real old fashioned get together and an exchange of ideas, techniques and stories. Light refreshments will be available all day until the programme ends at 4:00 p.m.

Members of the OHS will receive additional information about "With My Own Hands" in an upcoming mailing, and are encouraged to register as soon as possible as space is limited for the Friday and Saturday portion of the programme. For additional information contact Lorraine Lowry, Workshop Co-ordinator at (416) 226-9011.

## We're looking for loonies!

We're loony about our verandah and we're going to do something about it on **Saturday, April 30** and **Sunday, May 1** when you're invited to join The Ontario Historical Society in covering the verandah with loonies.

Our new home, the John McKenzie House at 34 Parkview Avenue in Willowdale, has a beautiful verandah which is in need of restoration. You can

help restore it, along with the rest of the property, by bringing along your loonies and taking home a memento of this unique occasion.

Everyone who comes and donates one loony or more gets a gift: a drill core sample from mining test sites in northern Ontario, in which you can see the minerals including gold and silver; an OHS pin; a Young Ontario Programme button or a mystery gift. Come early; some supplies are limited! All donors contributing over \$5.00 will receive an income tax receipt. Not able to join us? Don't worry. Simply send your donation to us prior to the event, and we will make sure you receive a gift. Make your donations payable to The Ontario Historical Society.

There will also be some "Welcome Spring" activities for the young folks. They can plant a seed, listen to a story, make a simple bird feeder, play an outdoor game (weather permitting), and help the OHS cover the driveway with pennies!

The OHS staff also puts out a challenge to everyone. We plan to fill several square feet with loonies, and challenge you to do one. Fill one square foot of the verandah with loonies (\$144.00), and we will send you a tax receipt and a certificate in appreciation of your contribution. We will also place a marker on your square to acknowledge your donation.

So come to our new home on Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1 between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. each day for a fun experience supported by jobs Ontario;

the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation; the Museum of Northern History, The Sir Harry Oakes Chateau, Kirkland Lake and the Highway Bookshop, Cobalt.

For further information, please give us a call at (416) 226-9011. Hope to see you there!

## Last chance!

Get your organization's house in order by attending one of the last three meetings in the OHS' series of community meetings for non-profit corporations.

The Society has been sponsoring these meetings throughout the province to discuss the new rules of incorporation as established by the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations. In addition, staff from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation have attended to describe and answer questions about the Heritage Organization Development Grant Programme.

The last three meetings in the series are: **May 18**, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale and **June 17**, 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Ojibwe Cultural Centre, West Bay, Manitoulin Island. Contact the OHS at (416) 226-9011 to confirm your attendance.

The Ontario Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the support of the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation for these meetings.

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The Ontario Historical Society  
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# Across the Province

BY EVERETTE MOORE,  
Chair, Local Societies and  
DOROTHY DUNCAN,  
OHS Executive Director

From the **Pass Lake Historical Society** comes news of an historical display on the Pass Lake area from Lakehead University in the Chancellor Patteron Library until May 2. For further information, contact June Huston, (807) 977-2841.

The **Innisfil Historical Society** has announced programmes for 1994: May 21, Annual Open House with the theme "Travel, Then and Now"; September 17, Pioneers' Pot Luck Lunch and Auction; October 15, Ghost Towns of Ontario; November 19, Old-fashioned Christmas Party and election of officers. Details? Box 381, Stroud LOL 2MO.

The **Cobourg and District Historical Society** has published a map "Birdseye View of Cobourg 1874" on heavy paper suitable for framing. Call Cath Oberholtzer at (905) 372-2005 for details and cost.

From the **Glengarry Historical Society Newsletter** comes a description of several historical events in Glengarry this summer and fall including the Highland Games, Gaelic Festival '94, summer school, and a great Highland ceilidh. For information contact Anne and Ken McKenna, **Glengarry Highland Society**, R. R. #3, Dalkeith KOB IEO, (613) 874-2861.

The **Latchford/Montreal River Preservation Society** is working with the Town of Latchford to prepare for the spring opening of the Latchford Heritage Logging Attraction. The Attraction has been awarded a \$64,000.00 jobsOntario grant. Photographs depicting lumbering and lumber camps, musical instruments related to camps and nominations to the Ontario Loggers Hall of Fame are invited. Call Diane Remillard at (705) 676-2416, if you have suggestions or donations.

The **Tecumseth and West Gwillimbury Historical Society** has launched a new video tracing the history of the area from pre-historic times to the present new Town. To order your copy at \$25.00 each plus \$5.00 for postage and handling, contact Neil Aberle at (905) 775-7036.

On Sunday afternoon, February 27, the **Grimsby LACAC** and **Grimsby Historical Society** brought Heritage Week to a happy conclusion with a plaque ceremony recognizing owners of heritage homes and businesses that, through the preservation of their properties, have contributed to preserving and promoting the rich history of Grimsby. In addition to the representatives of the LACAC and Historical Society, J. Watt; M. Capron; V. Halinski; N. Fulterton and N. Ellis; Mayor Andreychuk; Ron Hansen, MPP for Lincoln; The Honourable Shirley Coppen, Associate Minister of Culture, Tourism and Recreation and Mrs. Teri Valeri (representing her husband, Tony Valeri, MP for Lincoln) participated in the ceremony to honour Maplehurst, circa 1880; Ledingham Cottage, circa 1879; the Burgess Fruit Market; Patchworks Plus and the Stonehouse Whitcomb Funeral Home. Would you like to learn more about this splendid recognition programme? Call Vicki at (905) 945-9634.

The **Newmarket Historical Society** has a group recording the history of Yonge Street, the longest street in the world.

The **Etobicoke Historical Society** is planning the annual bus tour to Waterloo on Saturday, June 4 researched by Marjorie Bender. Call Alan Woods (416) 249-9968 for costs and details.

The **Kingston Historical Society** will be hosting these upcoming programmes: April 20, "Water Works in Kingston" with Colleen Rock; May 18, Kingston Lead Smelter and Historic Ramifications and June 6, Memorial Service for Sir John A. Macdonald. Call Jim Warren at (613) 544-7410 for details.

The **Newcastle Village and District Historical Society's** Memorial Library Room in the Newcastle Community Hall is now open to the public on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Donations of photographs, documents, artifacts, memorabilia, or time are all needed. Call Pat Macdonnell at (905) 987-5411, if you can be a helper or a donor.

Residents of the Village of Burks Falls and the surrounding townships of Armour and Ryerson formed a new historical

society in February called the **Burks Falls and District Historical Society**. The local residents hope this will help them secure funding for a building to showcase the many historical artifacts stored in several village homes, that could be part of the waterfront redevelopment.

The **Lennox and Addington Historical Society** is appealing for assistance in tracing Amherst Island families for a new book *Early Residents of Amherst Isle*. If you have information or suggestions contact the author, Tom Sylvester in Stella, (613) 389-1320.

The **Bruce County Genealogical Society's** May 16 meeting will feature Peter Hood speaking about the United Empire Loyalists at 7:30 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church Hall in Port Elgin.

The **Scarborough Historical Society** has announced the following programmes for 1994: April 26, Preserving Your Family Treasures, Meredyth Miller Scholfield; September 27, History of Quilting, Dorothy Ingledew; October 25, Remember When... An Illustrated History of Early Schools and Education in Scarborough, Rick Schofield. All meetings will be held at Bendale Library at 7:30 p.m.

The **Waterloo Historical Society** is sponsoring a Scenic Heritage Tour featuring the Conestoga River on Thursday, May 26. Information is available from Margaret Dickson, 708-250 Mary Street, Waterloo N2J 1S7. Several members of the Society have been recognized in recent months. Patricia Wagner, Frances McIntosh, Susan Hoffman, John Clinckett and Susan Bellingham received Volunteer Service Awards from the Ministry of Citizenship. Dr. Jean Steckle received the alumnus of Honour Award from the University of Guelph and Ernest Ritz was named Wilmot Citizen of the Year.

The **Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association (TAHA)** hosted an excellent seminar in New Liskeard in January on historic preservation. Over 100 attended from many communities in both northern and southern Ontario representing LACACs, historical societies, museums and individual interests. Well done, TAHA, it was a great experience!

The **Oakville Historical Society** is working with senior computer students at the Oakville Trafalgar High School to set up a data base for the Society's collection. They also supplied 12 historic photographs for MPP Gary Carr's calendar.

All aboard for the Historical Bus Tour of Esquesing Township on Sunday, May 15 sponsored by the **Esquesing Historical Society**. Georgetown, Acton, Limehouse, Glen Williams and Norval will be included, and if you want to be on that bus contact Karen Hunter, (905) 838-2109 or Dawn Livingstone, (905) 877-6506.

The **Milton Historical Society** is well launched on a programme of taping the war memories of Miltonians to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II with Ed Goodall, Ken Hassard, Lou Bradley and Ken Lamb doing the interviews.

Congratulations to the **Society for the Preservation of Historic Thornhill** celebrating 20 years of preserving the history of Thornhill in 1994. A busy year is planned to celebrate the anniversary including the Thornhill Revels, June 10, 11 and 12; Family Cruise on the Historic Segwun, July 23; Thornhill Festival Ball, September 10 and the 18th Wheatsheaf Festival on September 17. For information about these and other events, call Dave Rawcliffe, (905) 881-3952.

The **Peterborough Historical Society's** 1994 Occasional Paper *From Douro to Dublin: the letters of Frances Stewart* by Joyce Lewis was launched in February. A must for anyone interested in the social history of Ontario. For cost and availability call (705) 743-9710.

Several videos produced by the **Saugeen Ojibway Nation** have been packaged in one two-hour tape that sells for \$60.00, and includes a history of the Saugeen Ojibway land claims and their commercial fishing rights, the occupation of the Owen Sound burial grounds and more. Order from David McLaren, c/o Chippewas of Nawash, R.R. # 5, Wiarton NOH 2TO, (519) 534-1689.

The **Stoney Creek Historical Society** has published their first book, *Billy Green and the Battle of Stoney Creek June 6, 1813*. The book celebrates the 200th

anniversary of Billy Green's birthday - a local Canadian hero, and the role he played in the battle. Many historians hold this battle to be one of the pivotal conflicts of the War of 1812. For further information call (905) 643-3665.

The **Lake of the Woods Historical Society** is looking for antiques, art, crafts and useful items for the home, for pleasure or sport for the Auction to be held June 26. If you can contribute, call Shirley Wiebe at (807) 548-4406.

The **West Toronto Junction Historical Society** will meet on May 5 at Annette Library in Toronto to hear Diana Fancher's recent research on *Developing Dundas Street-the 1890's*. The Society has just distributed a walking tour brochure for West Toronto Junction Business District. Information: (416) 763-3161.

The Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake will be the destination for the **Guelph Historical Society** bus trip on May 11. Lunch at the Oban Inn followed by *Arms and the Man* sounds appealing, so contact Gretchen Aird, President at (519) 822-6741, if you are interested.

The **Hamilton-Wentworth Heritage Association** published *Who's Who in Heritage in Hamilton-Wentworth in 1994*, a useful directory for the region, as a Heritage Day project. Copies are available at \$3.00 each by calling Stewart Leslie at (905) 389-2394 or Doris Patterson at (905) 385-6211.


Congratulations to the **Harrow and Colchester South Book Committee** for winning the John R. Park Homestead Award for a new book, *Harrow and Colchester South, 1792-1992*. The award was presented at the Homestead on Heritage Day.

A group of friends, colleagues and admirers of the late John Fisher gathered on February 15, the 13th anniversary of John's death to reminisce and to bring a formal termination to **The John W. Fisher Society**. The Society's closing act was to collaborate with Heirloom Publishing in presenting New Brunswick High Schools with complimentary copies of *Volume 1, Canada, From Sea Unto Sea*, which includes a section featuring John.

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## President's Message

BY KENNETH  
MCLAUGHLIN,  
OHS President

### The OHS and the New Ontario Heritage Act?

In his wonderful novel, *Lucky Jim*, Kingsley Amis portrayed an eccentric history professor at a small British university who answered his telephone with the exclamation: "History Speaking". From time to time, we all may be tempted to appropriate the voice of Professor Welch: "History Speaking". It is a temptation of which we should be wary. History is too important in the life of our society to be used so glibly.

In part, the new working draft of the proposed Ontario Heritage Act brings Kingsley Amis' character to mind as various interest groups are seeking to define their relationship to the protection of our heritage. By its very nature, the Ontario Heritage Act is a complex piece of legislation that

involves all of us interested in this province's history and heritage.

In its preamble, the proposed Act begins as follows:

"Ontario's identity and character as a society are rooted in a rich and diverse heritage...This heritage encompasses both the values and institutions we all share, and the distinct histories, expressions and aspirations of the many peoples and communities in Ontario."

What is the role of the OHS? *Ontario History*, the Society's journal, has an important place. Its mission is "the dissemination of sound research, good writing and interesting ideas on every facet of the past of what is known as Ontario." The journal "encourages the study of Ontario's history by adhering to high scholarly standards, by representing catholicity of viewpoints, and by encouraging a variety of forms of historical discourse."

In other ways, too, the preamble to the new Heritage Act seems almost to be written in light of the

experiences of The Ontario Historical Society. Regarding our heritage, it states, "Of natural and human origin, our heritage is more than a record of the past. It is the common ground that sustains our communities in a world of change and anchors our sense of who we are. It is a source of inspiration and confidence about what we can achieve."

Not surprisingly, the OHS' major publications emphasize such themes as *Hometown History - Highlighting Your Heritage* and *Discovering Your Community*. Similarly, the *OHS Bulletin* publishes a regular feature entitled "Across the Province", drawing together a vast range of issues, interests and activities of our member societies.

The preamble to the Minister's guidelines continues: "This inheritance is not ours to squander nor to neglect. We are the stewards of legacies we must use wisely and enhance." Not surprisingly, the OHS' workshops held throughout

the province have as their purpose to awaken our interest in the preservation of our history. This year, a special series of workshops was concerned with preserving Ontario's industrial heritage, a topic which is especially timely.

The Ontario Historical Society has been in the forefront in each of the areas encompassed by the new Ontario Heritage Act. Not surprisingly, it was a former president of the Society, Margaret Angus, who played a major part in the development of the first Act. Not surprisingly, it was the OHS that organized the first major symposium to review the original Ontario Heritage Act, bringing together experts and interested Ontarians from across the province.

And, I suppose, it is not surprising to learn that the OHS is carefully weighing the efficacy of the new heritage legislation, waiting for the "regulations" that will give life to the philosophy of the working draft. To do anything more would be less than prudent.

After more than a century of assiduous activity on behalf of the citizens of Ontario and their history, the OHS continues to be dynamic, effective and active in the preservation and publication of this province's history. It is a Society and a tradition of which we can be proud. Let us hope that the new regulations for the Ontario Heritage Act will provide the means to ensure that Ontarians in the next century will be able to say that we have dealt justly with the management of their inheritance.

## Information wanted

Dorothy Edleston of Peterborough is seeking information for a study on "Princess" Maggie Leclair of Kamiscotia, a member of the Algonquin First Nation, who passed away in August of 1965 in Timmins, Ontario. In addition, Miss Edleston requires information on the Frederickhouse massacre. Written material and photographs would be appreciated. Please contact Dorothy at Apt. 110, 775 Park Street South, Peterborough K9J 3T6, (705) 748-3394.

La Société d'histoire de Toronto is preparing a map of the Humber River from Baby Point to the mouth of the river eastward to the CNE, where Fort Rouillé was located. The Society wants help in identifying points of interest in this area to include on the document. Please contact Dan Brignoli, President, Box 93, 552 Church Street, Toronto M4Y 2E3, (416) 967-1484 or fax 967-1937.

The Kingston Historical Society, in co-operation with several municipalities and other heritage organizations in the area, has been researching the existence of several milestones on the north side of Highway #2, between Kingston and Napanee. Close to 14 of the stone cut monuments have been found, and the total could have numbered approximately 25 when they were originally placed in the 1840s. They may have been associated with toll gates stationed every five miles along the road. The Society is interested in receiving photos, plans, reports, survey notes or correspondence relating to the milestones. Please contact A. G. Boucher, Vice President, Kingston Historical Society, Box 54, Kingston K7L 4V6.

## Town of Marathon celebrates 50th

The Town of Marathon will be celebrating its golden anniversary in 1994. To commemorate the event, Marathon's 50th Anniversary Committee is busy planning

a major festival to be held from July 29 to August 1. Scheduled events include a performance by a major Canadian recording act; equestrian gymkhana and trail

ride; a performance by Brantford's "Rolling thunder", a group of physically disabled and non-disabled performers; a live performance festival featuring local heritage, cultural and other groups; a "Marathon" marathon; parade and fireworks display and many other activities designed to entertain the entire family.

Marathon is located halfway between Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie on the north shore of Lake Superior. Evidence suggests that the area had been inhabited as early as 1500 BC by a pottery using people. Ancient stone structures, called "Pukaskwa Pits", were discovered in 1954. Most theories revolve around these pits being built and used for temporary shelters by travelling hunters.

White explorers came to the area in the early 1600s. The earliest white settlement was a fur trading post at the mouth of the Pic River around 1790. Peninsula

Harbour at Marathon was the base of operations for one of the most difficult and costly phases of the Canadian Pacific Railway construction programme in the 1880s. At its peak, 12,000 men and 5,000 horses worked out of the "wickedest town in Canada". Nearby Noslo was the site of the last spike driven on May 16, 1885. Marathon Paper Mills of Wisconsin began construction of a pulp mill in 1944, and the town was thus named Marathon later in the same year.

Marathon remained a small pulp town of 2,000 people until 1981 when gold was discovered at nearby Hemlo. By 1985, when the first gold bar was poured, the town had grown to its present population of 5,500.

For more information about Marathon's history and the upcoming celebrations, contact Marathon's 50th Anniversary Committee, Box 493, Marathon, Ontario P0T 2E0.

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**Please Contact:** Wayne Morgan, Curator

Palmer Cox and the Brownies, 75 Markham Street, Unit #2, Toronto, Ont. M6J 2G4 (416) 360 1487 or through Public Programmes & Cultural Events, National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington St. Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0N4

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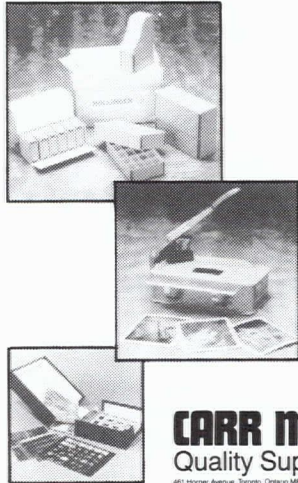
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# Upcoming Events

## Tour historic Guelph

The Guelph Arts Council presents its 1994 historical walking tours of old Guelph on selected Sundays from May to October. For a complete list of destinations and dates, contact the Council at 10 B Carden Street, Guelph N1H 3A2, (519) 836-3280.

**March 10-October:** The Joseph Schneider Haus museum in Kitchener unravels some of the mystery surrounding spinning wheels and other tools of textile production in the exhibit **A Footman, Two Maidens, A Mother-of-All**. The close to 20 wheels will be augmented during July and August with several large pendulum varieties patented in Canada in the 1860s. Contact the Haus at 466 Queen Street South, (519) 742-7752.

**April 17:** Come to the John R. Park Homestead and Conservation Area in Essex County and enjoy a **Heritage Gardening Seminar**. Learn about heirloom varieties, seed saving and herbs. Pre-registration is required for this workshop co-sponsored with the Park House Museum. Return to the Homestead on May 22 for **Loyalist Day**. See uniformed military re-enactors, and all Loyalists get in free. Come back for **Tea and Games on the Lawn** on June 12. Play 19th century baseball, try stilts, rolling hoops and quoits. Contact Janet Cobban, Curator, (519) 738-2029.

**April 18:** Interested in learning more about developing effective strategies to promote your public art gallery or museum, connecting and working co-operatively with the tourism sector for mutual benefit and creating a popular destination by packaging? Then come to **Destination Culture: Attracting Cultural Tourists to Your Region and Institution**, presented by the Ontario Museum Association, Ontario Association of Art Galleries and the York Association of Museums and Art Galleries. The programme takes place from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Markham District Historical Museum. Contact the OMA, (416) 348-8672.

**April 22:** The Source Group of Toronto provides workshops targeted at non-profit groups. **Sponsorship - Bang for the Buck**, deals with getting your project or events successfully sponsored, and how to give the sponsor a return on their investment. On May 27 discover **Who Cares? Effective Communication with Your Publics, Whoever They Are**. Contact (416) 968-1435.

**April 22, 23:** The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, in conjunction with the Ontario Museum Association, presents **When a House is not a Home** in Cambridge. Lectures and tours suggest ways to reuse historic homes. Contact Alison Jackson at (519) 621- 5894.

**April 23:** Beginners and experts alike will be interested in

**Genealogical Gleanings VI**, a colloquium presented by the Halton-Peel, Simcoe and Toronto Branches of the Ontario Genealogical Society. This year's theme includes English, Scottish and Irish research, local resources, beginning genealogy and using computers. The programme takes place at Maple Grove United Church in Oakville. Contact Margaret Williams, (905) 844-9196 or Al Fisher, (905) 793-6273.

**April 23, 24:** See demonstrations of traditional hand crafts and a display by the York Heritage Quilters Guild In **Lovingly Crafted - Creating Traditional Hand Crafts** at The Gibson House in North York. Return to the House May 7 and 8 for **How Does Your Garden Grow? 19th Century Gardening Techniques for Today**. This two-day event features organic methods, seed saving and gardening advice. Come back and celebrate **Queen Victoria's Birthday** with stories and sweets on May 23. Contact The Gibson House at 5172 Yonge Street, (416) 395-7432.

**April 24:** Guelph producer David Ansley presents his video **The Riverlands** at the April meeting of the Wellington County Historical Society. The film features the Eramosa and Speed River valleys, and focuses on the roles that rivers play in communities, environments, landscapes and neighbourhoods. Barbara Veale, co-chair of "The Grand Strategy" will also present a video on the Grand River system. This joint meeting with the Puslinch Historical Society takes place at the Aberfoyle Community Centre at 2:30 p.m. At the same time on May 15, Dr. Mark Cortiula of the University of Guelph, discusses **Dr. Henry Orton: Medical Practice in 19th Century Wellington County**. Contact Ian Easterbrook, President, Wellington County Historical Society, (519) 843-6576.

**April 30-May 1:** Spend some **Quality Time with Craftsmen** at Black Creek Pioneer Village. Set a moment aside to watch craftspeople at work doing a few early skills now in danger of being lost including hat making, chair caning, paper marbling and rope making. Return to the Village May 22 and 23 for the **Spring Fair**. Enjoy an authentic restaging of a typical 19th century country fair. Get ready to tap your feet and revel in the pleasure of music at the Village's **Fiddle Contest** on the 23rd. Contact Black Creek Pioneer Village at the corner of Jane Street and Steeles Avenue in North York, (416) 736-1733.

**May 1-31:** The exhibit **Wonderful Woolies** is presented by the Bradley Museum at the Anchorage in Mississauga. **Wonders of Wool** launches the exhibit on May 1 with exhibits and demonstrations of spinning, weaving and sheepshearing. Contact (905) 822-1569.

**May 7:** The memory and achievements of Carl Dair, a distinguished, but little known Canadian graphics artist, is honoured in ceremonies at historic Queenston. Sponsored by the Mackenzie Heritage Printery, in association with Brock University, the day long **Carl Dair Colloquium** takes place at Queenston Heights Restaurant, and is followed by type and printing demonstrations at the Printery, directly below the restaurant. Contact John Burt-niak, Printery Director, (905) 688-5550 or (905) 227-2056.

**May 7-10:** The Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, Quebec hosts the international symposium, **The Languages of Live Interpretation**. Sessions explore how museums and other heritage institutions communicate with the general public, and focus on how theatrical techniques can be used to bridge the gap between the public and museums. Contact Jason Bélanger with Interpretive Programmes at the Museum, (819) 776-7026.

**May 8:** Help kick off the Quinte Arts Council's new festival "Two Weeks in May...and then some", by attending the Hastings County Museum Auxiliary's fundraiser **Memories for Mother's Day**. Adults can enjoy tea while children create a memory box. Reservations are required. Don't forget Father's Day on June 19. Live music, outdoor games, a fish pond, festive decorations and refreshments greet you at **Father's Day Garden Pary at Glanmore**. Contact the Hastings County Museum at 257 Bridge Street East in Belleville, (613) 962-2329.

**May 12-15:** The Third Laurier Conference on Ethnohistory and Ethnology takes place at Nin. Da. Waab. Jig., the Walpole Island Heritage Centre. **Earth, Water, Air and Fire: Worlds in Contact** examines the differences between North American and European ideologies, belief and value systems since contact. Contact the convenors, Professors Barry Gough and Laird Christie at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, (519) 884-1970.

**May 23:** Etobicoke's museum, Montgomery's Inn, invites you to celebrate Queen Victoria's birthday. Watch a sheep being sheared, try your hand at milking a cow and join in many other special activities. The summer exhibit, "Childhood Memories" opens that day, and features children's toys, furniture and clothing. Included also is a portrait gallery of Etobicoke residents as children. Return to the Inn on June 5 for the **Punch and Judy**

**Show** at 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. The Inn is located at 4709 Dundas Street West. Contact (416) 394-8113.

**May 26:** The Toronto Field Naturalists present a **Walking Tour** of the CPR's former Liberty Street Rail Branch Line. The tour focuses on the natural and industrial heritage of the area. To take part, meet at the southeast corner of King and Dufferin Streets in Toronto at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. Contact (416) 968-6255.

**May 28:** Join the Grimsby Historical Society for its **Spring House Tour** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Six of Grimsby's finest homes, dating from the 1790s to the 1990s, are open for touring. Tickets are \$10.00 per person. Refreshments and lunch are available for an extra charge. To order tickets, contact (905) 945-9518.

**May 28-29:** The Association of Canadian Archivists Education Committee is offering a series of workshops in conjunction with the **1994 ACA Annual Conference** at the National Archives in Ottawa. The seven programmes are designed to provide current information and instruction on a variety of issues and are open to everyone. For workshop topics and fees, contact the ACA, Box 2596, Station D, Ottawa K1P 5W6, (613) 443-0251.

**June 10-12:** Do you have an interest in Canadian railroads, Canadian scenery and Canadian genealogy? Combine all three and come to North Bay for **Rail Links and Other Ties**, the Ontario Genealogical Society's Seminar '94. The conference takes place at Nipissing

University. Contact the OGS, 40 Orchard View Blvd., Suite 251, Toronto M4R 1B9, (416) 489-0734.

**June 12:** Join the gathering of Lincoln, Mercury, Meteor, Monarch and Edsel model cars, and Mercury trucks at the **Lincoln Mercury Meteor Reunion**, sponsored by the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club. The event takes place at Colony Lincoln Mercury in Brampton. Contact the Club at (416) 461-6032.

**June 20, 21:** The Ontario Association of Art Gallery's newest member, the North York Performing Arts Centre Art Gallery, is hosting OAAG's 1994 **Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony**. The focus session on the 20th and 21st deals with the findings and implications of the Association's research study, *Mapping a Future*. Contact OAAG, 489 King Street West, #306, Toronto M5V 1K4, (416) 598-0714.

**June 22:** The Owen Sound Historical Society is presenting its major fundraising event for this year, **A Tour of Homes**. Six unique homes are featured: some historical, some modern. For ticket information, contact the Marine-Rail Heritage Centre, 1165 Ist Avenue West, Owen Sound N4K 4K8, (519) 371-3333.

**June 26:** Don't miss Millbrook and Cavan's seventh biannual **House and Garden Tour**. See a splendid selection of fine homes, beautiful gardens, art studios and architecturally significant public buildings. Contact Ken Greenberg, President, (705) 932-3578.

## In honour of Simcoe

The Ontario Historical Society presents its second annual workshop commemorating the life and times of John Graves Simcoe on July 16 at the Mackenzie Heritage Printery in Queenston. The programme will explore Simcoe's impact on printing and communication in Upper Canada. Contact the OHS at (416) 226-9011 for further information.

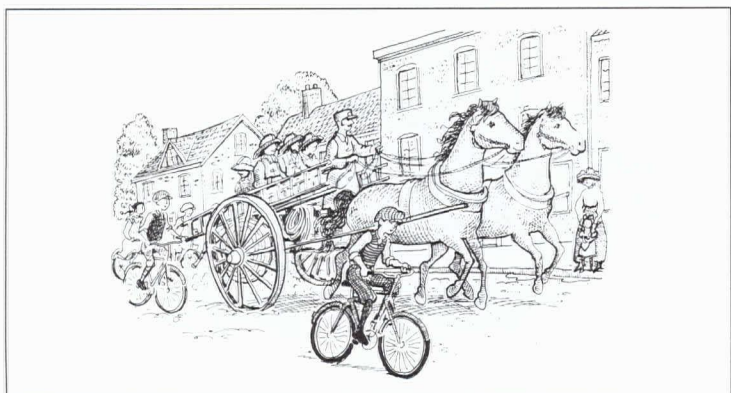
## Upcoming OHS Workshops

DATE	WORKSHOP	LOCATIONS
April 16	Using Local Heritage Resources to Meet Ministry of Education Curriculum Guidelines	Elk Lake
April 23	The Politics of Preservation	Kenora
June 4	The Heritage of Ontario Cemeteries	Huntsville
June 17, 18, 19	With My Own Hands: Crafts of the First Nations and the Newcomers	Manitoulin Island

For further information on these workshops and others in the planning stages, please contact Lorraine Lowry, Workshop Coordinator, The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011 or fax (416) 226-2740.



## Hasty notes help raise funds



FIRE! FIRE!, drawn by William Kimber for *Cabbagetown, Then and Now* - AMBY FLANAGAN, *An Oral History* is just one of the sketches contained in Sprucecourt Junior School's hasty note collection.

Sprucecourt Junior School, located in the Cabbagetown-Regent Park area of Toronto, is selling hasty notes to raise funds for its second oral history booklet. The package of eight assorted illustrations, with envelopes, sells for \$3.50.

The sketches are from the first booklet produced by the

School, *Cabbagetown, Then and Now*, AMBY FLANAGAN, *An Oral History*, and depict childhood scenes from Flanagan's memories of growing up in the area in the early 1900s.

To place your order, please contact Ruth Johnson, Teacher, Sprucecourt Junior School, 70 Spruce Street, Toronto M5A 2J1, (416) 393-1522.

## 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.

Harry Alexander  
Carl Benn  
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Dorothy Cornoyer  
Dorothy Duncan  
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Lincoln and Continental Owners Club  
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Ian Woods and Partners, Incorporated

## Don't miss these deals!

The OHS is having a special pre-conference book sale you won't want to miss. Starting now up until the end of our annual conference on May 14, these publications will be for sale: **Breaking the Fast: All About Breakfast**, a handbook about breakfast for ages 6 to 16 with easy recipes, sells for \$1.00 per copy if you buy ten or more copies. **Consuming Passions:**

**Eating and Drinking Traditions in Ontario**, the collection of papers from the OHS' 1989 annual conference, sells for \$5.00 per copy if you buy five copies or more. **1837 Rebellion Remembered**, the collection of papers from the special 1987 conference, sells for \$10.00 for ten copies. **Promoting the Past**, a handbook of suggestions for effective historical programming

in your community, sells for \$2.00 for ten or more copies.

These special deals are only available if you pick up the publications from the OHS office. If you would like the books sent to you, you must pay the postage and handling charges in advance. For further information, and to reserve your copies, please contact the OHS at (416) 226-9011.

## Understanding lot sizes in early assessment rolls

BY JANET FAYLE,  
Heritage Consultant,  
Richmond Hill

Richmond Hill's old assessment rolls begin in 1905, due to a fire in the records storage area in 1904. The Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee recently has been using the rolls to update the history of our 20th century heritage buildings. One of the stumbling blocks to relating lots at the turn of the century to current lots was the form of measurement used to record lot sizes.

Under the heading, *No. of Acres or other measure shewing the extent of the Property*, the figures were given with two "decimal points", for instance 0.3.10, 1.0.00, 1.2.00 or 41.2.00. The 1.0.00 was easy. It was equivalent to one acre, therefore the figure on the left gave the number of whole acres. The last two figures, however, caused some difficulty.

Determination to decipher this conundrum resulted. It took a calculator, many hours and the concept of £.s.d. to arrive at the answer. For others who may be confronted with the same dilemma, here is the explanation.

The measurements are based on (square) rods and perches:

- 1 linear rod = 16.5 feet
- 1 acre = 4 (square) rods
- 1 (square) rod = 40 perches

To convert from a lot measurement in feet to an area measurement as found in the assessment rolls, use the following procedure:

1. Convert the measurements to rods by dividing each by 16.5.
2. Find the area by multiplying.
3. Convert this number to the three-part tax roll figure as in the following examples. (Figures are rounded off and somewhat approximate.)

- a) Lot size = 50 feet X 148 feet = 3.03 rods X 8.96 rods = 27 perches = 0.0.27 (confirmed

by tax roll figure for the given lot).

- b) Lot size = 100 feet X 148 feet = 6.06 rods X 8.96 rods = 54 perches = 0.0.54.

Since 40 perches equal one square rod, divide 54 by 40, which equals 1 with a remainder of 14. The lot size is 0.1.14 (confirmed by tax roll).

- c) Assume the area of a lot is 210 perches: 210 divided by 40 = 5 plus 10 remainder = 0.5.10; 5 divided by 4 = 1 plus 1 remainder = 1.1.10.

- d) Assume the area of a lot is 1237 perches; 1237 divided by 40 = 30 plus 37 remainder = 0.30.37; 30 divided by 4 = 7 plus 2 remainder = 7.2.37.

According to old maps, this lot size would read 7a 2r 37p, or 7 acres 2 rods 37 perches. Happy researching!

## Canada Remembers salutes end of WWII

Canada Remembers is Canada's national and international programme aimed at commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, and ensuring Canada's participation in the war is appropriately honoured.

The mission of the programme, sponsored by Veterans Affairs, is to encourage Canadians to remember those who rallied to the cause of restoring world peace during World War II.

The programme will also encourage Canadians everywhere to participate in commemorating the contribution made by all Canadians in wartime. Particular emphasis will be given to remembering the sacrifice of so many; recognizing the support from the home front; fostering an awareness in youth of the war; noting the fundamental changes to Canada's post-war development and growth; remembering wartime allies and friends; and celebrating our nation's leading role in peacekeeping efforts.

Aurora: Ken Vogan  
Concord: Kim Cooke  
Merrickville: Shirley Watton  
Mississauga: University Women's Club of Mississauga Antique Study Group  
Niagara Falls: Mr. and Mrs. Allan Brand  
Nipissing: Nipissing Township Museum  
Peterborough: Katharine N. Hooke  
Pickering: Tom Mohr

Scarborough: Robert and Kathleen Saunders, Karen Trace  
Toronto: Hilary A. Alexander, Antoni Harting, Jeffrey McNairn  
Willowdale: Ruby P. Avison, Jean and Arthur Spinney

Out of Province  
La Mesa, California: Pat Keller

## Welcome new members

The Ontario Historical Society welcomes new members:

## Threads of Family History now in slide show

The juried exhibition of textile crafts, *Threads of Family History*, was mounted by the Ontario Genealogical Society last year at Seminar '93 in Toronto. More than 60 participants incorporated many aspects of family history

into a variety of media and techniques.

Highlights of the exhibition are now available in a 30-minute slide presentation. Images to show historical background, sources of inspiration and techniques have

been added. The presentation consists of 112 slides accompanied by a script. The OGS can also provide a speaker for the show.

If your group is interested in borrowing *Threads of Family History*, you will need to provide a Kodak Carousel projector, a remote control, screen and microphone if necessary. The presentation is available at no charge; however, if you require a speaker, you may need to cover expenses.

For further information and to book the show, contact the Ontario Genealogical Society, 40 Orchard View Blvd., Suite 251, Toronto M4R 1B9, (416) 489-0734.

## Mark your calendar

The Ontario Archaeological Society and the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority are declaring Sunday, June 26 is **Celebrate Access to Heritage** day. This special event takes place at Kortright Centre for Conservation in Kleinburg, and features a day full of heritage events and activities. Watch the next *OHS Bulletin* for details.

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# Museum News

## Congratulations North American Black Historical Museum

The North American Black Historical Museum in Amherstburg has been honoured recently with the prestigious international Phoenix Award. The museum was one of only six winners selected in 1993 by the Society of American Travel Writers, based in Washington, D. C. The Essex County site is the sixth Canadian winner in the Phoenix's 38-year history.

The late Mac Simpson and his wife, Betty, founded the museum in a one-storey build-

ing beside their house 13 years ago. The site preserves and promotes the rich black history of the area. Essex County was one of the final stops on the underground railroad, leading slaves out of America to freedom.

The formal presentation of the award to Betty Simpson is scheduled for May. For further information, please contact the North American Black Historical Museum on King Street in Amherstburg, (519) 736-5433.

## Results of MAP review

In an earlier Museum News page, members of the museum community were asked to submit their comments for the review of the Museum Assistance Program (MAP) which was conducted in 1993. The results have been released and the Canadian Museum Association has summarized some of the key points in a recently released *Advocacy Alert* (February 10, 1994) bulletin.

The MAP report entitled "Review of the Museums Assistance Program" was produced with a significant amount of input from the heritage community. MAP was given high marks but there were 33 recommendations, most of which deal with processes and ways to improve service. Some of the more significant recommendations include:

- encouraging the development of a federal cultural policy,
- a maximum four month application period,
- establishing advisory committees to provide advice on policy,

- consolidating seven of the programmes into three new ones namely, Collections Support, Public Programming and Management and Administration,
- improving communications between MAP and the museum community.

The Heritage Branch of the Department of Canadian Heritage is presently reviewing the report and its recommendations. The museum community is urged to read the report, and send comments to the Department of Heritage. Even if you did not take part in the initial review, it is in your best interest to submit comments. The Canadian Museums Association would appreciate a copy of any comments sent to the Department of Canadian Heritage.

*The above is based on Advocacy Alert, "MAP Review Results Are In", issued on February 10, 1994 by John McAvity. Used with permission from the Canadian Museums Association.*

## From shells to loonies

From Shells to Loonies: Canada's Currency, is a travelling exhibit available for loan from the Currency Museum of the Bank of Canada. The display will be on the road for five years, and is scheduled to make its first stops in Ontario and Quebec.

This exhibition provides a broad view of the history of Canada's currency from the wampum used by the First Nations prior to the arrival of the Europeans to the one dollar coin introduced in 1987. Included in the more than 100 items are

barter goods, coins, paper money and bank notes complete with explanatory notes and texts.

From Shells to Loonies can be borrowed for a period of one month at no charge. The only costs to the host institutions are transportation and insurance. To find out more about this exhibit, call Celine Tardif, Coordinator of Museum Programming for the Currency Museum at (613) 782-8852. She will send you additional information and a copy of the presentation folder for the exhibit.

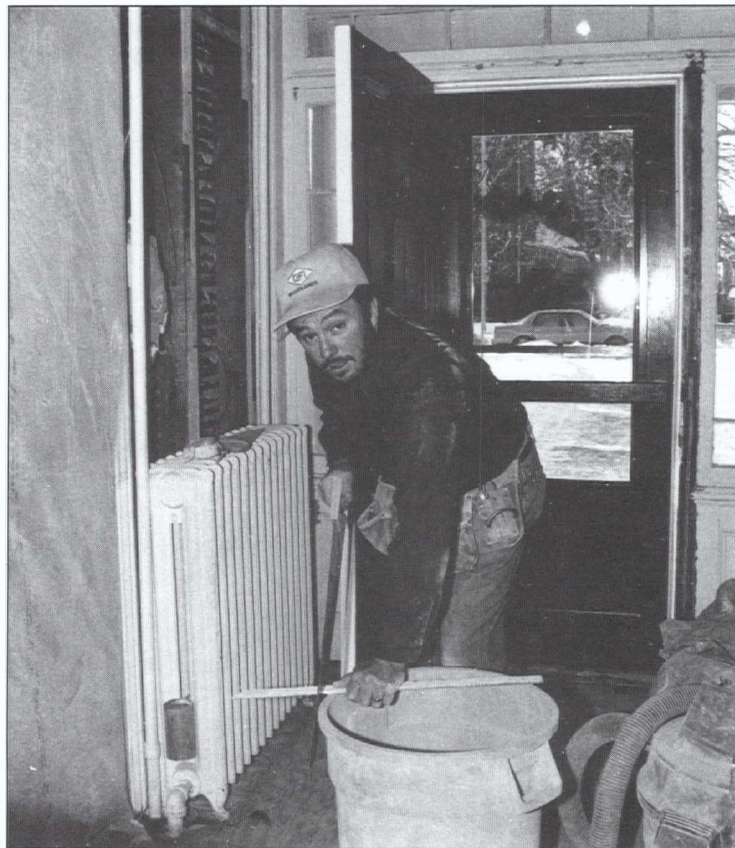
## Appeal for help

The Collingwood Museum needs help in locating owners of wooden boats built by the William Watts Boatbuilding Company in Collingwood, Ontario. The information is being gathered for research towards a new exhibition which is slated to open on June 1, 1994. Museum staff would like to interview owners and photograph the vessels. Please call Tracy Marsh at the Collingwood Museum at (705) 445-4811 if you are able to help.

## Extensive renovations underway

The Bowmanville Museum has been covered in a shroud of plaster dust throughout the winter as extensive restoration is being carried out on the main hallway of the building. New floors and walls are part of the renovations, and it will be decorated to fit into the Museum's interpretative time period of 1901 to 1930. Museum Curator Charles Taws reports the most recent renovations are part of ongoing efforts to return the Museum to its past grandeur. Some future work will include restoring all the windows, including those in the 1930 Lord and Burnham Conservatory.

Rick Potter has been hard at work tearing down old plaster walls to the lath, and repairing the ceiling in the main hallway of the Bowmanville Museum. The room is undergoing extensive renovations to return it to its former grandeur. (Photo courtesy of Lorraine Manfredo, Bowmanville Canadian Statesman.)



## Clarington museums announce new marketing partnership

The Clarke Museum and Archives and the Bowmanville Museum have announced a bold new marketing partnership for 1994. Both museums, owned by the Municipality of Clarington, have joined together for marketing and promotional purposes in order to deliver a more effective, co-ordinated package to both local residents and tourists.

The first phase was the development and publication of

a standard, joint advertisement for the local media under the new heading of "Clarington Museums".

The second phase, launched during Heritage Showcase at Peterborough's Lang Pioneer Village in February, is a joint brochure promoting both sites. The new material will cut production costs in half while dramatically increasing distribution.

The third phase of the joint venture, also unveiled during Heritage Showcase, is a travelling display which will be used at shopping malls, trade shows and area libraries.

For further information, please contact Mark Jackman, Curator, Clarke Museum and Archives, (905) 983-9243 or Charles Taws, Curator, Bowmanville Museum, (905) 623-2734.

## Postage due

September 6 is a unique opportunity for the public to see items that have been stored in the basement of local post offices for many years.

The idea for the exhibit came from David Archer, a letter carrier in Midland who has developed a fascination with the postal history of Simcoe County. He has gathered many interesting tidbits of information concerning post offices. For instance of the 250 post offices that once existed in Simcoe County, only about 60 function today. Local merchants in Midland were opposed to home delivery of mail since they felt it would be bad for business. After all, they argued, housewives would no longer have a reason to come downtown to shop.

On display are a wide variety

of items related to the collection and delivery of mail. Mr. Archer is seeking interesting stories, newspaper clippings, old documents or photographs relating to the post offices or to postal clerks who worked on the mail trains within Simcoe County. If you can contribute any information, Mr. Archer can be contacted at Simcoe County Postal History, Box 82, Midland, Ontario L4R 4K6.

The Huronia Museum is open all year round Monday to Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5:00 p.m. The exhibit Postage Due is free with regular admission to the museum. The Midland Post Office dedicates this exhibit to the memory of Midland Letter Carrier Robert Offord.

## Not just another bedcovering

The Guelph Civic Museum is gearing up for spring with a new exhibit. "Not Just Another Bedcovering..." is an exhibit of wallhangings and quilts which will run from April 18 until May 23.

The exhibit was produced with assistance from the Royal City Quilters Guild. On Saturday, April 23, the Museum will be hosting Founders Day in Guelph featuring entertainment and food from the Italian Community. The festivities will start at 1:30 and continue until 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. Call (519) 836-1221 for more information on either of these events. The Guelph Civic Museum is located at 6 Dublin Street South.

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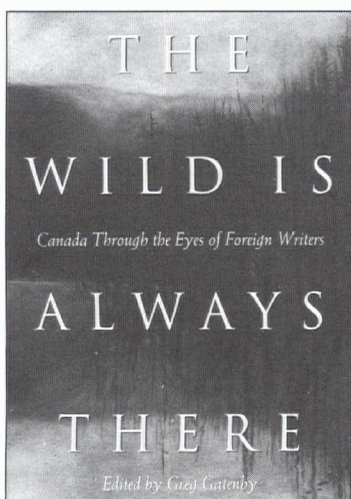
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# From the Bookshelf

BY PAT AND CHRIS  
RAIBLE, Editors



## Views From Without

*The Wild is Always There: Canada Through the Eyes of Foreign Writers.* Edited by Greg Gatenby. Toronto: Alfred A. Knopf Canada, distributed by Random House of Canada. 490 pages. Illustrations. \$29.50 cloth.

An engaging anthology of impressions of Canada by a wide range of *non-Canadian* authors - from Mark Twain's bewailing the piratical practices (ignoring copyright) of 19th century Canadian publishers to Umberto Eco's rejoicing in the technologically advanced but still serene Roberts Library. The collection is enhanced by Gatenby's introduction and biographical sketch of each writer.

## Summer Images

*Micklethwaite's Muskoka.* Edited by John Denison. Stoddart/Boston Mills Press. 176 pages. Illustrations. \$60.00 cloth.

This coffee table giant presents a nostalgic album of 19th century photographer Frank Micklethwaite's best shots. Resorts, cottages, steamers, regattas, families-blue-blazered, white-ducked gents lounging on the verandah, cigars in place, ladies in their voluminous woollen bathing suits or big flowery hats and long white muslin dresses-all here for your delight. Editor John Denison's charming commentary adds to the pleasure.

## Around Ontario

*History of Adjala Township.* Adjala Township Municipal Council. \$36.00 cloth.

First surveyed in 1820, this Simcoe County township is perhaps typical of many in rural Ontario.

*Heritage Highlights.* By Cheryl MacDonald. Heronwood Writing Services. \$12 paper.

Forty columns culled from the *Simcoe and Nanticoke Times* revive stories of murder, medicine, cheese, booze and much more. Haldimand and Norfolk's past was never dull.

*Guide to Historic Haileybury.* By Peter Fancy. Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association. 40 pages. Illustrations. \$3.75 paper.

A series of walking tours through the historical heart of Haileybury, North Cobalt and Mores Cove.

## Lives of the Saints?

*Household of God: A Parish History of St. Thomas's Church, Toronto.* Edited by David Cent, Hugh Anson-Cartwright and Patricia Kennedy. St. Thomas's Church. 500+ pages. Illustrations. \$34.95 cloth.

In celebration of its centenary, Anglican St. Thomas's Church involved more than 50 contributors to create this striking commemorative volume.

*Sowing the Good Seed.* By John Moir. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. 99 pages. Illustrations.

By recruiting one of Canada's foremost historians as author, this 200-year-old Simcoe church has created a work which is well worth reading by anyone interested in provincial religious (in Ontario, always also political) history.

## Heritage Resources

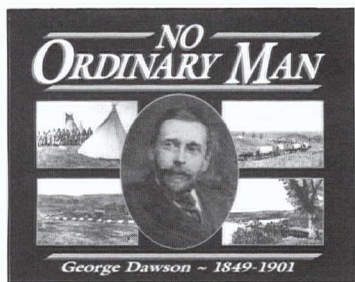
The Heritage Resources Centre at the University of Waterloo regularly publishes research papers - a catalogue is available. Recent ones of particular interest to OHS members include:

*Environmental Assessment and Heritage in Ontario.* Edited by L. Shultz, R. Serafin and J.G. Nelson. 36 pages. \$12.00.

*Managing the Great Lakes Shoreline: Experiences and Opportunities.* Edited by P.L. Lawrence and J.G. Nelson. \$35.00.

*Heritage Planning in an Urban Context.* Edited by J.G. Nelson and E.A. Alder. \$12.00.

*Historical Economies of the Long Point Area.* By Steven Wilcox. \$15.00.



## Geological Giant

*No Ordinary Man: George Mercer Dawson, 1849-1901.* By Lois Winslow-Spragge. Toronto: Natural Heritage/Natural History. 208 pages. Illustrations. \$24.95 paper.

Severe illness during his early teens in Montreal stunted the growth of his physical body, but not of his personal ambition. After studying geology at the Royal School of Mines in England, he returned home to cover on foot and on horseback - as a member of the British North American Boundary Commission and eventually as Director of the Geological survey of Canada in 1895 - most of Canada's previously unknown territory. Readers of this book of his letters, diaries and essays will recognize that he deserves the stature of a national hero.

## Trains on Time

*Chief Engineer: Life of a Nation Builder - Sandford Fleming.* By Lorne Greene.

Dundurn Press. 191 pages. Illustrations. \$29.99 cloth.

This is the story of one of the most creative and adventurous personalities of Canada's Industrial Age. His was the primary role in the greatest engineering challenge of his day: laying the railway steel *a mari usque ad marem*. As the historical plaque at Adelaide and Berti Streets in Toronto reminds us, Fleming is also the creator of Standard Time.

## Toronto Irish

*Piety and Nationalism: Lay Voluntary Associations and the Creation of an Irish-Catholic Community, 1850-1895.* By Brian P. Clarke. McGill-Queen's University Press. 340 pages. \$39.95

In the second half of the last century, Toronto evolved to become a major industrial and commercial metropolis. Massive Irish immigration contributed to the transformation, but not without serious social stress. As this carefully researched work demonstrates, one aspect of the city's change was an Irish-Catholic awakening both national and religious.

## Moving Right Along

*From Horse Power to Horsepower: Toronto, 1890-1930.* By Mike Filey and Victor Russell. Dundurn Press. 128 pages. Illustrations. \$18.99 paper.

From the early 1890s through the 1920s, Toronto enjoyed a dizzying revolution in transportation. Street railway tracks were laid, service outlets and dealerships sprang up, and the 'auto show' graced the Canadian National Exhibition. In photos and text, this book captures the spirit of that transformation - from horses to electric streetcars to automobiles.

## Full steam ahead!

*The Age of Steam on Lake Temiskaming.* By Bruce W. Taylor. Highway Book Shop. 155 pages. Illustrations. \$24.95 cloth.

From the arrival of the steamer *Mattawan* in 1882 to the burning of the *Lady Minto* in 1962, steamboats helped transform the Temiskaming region from wilderness to an extensive agricultural, mining, forestry and manufacturing district. This book chronicles the story of these boats and of their owners, captains, crews and passengers.

## Deux Nouveautés

*Les Franco-Ontariens.* Sous la direction de Cornelius J. Jaenen. Les Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa. 432 pages. broché 35\$. relié 50\$.

*Aux Origines de l'Identité franco-ontarienne.* Par Chad Gaffield. Les Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa. 284 pages. broché 30\$.

Est-il possible, aujourd'hui, d'écrire l'histoire des Franco-Ontariens? Les auteurs de ces

ouvrages répondent par l'affirmative et démontrent le développement d'une société à personnalité distincte qui s'affirme de plus en plus dans de nombreux domaines.

## Timely Reading

*Early Canadian Time-keepers.* By Jane Varkis and James E. Connell. Stoddart/Boston Mills Press. 272 pages. Illustrations. \$60.00 cloth.

A delight and certainly a 'must read' for all interested in Canadian clocks and clock-makers. This well-illustrated (alas black-and-white only) book surveys the making and

selling of clocks and watches from the earliest days of New France up until 1900.

## Women of Courage

*Her Story: Women from Canada's Past.* By Susan E. Merritt. Vanwell Publishing. 171 pages. Illustrations. \$14.95 paper.

As the title suggests, this book reminds young readers of the all-too-often ignored but vital role women have played throughout our history. Stories - some triumphant, some tragic - of 16 culturally diverse women celebrate their contributions to our society.

## Turning the Pages

Two recent volumes in the *Social History of Canada* series published by the University of Toronto Press might well give all Ontarians pause. They chronicle and reflect on episodes occurring elsewhere in Canada, which also had their equivalents in our own province.

*Riots in New Brunswick: Orange Nativism and Social Violence in the 1840s* by Scott W. See (\$50 cloth, \$24.00 paper) puts the lie to the common Canadian assumption that ours is a kind and gentle nation. Violence infused our past, and this study challenges us to look at it more carefully. Certainly the Orange Order also made its mark - sometimes a bloody mark - on Ontario.

*The Patriots and the People: The Rebellion of 1837 in Rural Lower Canada* by Allan Greer (\$50.00 cloth, \$18.95 paper) is essential reading for anyone who dares take a fresh look at the 1837 Rebellions. Greer contends, and demonstrates, that in Lower Canada it was not a minor, pathetic incident. It was a genuine revolution, lesser yet fully comparable to those which brought turmoil to many western nations in the first half of the last century. We all know, of course, that Upper Canada was not the same, but to what extent was it similar?

## Directory of Publishers

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## Toronto's last roundhouse will vanish

BY JANE BEECROFT,  
CHP Heritage Centre, Toronto

At its meeting on Monday, February 28, Toronto City Council voted to allow the expansion of the Metro Convention Centre located in downtown Toronto. This decision places all of the buildings of the last remaining rail roundhouse on John Street, at risk. A proposed adjoining park was also dismissed in favour of allowing 26 ventilation stacks and illumination wells, plus steps and ramps to service the underground Centre.

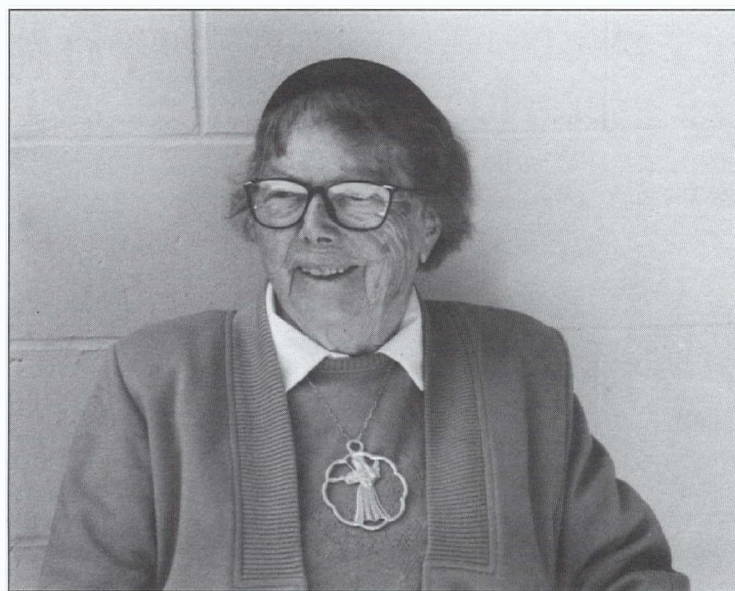
Despite cautions from the

City Solicitor concerning legal matters which still need to be settled, Council agreed to proceed. Public opposition was also solidly against the development, to be undertaken by Marathon Realty. Supporters of the development, many present at the meeting, however, swayed council members to vote for the deal.

The last remaining roundhouse will have one-third of its bays demolished and replaced with the ventilating equipment. The unique giant turntable with its apparatus for moving 400,000 pound steam engines will be removed and replaced. Some of the outbuildings will vanish

while others will be dismantled and re-assembled on their original sites. The John Street Roundhouse, however, will be unable to function because no linking rail line exists.

Former Toronto Mayor, Art Eggleton, had promised the roundhouse would function as an operating rail heritage museum, but council's decision dashed these hopes. Neither the City nor Marathon committed funds to this purpose, nor were any intentions to seek agreements regarding the museum undertaken. The last roundhouse in the Toronto region will sit derelict and then vanish altogether.



The late Jean Harding was a special friend and dedicated volunteer to the OHS. Her love of creating things by hand and her talent for teaching others has led the Society to dedicate the summer workshop to her memory. The programme, **With My Own Hands: Crafts of the First Nations and the Newcomers**, takes place at West Bay and Kagawong June 17 to 19. See page one for further details.

## AGO only Canadian venue for Barnes Foundation exhibition

The Art Gallery of Ontario has announced that **From Cézanne to Matisse: Great French Paintings from The Barnes Foundation** will be on view from September 17 to December 31. The exhibition includes 80 Impressionist, Post-Impressionist and Modernist paintings, never seen before publicly outside the Barnes Foundation in Merion, Pennsylvania.

Toronto is the only Canadian venue for this extraordinary exhibition. At the conclusion of this tour, it will never travel again. The firm of Gluskin

Sheff & Associates Inc. has donated one million dollars to the Art Gallery in direct support of the exhibition. The contribution represents the largest gift ever by a private company for a cultural event in Canada.

The Barnes Foundation was established in 1922 by the late Dr. Albert Coombs Barnes to "promote the advancement of education and the appreciation of the fine arts." However, Dr. Barnes held strong views about the display of his collection and stipulated that no loans could be made. After his death in 1951, his indenture prohibited

the paintings from travelling but a Pennsylvania court order suspended its terms to permit a one-time tour of the collection in order to raise much-needed funds for renovations and improvements to the Foundation's building.

The exhibition will be open to the public Wednesday through Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday is reserved for school groups. Tickets will go on sale to the general public on Monday, April 18. For further information, contact the Exhibition hotline at (416) 979-6600.

## Classic Theatre to be a reality

South Temiskaming will soon be served by a top quality venue for arts and cultural events, as the Classic Theatre rebuilding project makes headway.

Built in 1926, the Classic Theatre is the last of many early vaudeville and live theatres that served the northeastern Ontario area. Its days of glory, however, appeared to be numbered last year when it stood as a hollowed shell waiting for demolition.

The building has been revived due to the efforts of architect Jim Evans and theatre consultant Richard Smerdon. Smerdon was involved in the restoration of the Winter Garden Theatre in Toronto, and has offered his services to this project at a nominal fee.

Initial funding was made possible by a jobsOntario grant and

federal Section 25 monies. Many groups and individuals have also lent their financial support to the project. A fundraising committee has been established to co-ordinate the drive, and further donations are needed.

A commitment has been made by local and other government sources to restore the theatre, and make it functional, but a commitment from the public is needed to make the theatre successful. The rebuilding of the Classic Theatre is one of the most exciting projects to be undertaken in the area in many years. Help make it a reality. For further information, please contact the Cobalt Municipal Office at (705) 679-8877 or send your donations to The Classic Theatre, Box 70, Cobalt, Ontario P0J 1C0.

## Smiths Falls celebrates 200 years

To celebrate the bicentennial of the founding of Smiths Falls, Heritage House Museum is presenting the exhibition, **Smiths Falls at 200 Years: The Rise of an Eastern Ontario Town 1794 - 1994**. The exhibition takes place from May 14 to November 13.

Local author and historian, Glenn Lockwood, prepared the exhibit which follows the development of Smiths Falls from a Rideau Canal work camp to an industrial centre. Using artifacts from the museum's own collection, as well as many on loan from private sources, the exhibition tells the story of the town's rich and diverse cultural history.

The exhibition incorporates artifacts and visual documentation ranging in variety from an 1831 gravestone of a canal labourer, to locally manufactured goods from the 19th and 20th centuries, to the photograph

of a local hockey team who were Stanley Cup finalists in 1906.

As an added bonus, a gala Book Launch will take place on June 25 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Museum for the newly-published book, *Smiths Falls: A Social History of the Men and Women in a Rideau Canal Community, 1794 - 1994* by Glenn Lockwood. This special event will allow people to tour the exhibition, meet the author, purchase an autographed book

and enjoy free refreshments.

Heritage House Museum is located on Old Slys Road in Smiths Falls. For further information about hours and admission fees, contact (613) 283-8560.

### SOS Forum

The **Save Ontario Shipwrecks** Forum '94 will be held at Parry Sound, June 3 - 5 in conjunction with the West Parry Sound Museum and Georgian Bay '94 Marine Heritage Festival. Call SOS at (416) 491-2373.

## Political riding renamed

At the close of the provincial legislature on December 14, 1993, Lieutenant Governor Henry Jackman gave Royal Assent to Bill 33 - An Act to amend the Representation Act, presented by MPP Charles Beer. This act officially renames the Electoral District of York North to York-Mackenzie.

While speaking to the legislature, Beer argued that renaming the riding would more accurately reflect the area's historic

connection to responsible government in Canada, and commemorate three of its most notable political figures.

William Lyon Mackenzie found staunch support in the area from the beginning of his political career in 1828 until the failed rebellion of 1837. His grandson, Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King, sat for the federal North York riding from 1921 to 1925. Major A. A. (Lex) Mackenzie's

political career as York North's representative in the Ontario Legislature stretched from 1945 to 1967.

Beer also noted that the old name of York North is often confused with that of the City of North York, the federal riding of York North, the north of the Region of York and other York provincial ridings. The new name of York-Mackenzie will give the riding the distinction it deserves.

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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.

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