



OHS BULLETIN

34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2

Issue 101 • January - February 1996

Eat, drink and be merry at Consuming Passions

Plan to explore Ontario's food traditions at **Consuming Passions II - Feeding the Multitudes**, the OHS' Annual Conference at the Radisson Hotel Ottawa Centre on May 2, 3 and 4. Take an indepth look at eating and drinking traditions in the land that is known today as Ontario, with special attention to meals of celebration and traditional ways of providing food and beverages for large groups of people.

Mary Lou Fox, Director of

the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation on Manitoulin Island highlights celebrations and communal meals of the First Nations on Thursday evening and offers samples of First Nations fare.

Friday, May 3 examines diets and culinary traditions from the pioneers to the Victorians. A panel discussion will look at the feasts and folklore surrounding the Order of Good Cheer, The Lords of the Lakes and Forests at Table and La Cabane à Sucre.

Concurrent sessions investi-

gate both the diets of the Rideau Canal camp navies and soldiers during the War of 1812, the tradition that "Ladies, Please Provide" and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Radisson kitchens followed by a "Cold Lunch for Days of Extra Labour", taken from the 1877 *Canadian Home Cook Book*. Excellence in heritage preservation is recognized with the OHS' Honours and Awards presentations and the President's Address with Judy McGonigal.

Kathleen Walker, Food Editor of the *Ottawa Citizen* and Julian Armstrong, Food Editor of the *Montreal Gazette* discuss the rise of the printed word through cook books, newspapers and magazines. Concurrent sessions include diets at health resorts, banquets and grand dinners, visions of culinary delights

See **Eat, drink and be merry** on page 8



President of the Women's Canadian Historical Society, Doris Tucker, presented a cheque to OHS Executive Director, Dorothy Duncan, to support the restoration of the Coach House at the OHS' headquarters, the John McKenzie House. The Ontario Historical Society is very grateful to the WCHS for their generous contribution. (Photo courtesy of Jean Duff.)

Hearing on the Clendennen Cemetery to continue

The hearing on the appeal by the OHS and the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) of the provincial order to close and relocate the Clendennen Cemetery in the Town of Markham reconvened January 15 in Toronto. This appeal is already a landmark case in many respects.

For the first day and a half, the Commercial Registration Appeal Tribunal continued to hear evidence from the developer's witnesses, Dr. Ronald Williamson of Archaeological Services Inc. and Richard Unterman of Unterman McPhail Cuming Associates. The Province of Ontario and the Town of Markham had already presented their cases in November in support of the closure of this pioneer cemetery and the disinterment of

these early Markham settlers.

On the afternoon of January 16, Catherine Bray of Borden and Elliot, who has been retained by the OHS and OGS, began to present the case against the decision of the Ontario Registrar for the Cemeteries Act to close and move the Clendennen Cemetery. Catherine Bray's first witness was Dorothy Duncan, the Executive Director of the OHS. During Dorothy's testimony, affidavits from five descendants supporting the OHS and OGS were also presented to the Tribunal.

The rest of the week was consumed by cross-examination of Dorothy by the lawyers for the Province of Ontario, the Town of Markham and the developer. By Friday afternoon, Dorothy had been giving testimony for three and a half days.

The Tribunal then decided that it would take at least another two weeks to hear the other witnesses who will give evidence on behalf of the OHS and OGS and final arguments from all parties. Given the different schedules of all the interested parties, it seemed that next June would be the earliest possible time the hearing could continue.

Before the hearing adjourned, after already 11 days in session, the lawyer for the developer confirmed with the Tribunal that he would be attacking the right of the OHS and OGS to appeal the order closing the cemetery on the grounds that the corporate objectives of both the OHS and OGS did not entitle them to preserve historic sites such as the cemetery and so are not entitled to affect the private property rights of his client. The developer's lawyer made these arguments despite the fact that both the OHS and OGS are named in the regulations of the Ontario Cemeteries Act. The Tribunal set aside April 1 to hear legal arguments on this matter.

Visit to Sikh Temple highlights OHS seminar

A visit to a Sikh Temple is just one of the many highlights you will enjoy when you come to The Ontario Historical Society's seminar, **Cultural Celebrations in Ontario**, taking place on Friday, March 29 and Saturday, March 30 at our headquarters, The John McKenzie House, 34 Parkview Avenue in Willowdale.

This excellent learning opportunity explores the history, traditions and customs of many of Ontario's cultural groups and provides ideas and suggestions you can use to research, interpret and present these celebrations in your museum, historical society, school, youth group, church, community and family.

Cathy MacLeod-Beaver, Community Health Representative for Alderville First Nation, discusses First Nations celebrations and revitalization on Friday evening. Tastes of First Nations fare follow her presentation.

Joyce Lewis, Researcher of 19th century family life, begins Saturday's programme with an examination of the celebrations of Ontario's early settlers. Rosemary Sadlier, President of The Ontario Black History Society takes a look at African Canadian food traditions from the 1400s to the new millennium. Dr. Jean Burnet, author of *"Coming Canadians": An Introduction to the History of*

Canada's Peoples highlights the celebrations of the newcomers in 19th and 20th century Ontario. For some helpful tips on designing new programmes, don't miss the presentation by Dr. Gabriele Scardellato, Head of Research Programmes for The Multicultural History Society of Ontario.

Then it is all aboard the bus where you meet Ripsodhak Singh Grewal of the Ontario Gurdwaras Committee for a tour of a Sikh Temple that includes presentations, lunch and traditional music.

The registration fee for the programme, including Friday evening fare, Saturday lunch at the Sikh Temple, a kit of

resource materials and all sessions, is \$25.00 for OHS members and \$45.00 for non-members. The seminar runs from 7:00 to 9:00 Friday evening then begins at 9:30 on Saturday morning and concludes at 4:00 p.m.

As a special feature, The Ontario Historical Society will be selling a wide variety of culturally-diverse cook books, both old and new, and all at bargain-basement prices. Don't miss this opportunity to save money and add to your collection.

For further information and to register, please contact Lorraine Lowry, OHS Workshop Co-ordinator at (416) 226-9011 or fax 226-2740.

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Executive Director's report

By Dorothy Duncan,
OHS Executive Director

How Did the Old Year End?

With a flurry of preservation issues, cultural celebrations, fundraising events and cries of concern from some sectors of the heritage community. In other words, it appeared to be the best of times and the worst of times.

Despite the rumours of dire budget cuts to come, or perhaps because of them, the historic sites, community museums and heritage organizations presented a wealth of innovative and colourful programmes to celebrate the ending of an old year and the launching of a new one.

The OHS prepared for the Clendennen Cemetery appeal which reconvened from January 15 to 19, and then reconvened again until June, and also notified the Registrar of Cemeteries that we oppose the closing, disintering and moving of the burials in the MacNaughton Cemetery in the City of Vaughan.

We were pleased to support

the Ontario Black History Society and many other historical and cultural organizations in appealing to the Council of Holland Township to retain the name of Negro Creek Road, thus ensuring that the presence of Black pioneers in the area is remembered.

Representatives of the OHS, both Board and staff, attended fundraising strategy meetings in many parts of Ontario to support our members and ensure that projects and programmes in the planning stages or partially completed will not be jeopardized because of changes in provincial priorities.

So What Does 1996 Hold?

Those museums and historical societies that have, in the past, received support funding from the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, received letters from the Honourable Marilyn Mushinski in December informing them of decreases to the programme of 9.8 percent and 25 percent respectively. The 13

provincial associations, of which the OHS is one, received a letter indicating that the provincial programme will be cut by 40.5 percent, but how that will affect each organization is unclear, as some of the provincial organizations receive as little as 6 percent, while others receive as much as 90 percent of their annual operating budgets from the province.

In direct contrast to the declining support from the Province, the public that we serve has never been more interested in heritage and history. Our three telephone lines ring continually, our postwoman delivers a great load of requests for service daily and we all - Board members, staff and volunteers - struggle to keep up with the demand.

Yes, these may be challenging times for all of us working in the heritage community, but if we can tap that tremendous public interest and turn it into support, either money or manpower, this year ahead can indeed be the best of times.

Happy New Year!



The 1837 *Rebellion Remembered* went to Tasmania when John Carter of Toronto presented a copy of the OHS publication to Alison Melrose, Curator of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. (Photo courtesy of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.)

Information wanted

Handmade cloth books

Ruth Brown Johnson of Toronto is looking for family handmade cloth books for children made in Canada for a juried exhibition taking place later this

year. If you are interested in loaning your old handmade family cloth book for the exhibit or making new children's cloth books, please contact Ruth at (416) 691-7898.

Oshawa Railway

The Bowmanville Museum is looking for information on the Oshawa Railway for an upcoming special edition of the Museum's journal *The Belvedere*. The author, Clayton Morgan, is interested in old photos, archival documents and reminiscences, and any anecdotes to add a more personal note to the book. If you can help, please contact Curator Charles Taws at the Museum, Box 188, Bowmanville, Ontario L1C 3K9, (905) 623-2734.

Berrienger Brake

The TTJ 2G technology class at Ecole Secondaire Chapleau High School is restoring, in co-operation with the Ministry of Natural Resources, a Berrienger Brake, a logging implement used to haul heavy loads up and down steep grades. The brake is currently a part of the MNR's exhibit at Wakami Provincial Park. The School would like any information, in English or French, about the use, purpose and original design and materials of the machine. In addition, information about the required restoration procedures would be useful. Contact G. Fugan at the School, Box 880, Chapleau, Ontario P0M 1K0.

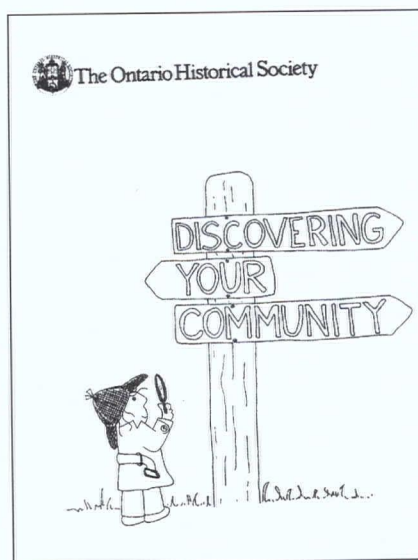
Our featured publication

Looking for some innovative and exciting ideas to get young people interested in your community's history? The OHS has an excellent resource that can provide all the help you need.

Discovering Your Community contains a host of activities and suggestions for developing local history projects. Topics include family history, the natural environment, structures, food, clothing, artifacts, transportation and communication and crafts and industries. Make history relevant by showing how it happens right in your own backyard.

Discovering Your Community comes in a bilingual edition or English only, and costs \$25.00 if you pick it up at our office and events or \$30.00 through the mail. To order your copy, contact the OHS at 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011 or fax 226-2740. Make your cheques payable to The Ontario Historical Society.

Our **Discover Your Community** workshop series is based on this resource, so plan to come to one of the programmes taking place near you to learn more about using local history. The registration fee includes a copy of the publication. For further information on the workshops, see page 4.



Theresa Thompson of Toronto was the lucky winner of the first prize in the OHS' "Be a Partner in Parkview" Lucky Draw. Theresa won the double bed star pattern quilt and came into our office for the presentation of her prize. The circular leather shield went to Lucy Banfield of Kingston. Barbara Kane of Willowdale won the large dream catcher and Robert Surtees of North Bay got the fur lined and trimmed moccasins. All prizes were generously donated by Mary Lou Fox, Director of the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation, West Bay First Nation, Manitoulin Island. (Photo courtesy of Dorothy Duncan.)



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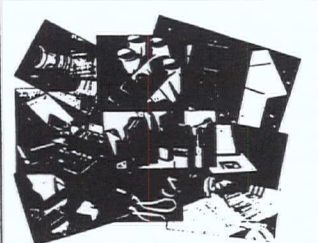
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1996-97

Across the Province

By Jane Errington, Chair,
Local Societies Committee and
Dorothy Duncan, OHS
Executive Director

The **Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association** will host the 1996 Local History Workshop on April 27 at the All Seasons Motel in Haileybury with sessions on 100 Years of Swedish Settlement in Temiskaming, Thomas Edison's Mine at Latchford and Matabitchewan Dam and Power Plant. Contact Bruce Taylor at (705) 647-6558 for further information.

The much-needed expansion of the **Little Current-Howland Centennial Museum** at Sheguiandah on Manitoulin Island began last fall and will be completed in March. Support came from all three levels of government and was combined with donated labour and materials and donations from the private sector.

March 1 is the deadline for the **American Association for State and Local History** awards. Contact Sheila Stevenson, Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3A6, (902) 429-4610 for details.

The **Aurora and District Historical Society's** awards to the best students in the study of Canadian history went to David Reed at Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School and Andrea Tutkaluk, Aurora High School.

And speaking of awards, Jim Clemens, Treasurer of **The Ontario Historical Society** presented the Simcoe Medal for outstanding achievement to Carrie Davidson at the Simcoe Composite School Commencement Exercises in November.

The **Lincoln and Continental Owners Club** will sponsor the 6th annual Great North American Land Yacht Regatta in Victoria Park in Cobourg August 9 to 11. For details on this uniquely Canadian event, contact (416) 461-6032.

George Rawlyk, a leading Canadian historian, teacher and author passed away in November. His article in *Maclean's* magazine, "God is alive. Most Canadians are committed Christians" was based on a survey of 6000 Canadians and their attitudes to religion.

Congratulations to both the **Museum of Textiles** in Toronto and the **Ontario Marine Heritage Committee** in Tobermory for celebrating their 20th anniversaries.

The Conservation Unit of the **Archives of Ontario** offers free

conservation advice clinics every other Tuesday by appointment. For further information or an appointment, call (416) 327-1521 or 1522 or toll-free 1-800-668-9933, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Congratulations to several historical societies on launching new books in recent months: the **Waterloo Historical Society** published *Waterloo Township Through Two Centuries* by Elizabeth Bloomfield; **The Township of Tiny Historical and Heritage Committee** released *Recollections: Township of Tiny*; the **Guelph Historical Society** published *Historic Guelph: The Royal City*; the **Weston Historical Society** launched *Memories of Weston, Volume I, A Collection of Essays* and *Volume II, Christmas Remembered*, at a gala party with many of the authors reading from their works; and the **Milton Historical Society's Milton Area Biographies** was launched in October.

Charles Garrad, well-known and highly-respected Executive Director of **The Ontario Archaeological Society** will enter a new phase of his career on March 1 when he leaves the OAS after 16 years of service. Charles, a life member of the OHS, has made an invaluable contribution to our Society, as well, and our wishes go with him in his new endeavours.

Charles Sauriol, often known as Mr. Conservation, passed away in December and will be sorely missed not only in the conservation community, but in the historical and cultural communities, as well. The OHS has a few copies of his last book for sale, *Pioneers of the Don* at the special price of \$10.00 each if you pick it up at our office or \$15.00 through the mail.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation recently announced that the Beley House in Brockville has been sold and that the Cartwright House in Kingston will also be offered for sale. Both properties are protected with heritage conservation easement agreements, and the Foundation will transfer the Cartwright and McLeod families' antique furniture and memorabilia, as well as the archaeological artifacts found in excavations to a local heritage institution.

Scott James, Managing Director of the **Toronto Historical Board** since 1984, retired in December. George

Waters, who has served the THB in several capacities, including Deputy Director, assumed the position of Acting Managing Director, bringing with him a wealth of experience in heritage matters in the City of Toronto.

The **Grimsby Art Gallery** is planning an exhibition of Historical Painters of Niagara from December 8, 1996 to January 5, 1997. If you can provide information about landscapes or portraits by local, 19th or early 20th century artists, contact Mary Rashleigh at (905) 945-3246.

The **Milton Historical Society** is making a \$1000.00 donation to help restore the Pioneer Cemetery on Bronte Street. With this kind of leadership from the historical society, other groups are encouraged to donate to the \$9000.00 project, as well. Members of the Society are looking forward to the March 21 meeting when a new play created by the **Mississauga South Historical Society** gives Laura Secord an opportunity to attend. Contact Box 85, Milton L9T 2Y3 for details.

The **Niagara History Guild** in New York is sponsoring a series of evening lectures at **Old Fort Niagara** including "The Burning of Niagara" on February 28, "Interpreting 18th Century History through Contemporary Art" on March 27 and "For Want of a Nail" on April 24. Call (716) 745-7611 for reservations.

The **Curve Lake First Nation** officially opened a Small Business Centre in November. Co-operatively funded by the federal and provincial governments and the community, it includes six stores, the Feather and Wolf Gallery, the Anigawncig Institute training centre, health and police services and the Dream Catchers Cafe.

Interested in circus posters? Then plan to attend the Peterborough Exhibition on August 16 when Jack Williams of the **Smith Township Historical Society** will show his magnificent poster collection.

The **Muskoka Heritage Foundation's** Heritage Resource Centre at 11A Thomas Street in Bracebridge is open to visitors all winter. A feasibility study is currently underway to determine if a Green Store should be opened at that location in the spring. If you are in the area, drop in and comment.

The **Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society** is celebrating the successful move of the Museum to the newly-renovated building at 425 Donald Street East in Thunder Bay. Built in 1912 as a police station and courthouse it was heralded as one of the finest in North America with a unique "automatic elevator" and is now designated under the Ontario Heritage Act as an historic structure. For information about upcoming events and programmes, call (807) 623-0801.

The **Northwestern Ontario**

President's message

By Judy McGonigal,
OHS President

Every picture tells a story. That is one of the reasons why, during 1996, I have resolved to sort, identify and label our collection of family photographs. Both my parents were amateur photographers who developed and printed their own films, generating more than the usual volume of snapshots documenting family activities and antics.

Many of us do have collections of memories captured on film; the images often have connections with special occasions - a marriage, graduation, birthday or holiday celebration. Others reflect everyday events. One of my favourite photographs is a 1940's image of my

grandmother, captured in front of the barn in her well-worn tweed coat with a tin pail of freshly picked tomatoes tucked under her arm. One look at that snapshot makes me a child again, and I remember how much fun it was to spend summers on that farm, to ride the horses, and to swing back and forth on the barnyard gate.

Older photographs, formal studio portraits of stern faced, almost forgotten ancestors have a less immediate connection. And, as the years pass, the details associated with their images blur, and in time may disappear.

So, this is the year to revisit the past as depicted in family photographs, and to record the information that will accompany them into the future.



Marion Kane, Food Editor of the *Toronto Star* has been a generous contributor of cook books to our annual Cook Book Caper sale. She will also be a featured speaker at our annual conference, Consuming Passions taking place May 2, 3 and 4 in Ottawa. See page 1 for details. (Photo courtesy of Robert Leverty.)

Sports Hall of Fame will be using the Museum's former building at 219 South May Street as new quarters as soon as renovations are finished.

The contributions and accomplishments of the **London and Middlesex Historical Society** will be the focus of an exhibit in the History Highlights Gallery of the **London Regional Art and Historical Museums (LRAHM)** from April 13 to September 8. "Beginnings: The London and Middlesex Society Collection" looks at the many unique and valuable artifacts and documents collected by members of the Society since 1901. Today, they form part of three collections: LRAHM, the University of

Western Ontario and the London Public Library.

The celebration of February as Black History Month in Canada was kicked off with a Brunch and Meet the Author and Artist Programme at the Somewhere Else restaurant in Toronto in January by the **Ontario Black History Society**. As well as a series of events this month, the Society is hosting a Conference in May in Toronto and is also selling a poster, "Contributing Towards the Millennium" to mark the 70th anniversary of the celebration of Black history in North America. Contact OBHS, Suite 202, 10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto M5C 1J3, (416) 867-9420 for details.

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**SILVANO VIDONI
PRESIDENT**

Upcoming Events

March: Many museums and historic sites across the province are presenting special March Break programmes for young people. Contact your local site for information on its activities. The following is just a sampling of the events taking place. Be sure to contact the individual site for dates, times, fees and age groups. The Gibson House at 5172 Yonge Street in North York is hosting **March Break Adventures**. Contact (416) 395-7432. Montgomery's Inn provides **Nineteenth Century Pastimes**. Contact the site at 4709 Dundas Street West in Etobicoke, (416) 394-8113. The Markham District Historical Museum at 9350 Highway 48 sponsors **March Break Extravaganza**. Contact (905) 294-4590. The Toronto Historical Board's Historic Fort York invites young people to take part in **March Break Time Machine** with fun activities focusing on Toronto's history. Contact the THB at (416) 392-6827. The Peel Heritage Complex can help keep your child busy with a variety of activities in its **March Break** programme. Contact the Complex at 9 Wellington Street East in Brampton, (905) 451-9051.

March: The North Bay Area Museum presents the exhibition **The Barbed Wire Solution: Ukrainians and Canada's First Internment Operations 1914-1920**, exploring the social, economic and political circumstances that led to Canada's first use of the War Measures Act. Contact the Museum at 171 Main Street West, (705) 476-2323.

March-May: Dozens of music boxes in all shapes, sizes and sounds are featured in the Markham District Historical Museum's exhibit, **Music in a Box**, on display until May 26. The exhibition showcases an eclectic selection of boxes, as well as early radios and phonographs from the Museum's collection. Contact the Museum at 9350 Highway 48, (905) 294-4590.

March 5: Ralph Magel of the Newmarket Historical Society is the featured speaker at the next Lloydtown Rebellion Association meeting taking place at the Schomberg Library at 8:00 p.m. Magel discusses **Lieutenant**

Governor John Graves Simcoe and the Heritage of Yonge Street. Contact (905) 939-7670.

March 27: The Oxford Historical Society's general meeting features a talk on **Early Firearms**. The meeting takes place at 7:30 p.m. at the Woodstock Museum. Contact the Society at Box 1092, Woodstock N4S 8P6 or the Resource Centre at the Oxford County Library, (519) 421-1700.

April 6, 7, 8: Spring officially arrives on Easter weekend at The Gibson House. Step into the historic kitchen and savour the aroma as seasonal pies and puddings are prepared over the hearth. Enjoy tastes, learn how plants were used to make spring tonics and tour the House with a costumed interpreter. Contact The Gibson House at 5172 Yonge Street in North York, (416) 395-7432.

April 20, 21: The Wellington County Museum and Archives in Fergus is hosting a series of **Art Workshops** during 1996. The first one features watercolour painting of Spring florals and landscapes with Margaret Roseman. For a full brochure, contact the Museum at R. R. #1, Fergus N1M 2W3, (519) 846-0916.

May 11, 12: 1996 marks the 200th anniversary of the death of Col. John Butler, the leader of Butler's Rangers, the military unit that defended Upper Canada during the American Revolution. To mark the event, the Col. John Butler Bicentenary Committee has organized two days of commemorative events to take place in Niagara-on-the-Lake and St. Catharines. Contact the Committee at 50 Beverly Cr., Welland L3C 3P8, (905) 732-2274.

What do spiders, spurtles and girdles have in common?

They were all utensils used in the 18th and 19th century kitchen! To find out more, come to the workshop, **Out of the Frying Pan, Into the Fire** taking place on Saturday, March 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the London Public Library, 305 Queens Avenue.

This programme, presented by The Ontario Historical Society, explores survival foods, camp fare and changing traditions and technology during the 1750-1850 period in the land that became known as Ontario. Through illustrated presenta-

tions, samples and examples and a research workshop, culinary customs are brought to life.

Workshop leaders Jeanne Hughes, former Curator of Black Creek Pioneer Village; Bev Hykel, former Supervisor of Programmes for Montgomery's Inn, Etobicoke and Dorothy Duncan, OHS Executive Director and Country Fare editor, *Century Home* examine the utensils used during the period, methods of preparation, ingredients and recipes. Sharing of ideas for programmes, projects and research is also stressed.

The registration fee is \$20.00 for Society members and \$40.00 for non-members, and includes a kit of resource materials, samples and a Traveller's Lunch. As a special feature, the OHS will be selling a wide selection of historic cook books, at bargain basement prices. Don't miss this opportunity to save money and add to your collection.

For further information and to register, please contact Lorraine Lowry, OHS Workshop Co-ordinator at (416) 226-9011 or fax 226-2740 or Mark Walsh in London at (519) 661-4539.

Capitalize on your local history

The Ontario Historical Society can show you how unique and exciting your own community's history is at the workshop, **Discover Your Community** on Tuesday, April 16 at our headquarters, the John McKenzie House, 34 Parkview Avenue in Willowdale. The programme begins at 5:00 p.m. and concludes at 9:00.

Dorothy Duncan, OHS Executive Director, heads up a team of speakers who focus on assisting teachers, youth lead-

ers, parents, museums curators and historical society workers in designing interesting and exciting programmes for young people based on your own community and its unique history. The workshop is based on the OHS' resource binder, *Discovering Your Community*.

Sessions will concentrate on looking right in your own backyard for an abundance of ideas for local history projects, how to use your community's own rich history to interest young

people, tips on fundraising in tough times using your programmes and some examples for turning local history into living history.

The registration fee is \$25.00 and includes a light supper, a kit of resource materials and a copy of *Discovering Your Community* (either English or bilingual).

For further information and to register, please contact Lorraine Lowry, OHS Workshop Co-ordinator at (416) 226-9011 or fax 226-2740.

Hometown History ready soon

As reported in the last issue of the *OHS Bulletin*, we noted that the OHS was preparing Phase II of our resource binder, *Hometown History - Highlighting Your Heritage*. Six new papers have been written, the topics ranging from outreach programming, planning for a special event, museums and the common curriculum, tips of basic bookkeeping, including ethnocultural groups in local his-

tory and producing effective publicity materials.

The Society will be launching these new papers at our seminar, Cultural Celebrations in Ontario, taking place at our headquarters on March 29 and 30. We will have the papers available at all our events throughout the province, so if you are not able to come to the seminar, be sure to visit us when we are in your area. You can also order the new papers through the mail and we will

ship them to you at no charge.

Hometown History, launched in 1992, is a series of information leaflets providing advice and expertise on a wide variety of heritage-related topics. One complimentary copy is available to all heritage and cultural organizations and institutions in Ontario. For further information on this excellent resource, contact the OHS at 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011 or fax 226-2740.

Birdwatching and Wildflowers

- ♦ Pelee Island ♦ Manitoulin Island
- ♦ Shipsands Island ♦ Walpole Island



Van excursions from Toronto subway.
For trip schedule, call George Bryant at
Natural History Tours
(416) 223-6922 or
1-800-371-7779

House and Garden Tour

- ♦ Join us this spring for our third annual House and Garden Tour of the historic Brandywine area of southern Pennsylvania and Delaware.
- ♦ Two hundred years of history, from 1640 to 1840, is yours to discover at the Winterthur museum of decorative arts. Here you will be guided in small groups of 8 by professional curatorial staff.
- ♦ With over 90,000 items on permanent display in period room settings, it is one of four incredible days on this tour.
- ♦ Stroll through the landscaped gardens of Longwood and Nemours. The 18th century village of Odessa is also included on this exceptional tour.
- ♦ Package includes four nights accommodation, transportation by coach to Amish country, all entrance fees, continental breakfasts and one lunch.
- ♦ Tour departs May 13, 1996 and returns on the 17th. **Limited space available.**

Call today for more details: Stephen, Hisey and Associates Ltd. 1-800-201-9588

Upcoming OHS Workshops and Seminars

DATE	WORKSHOP	LOCATION
March 2, 3	Archival Management and Practice: An Introduction	Willowdale
March 29	Out of the Frying Pan, Into the Fire	London
March 29, 30	Cultural Celebrations in Ontario	Willowdale
April 16	Discover Your Community	Willowdale
April 25	Heritage Gardening Today: A Symposium Celebrating the Life of John Bradshaw	Willowdale
May 25	Discover Your Community	Warren
May 31	ABC's of Collections Management	Hamilton

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

The cemeteries of Yonge Street

By Marjorie Stuart, Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society and OHS Member

In celebration of the 200th birthday of Yonge Street, the world's longest street, the *OHS Bulletin* will be highlighting the cemeteries along Yonge in our 1996 issues. We begin with the first section in what is now Metropolitan Toronto, which eventually connected the Town of York with Lake Simcoe. Besides providing a better link with the naval base at Penetanguishene, the stretch also opened the area to development and with that came pioneers from different countries.

Their burial markers stand as silent sentinels and perhaps as we celebrate the world's longest birthday party, we should consider a visit to local cemeteries along the route of this important thoroughfare.

Potter's Field

(also known as York General or Strangers Burial Ground)

A six acre tract located on what is today the northwest corner of Yonge and Bloor Streets, Potter's Field was founded in 1826 for those who did not belong to the established churches. There were more than 6000 burials by the time it was closed in 1855. Most were moved to The Toronto Necropolis and Section K in Mount Pleasant Cemetery is dedicated to many who were moved there after it opened in 1876.

St. Michael's Cemetery

This cemetery is located behind the southwest corner of Yonge Street and St. Clair Avenue.

Established in 1855, this cemetery was recently restored and has a fine example of a dead house.

Mount Pleasant Cemetery

Founded in 1876, this cemetery has many interesting mausoleums and statues within its park-like setting. It is a world renowned arboretum. The trees, many of them rare species, are labelled with their common as well as botanical names.

St. John's Church Cemetery (York Mills)

St. John's was the first Anglican church established outside the Town of York. Land for the church and cemetery was donated by Joseph Shepard in 1816. It is possible there were earlier burials as the first recorded is that of George Van Nostrand who died in 1806.

Forest Lawn Mausoleum

This cemetery was a new concept in public entombment when established in 1912. The interior is of Italian marble and many of the areas have stained glass windows.

York Cemetery

This relatively new cemetery was established in 1948 on the former farm of Michael Shephard whose lovely old house remains on the grounds. It is the final resting place of many who have recently arrived in Canada. The greenhouses are worthy of a visit, where there was a superb Christmas display of poinsettias. Plan to visit their greenhouses in mid-March to see their array of spring blossoms.

Cummer Burial Grounds

The Johnson family donated the cemetery property located on Yonge Street south of Finch Avenue in 1834. It adjoined land which Jacob Cummer gave to the community for a church. This cemetery was perhaps already in use as a Lawrence Johnson was buried there in 1811.

What is history?

By Terry Crowley, Editor, *Ontario History*

The nature of history is not easily defined because all sorts of people clamour to appropriate the subject for their own purposes.

When I was a graduate student nearly three decades ago, university faculty had a clear response to what history was; history, instructors taught, was simply what professionals like themselves did. Anything else was of no consequence; anything else was lesser, if regarded at all.

The concept of history that animated the founders of The

Ontario Historical Society and *Ontario History* nearly a century ago was much broader, more democratic in spirit. Those people thought that the province's history was not only about kings and queens and crazy things, but about people just like themselves.

That we have today returned to that concept of our past is revealed in the March 1996 issue of *Ontario History*. Archaeologist Ronald Williamson asks us to question the traditional contrast between prehistory and history in an engaging article about digging history - literally! Another article explores the role

that political parties played in integrating Jewish immigrants in early 20th-century Toronto. As well, Mary Vipond takes us to the beginning of the electric era with an account of what people listened to on the radio in the 1930's, a piece that is bound to rekindle memories among some of our readers. Finally, a short note asks: whatever happened to the English in Ontario's history?

History today, then, is the many things that reveal our diversity. Look at the March issue of *Ontario History* to consider the question of what history is.

Welcome new members

The Ontario Historical Society welcomes the following new members:

Concord: The Atlas Corporation
Gravenhurst: Cyril and Marion Fry
Mississauga: Gary Johnson
North York: Ruth Johnson, Silvano Vidoni
Oakville: Claudette Shaw, Heidi Timm
Oshweken: Chiefswood
Ottawa: David Calverley
Picton: Macaulay Heritage Park
Puslinch: Robert and Barbara Good

Richmond Hill: Lauren Steckley (Town of Richmond Hill)
Stouffville: Trevor Watson
Stratford: Gretchen Fuller
Thornhill: Sherri Lynn Feltham, Mary Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Martindale
Toronto: Barbara Castro
Willowdale: George Bryant, Valdi Inkens, Mrs. G. Spiess

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:

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Laura Suchan
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Janet Watt
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Randall White
The Archives in My Attic, Willowdale
Janis A. Barlow Planning and Project Management, Toronto
Canada's National History Society, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada Trust's Friends of the Environment Programme, Willowdale
Fitz-Henri Fine Foods, North York
Frank and Ted Bennett, Auctioneers, Unionville
George D. Bryant Enterprises Ltd., Willowdale
Great North Artists Management Inc.
Lincoln and Continental Owners Club, Toronto
Sunrise Kitchens, Keewatin
Versatel Corporate Services Limited, Don Mills
Women's Canadian Historical Society, Toronto

Dorothy Duncan Trust Fund
Leota and Edwin Bennett

Ontario History Endowment Fund
Elizabeth Arthur

OHF provincial plaque programme now cost-sharing

asked to contribute \$2500.00 towards their project, an amount equal to half the total cost of producing the plaque.

Groups which cannot afford to contribute, however, may apply for an exemption from this matching-funds requirement. The plaque approval process has been restructured to ensure that the adjudication committee will have no knowl-

edge of which applications include a commitment to cost-sharing until it has judged the provincial interest of the plaque and ranked the proposals.

For further information, please contact the Programme Co-ordinator, Paul Litt at 10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3, (416) 314-4913.

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- ◆ **Historical Research**
(See "Starting From Scratch" and "Upper Canada in the Making" in *Horizon Canada*, Vol. 2, # 22 and 23.)
- ◆ **Family History**
(See *OGS Seminar '85*, pp. 26-32.)
- ◆ **Corporate and Advertising History**
(See *DCB*, Vol. XIII, Cowan and McCormick biographies.)
- ◆ **Heritage Product Marketing Research**
(See "Marketing Food" in *Consuming Passions*, OHS, 1990.)
- ◆ **Built Environment and Cultural Landscape Analysis**

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Museum News

Amherstburg Bicentennial capital works project underway



In celebration of the 200th birthday of the Town of Amherstburg, the municipality has undertaken to restore its second oldest building, the Gordon House built in 1798. (Photo courtesy of Mary Guthrie.)

By Mary A. Guthrie,
Subcommittee Chairperson

1996 is the 200th birthday of Fort Malden National Historic Site and the site of the Town of Amherstburg which grew up around it. Many celebrations are planned throughout the year, and to mark the occasion in a permanent way, the municipality has undertaken to restore its second oldest building.

The Gordon House was built in 1798 by Scottish merchant George Sharp. It is a two-and-a-half storey, Georgian centre hall home of timber frame and brick infill construction, set next to the Detroit River, and in its day was likely the grandest house in the town. Its second owner was rope walk operator William Mills, who died of war wounds in 1813. Mills' executor, James Gordon, after whom the house is named, purchased it from the

estate in 1817 and owned it until 1851. Because it had been damaged by the Americans during their occupation of Amherstburg, Gordon filed damage claims with the British Government which still survive and provide many details about the house.

Its last owner threatened the house with demolition in 1982, but the Town of Amherstburg intervened and in 1987, after expropriation proceedings, moved it 200 yards north to its present location. It was designated by the LACAC in 1988.

About two years ago, the Town of Amherstburg began planning its Bicentennial celebrations. At the same time, the federal government offered its Infrastructure Programme, a possible tenant for the building was found and a group of interested volunteers was formed, providing all of the elements required for a successful restoration pro-

ject. The architect and contractor were selected, and cleanup began in mid-October 1995. Work is slated for completion on March 31, 1996.

Restored to the early Gordon era, the Gordon House will be home to the Visitor Centre for the H.M.S. Detroit Project. This local group of volunteers is planning to reconstruct the British Navy's Great Lakes flagship H.M.S. Detroit. The Gordon House's location affords a great opportunity for the Project's interpretation and educational facility, as well as revenue-generating activities such as a gift shop and tea room. The public opening is scheduled for April 28, 1996.

To make a donation to the Gordon House restoration, or for further information about it and other Bicentennial events, contact Nancy Shaw at (519) 736-1421.

'Museum in the Square' opens

By Cliff Jones,
Brant County Museum

In a move designed to increase public awareness and fight space limitations, the Brant County Museum and Archives opened a new exhibition gallery in Brantford's Eaton Market Square Mall on November 4, 1995. Over 500 watched as Harrison Scheak cut the ribbon and Ruth Lefler, President, declared the Museum in the Square officially open.

"This has been an exciting challenge that will allow us to better serve our community", she observed.

The Museum in the Square project is seen as an opportunity to bring the museum to the people and to contribute to the revitalization of Brantford's downtown. The gallery features displays from the museum's extensive local history collections. An area has been reserved for travelling exhibitions, and a mini-theatre, museum shop and work and storage areas complete the layout. An added attraction is a selection of artifacts from the

Harrison M. Scheak Collection, donated to the museum in 1993.

Mr. Scheak, an 88-year-old retired chemical engineer, was looking for an appreciative home for his collection of North American, European and Asian artifacts. Highlights include textiles, wood carvings, china, pewter, paintings, armour and European and Asian furniture, featuring an Italian marriage chest and a rare English court cupboard.

The project was partially funded by the Brant Community Futures Development Corporation and Laing Properties Management, as well as Hooton Security Systems, Home Hardware Stores - Paint Divisions, Co-operators Insurance Company and local businesses and individuals.

The Brant Historical Society, which operates the Museum and Archives, is currently searching for a new home to relieve its present cramped and outdated quarters. Negotiations are underway with the City of Brantford to make use of the vacant Carnegie Library building.

Ontario Agricultural Museum caught in government cutbacks

On November 29, 1995, as part of the Provincial Government's Economic Statement, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs announced its intentions to close the Ontario Agricultural Museum in Milton, effective March 31, 1997. The Museum will be open on a limited basis for the 1996 season, with reduced staff and an expected 50 percent reduction in operating budget.

As of the November statement, the government had no plans for the Museum's extensive collection, which is the result of generous donations from the people of Ontario and corporations including John Deere, Massey-Harris-Ferguson, International Harvester, Cockshutt, Ford and Canada Packers. Since the Museum began developing in the

late 1960's, more than 1500 donors have contributed to a collection of 30 buildings, 15,000 artifacts and 3000 cubic feet of archival material with more than 7000 rare and reference books. Many of these resources are irreplaceable.

The Museum's Curator of Collections, Peter Ledwith, says that the plans to close the Museum violate the trust placed in the Province by these donors, who believed that the Museum would be the most appropriate and secure resting place for their heirlooms.

In response to the pending closure, Ontario's Rural Heritage Preservation Committee (ORHPC) has been formed to discuss options for the future of the Museum. Twenty-five people

representing a wide cross-section of the province's rural landscape met in Guelph in December and unanimously passed a motion to devote their efforts to preserving the site, buildings, artifacts, programmes and archives. The motion will be one of the items on the agenda of a larger public meeting the Committee plans to organize this Spring. Acting Chair of ORHPC, George Underwood, stresses that the committee is willing to consider all possible options for the ownership and operation of the Museum.

For further information, please contact Peter Ledwith at the Ontario Agricultural Museum, (905) 878-8151 or George Underwood at (519) 335-3579.

Please note!

Museums Advisor John Carter will be taking a seven month educational leave (January-August 1996) from the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation. He will be working on the completion of his doctoral thesis at the Museum Studies Department, University of Leicester in England.

Welcome Karen Vanden Brink

The OHS Bulletin welcomes new Museum News page editor, Karen Vanden Brink. Starting with this issue, Karen provides us with the news and issues concerning Ontario's museum community. Send your information and story ideas to Karen Vanden Brink, Stratford-Perth Museum, 182 King Street, Stratford N5A 4S1, (519) 271-5311.

Milton Historical Society responds

With the announcement of the proposed closure of the Ontario Agricultural Museum in Milton last November, the Milton Historical Society responded by passing a resolution at its December meeting protesting the decision.

In a letter to Premier Mike Harris, it was resolved that:

The Milton Historical Society strongly protests the closing of the Ontario

Agricultural Museum without assurance that the collection of artifacts, the reference library and archival material, built up over a 20 year period, will continue in provincial ownership and be protected and accessible to present and future generations of the Province of Ontario whose citizens have paid for the development and maintenance of this resource.



Local dignitaries look on as Harrison M. Scheak cuts the ribbon opening the Brant Historical Society's "Museum in the Square". (Photo courtesy of Cliff Jones.)

CLEAR PAST ENTERPRISES

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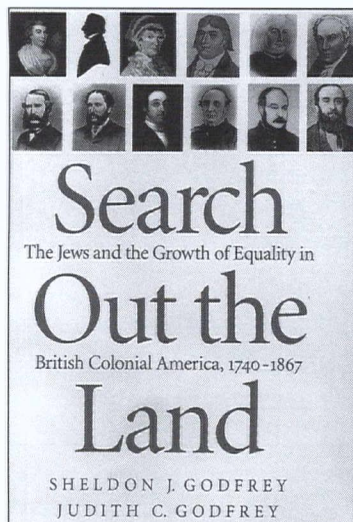
From the Bookshelf

By Pat and Chris Raible,
Editors

Old New Year

The Old Farmer's 1996 Almanac: Special Canadian Edition. By Robert B. Thomas. Old Farmer's Almanac. 224 pages. Illustrations. \$3.99 paper.

The ads are all American, but a surprising portion of the content is not — there are articles on Canadian inventions, British women who married Canadian World War II soldiers, Ontario dowsers and the mysteries of curling.



This Land, Whose Land?

Search Out the Land: The Jews and the Growth of Equality in British Colonial America, 1740-1867. By Sheldon J. and Judith Godfrey. McGill-Queens University Press. 432 pages. Illustrations. \$34.95 cloth.

Jews cannot hold land in this province, Upper Canada Chief Justice Elmsley ruled in 1798. Interpretations of British law and instructions given local administrators varied considerably among the various British colonies. This study of the previously ignored early Jewish immigrant experience with the law and its application (not simply with anti-Semitic attitudes) reveals the extraordinary and essential role Jews played in this nation's evolution toward full political and civil liberties. Required reading for all who care about religious freedom and how we as Canadians came by it.

Canada Dry

Whisky and Ice: The Saga of Ben Kerr, Canada's Most Daring Rumrunner. By C. W. Hunt. Dundurn Press. 200 pages. Illustrations. \$16.99 paper.

Centuries-old traditions of cross-border smuggling reached their zenith in the 1920's when Canadian whisky could be legally produced and exported, but only illegally imported or sold. Rival bootleggers in powerful speedcraft crisscrossed Lake Ontario. In 1929, the body of one leader, Ben Kerr washed ashore near Colborne. Here is the lively story of his notorious career and the solving of the mystery of his death.

Ontario Awash

Ninety Fathoms Down: Canadian Stories of the Great Lakes. By Mark Bourrie. Hounslow Press (Dundurn

Group). 208 pages. Illustrations. \$17.99 paper.

A completely Canadian perspective on Great Lakes history, with a lively retelling of tales of battles, rescue missions, fires and shipwrecks. The author uses his reporter's nose for a good story and artist's eye for detail to relate many fascinating examples of human compassion, aggression, courage and error, all on the waters of Ontario's inland seas.

Memories of Cayuga: Ontario's Love Boat Carole M. Lidgold. 148 pages. Illustrations. \$14.95 paper.

For the first half of this century the Cayuga cruised Lake Ontario, carrying its passengers on unforgettable voyages, at least according to these recorded memories. Some of the ship's artifacts have been preserved in Toronto's Marine Museum, and this compilation of nostalgia will be cherished by everyone who ever went aboard.

Truly Blue

Right Turn: How the Tories Took Ontario. By Christina Blizzard. Dundurn Press. 200 pages. Illustrations. \$18.99 paper.

The Tory takeover of our province was so recent and its repercussions so current that it barely qualifies as history. A *Toronto Sun* reporter watched it all up close, then wrote this narrative of the astounding success of that revolution from the right. The events were recorded while memories were comparatively clear and myth making barely begun. How the tale will be treated a decade (or a century) from now we may all wonder.

Discover Ontario

County Roads. By Terry Culbert. General Store Publishing House. 225 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 paper.

All fans of video journalist Culbert's features on Global Television will welcome this preserving of many of his best stories in book form. At a time when pessimism pervades our province, these up-beat stories of people all over the province offer a refreshing contrast to much we see and hear in the news.

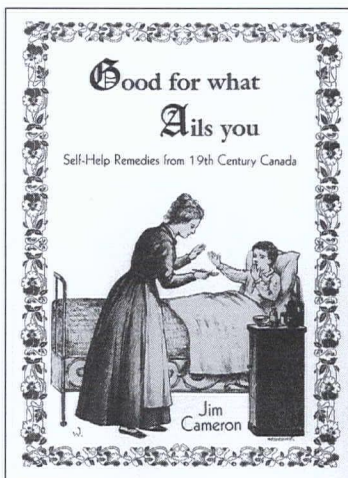
Beyond the Distaff

Her Story II. By Susan Merritt. Vanwell Publishing. 172 pages. Illustrations. \$ 14.95 paper.

Susan Merritt continues her highlighting of the important part women have played in our country's history. Each of these 16 stories is set in context, with details about time and place. Here we see trail-blazing pioneer women, First Nations women, leaders in education, politics, medicine, science and art. Aimed particularly at young people, this book can surely anticipate a wider appeal.

Home Healing

Good for What Ails You: Self-help Remedies from 19th Century Canada. By Jim Cameron. General Store Publishing House. 220 pages. Illustrations. \$17.95 paper.



A wonderful compilation of remedies, patent medicines and practical advice culled from books, pamphlets and newspapers. Need a cure for piles, catarrh, dropsy or the itch? Look no further! Whatever the ill, there was a remedy: gunpowder and tallow, chimney soot, turpentine or a concoction of onions, tobacco and salt mixed in equal parts, to name just a few. This catalog of ills and their remedies (many of which were efficacious, apparently) give us insight into a time when families, by choice or necessity, often relied upon themselves and their neighbours for treatment.

Community Activist My Name is Eva: A Biography of Eva Smith. By

William Manning. Natural Heritage /Natural History Inc. 125 pages. Illustrations. \$16.95.

Manning presents a fitting tribute to this Jamaican-born woman who came to Canada as a domestic in 1956. Until her death in 1993, she was a tireless and inspiring worker for the betterment of young people in and around Metro Toronto. Her commitment is recognized through the annual Eva Smith bursary for post-secondary education and in North York by Eva's Place, a residence for homeless young people.

Civic Pride

Downtown Hamilton: Heart of It All. Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society. 120 pages. Illustrations. \$25.00 paper.

Public places and commercial enterprises are the essential centre of a great city. Urban historians and architects alike will welcome this large format, paperback collection of fascinating photographs and explanatory paragraphs telling the story indeed, the many stories of one such area. You need not be a Hamiltonian to appreciate this adventure in nostalgia.

With Our Past Before Us: Nineteenth Century Architecture in the Kingston Area. Jennifer McKendry. University

of Toronto Press. 242 pages. Illustrations. \$29.95 paper.

Here is a careful and comprehensive architectural study, more than a mere collection of pictures of fine old buildings. Many are gone, many are radically changed, some are preserved in something near their original form. This is a stunning book, written not simply for those who love Kingston's history, but for all who would look beyond heritage buildings to the social conditions in which they were created.

War Correspondence

A Time Apart: Letters of Love and War. By Fred and Norah Egner, edited by Joan Barfoot. Ginger Press. 214 pages. Illustrations. \$14.95 paper.

These letters will stir the memories of many and give an intimate glimpse to all of a time of separation and anguish that extended for four long years during the Second World War. Norah, a young Owen Sound housewife and mother, and her husband Fred, serving in Europe from 1941 to 1945, wrote of their concerns and frustrations, of their hopes and aspirations. They kept their letters and these are now published, 50 years after the events they recorded.

History Noted

Since our last issue of *From the Bookshelf*, we have received these flyers and notices describing publications of interest:

Toronto 1837: A Model City. By Jennifer Parsons and Kevin Lilliman. Town of York Historical Society. \$12.95

A guide to early Toronto, produced to accompany the model on display at Toronto's First Post Office.

Public History Series. Krieger Publishing Company.

A catalogue is available describing this wide-ranging series of publications designed to assist professionals working in museums, historical societies, government agencies, archives and businesses.

Lake Ontario Greenway Strategy. Illustrations. \$19.95.

Pioneers of the Don. By Charles Sauriol. \$17.95.

Waterfront Trail Guidebook. 350 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95.

A Place to Walk: A Naturalist's Journal of the Lake Ontario Waterfront Trail. By Aleta Karstad. \$17.95

All these informative publications dealing with the Lake Ontario waterfront in and near Toronto are available from the Waterfront Regeneration Trust.

Symbols of Canada. Canada Communication Group - Publishing. \$6.95

A booklet of illustrations and texts which explain nations symbols and those of the provinces and territories

A Town Called Ajax. By Archie MacDonald. Ajax Historical Board. 414 pages. Illustrations. \$38.00 cloth.

A comprehensive telling of the town's growth from early Quaker and Irish settlements to modern times. Includes an index of family names.

Gangway: An Account of the Halifax Riots, 1945. By Stanley H. Redman. 167 pages. \$8.95.

Directory of Publishers

Note: Prices listed do not include tax or postage charges.

Ajax Historical Board,
Town Clerk's Department,
65 Harwood Avenue South,
Ajax, Ontario L1S 2H9.
Canada Communications Group,
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0S9.
Dundurn Press Ltd.,
2181 Queen Street East, Suite 301,
Toronto, Ontario M4E 1E5.
General Store Publishing House,
1 Main Street,
Burnstown, Ontario K0J 1G0.
Ginger Press,
848 Second Avenue East,
Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 2H3.
Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society,
c/o Fountain Foundation,
92 King Street, Suite 860,
Hamilton, Ontario L8N 1A8.
Krieger Publishing Company,
Box 9542, Melbourne, Florida 32902.
Carole M. Lidgold,
Box 11041, 97 Guildwood Parkway,
Scarborough, Ontario M1E 5G5.

McGill-Queen's University Press,
3430 McTavish Street,
Montreal, Quebec H3A 1X9.
Natural Heritage/Natural History Inc.,
Box 95, Station O,
Toronto, Ontario M4A 2M8.
Old Farmer's Almanac,
Main Street, Box 520,
Dublin, New Hampshire 03444.
Stanley H. Redman,
#70 Bowling Green Estates,
696 King Street,
Midland, Ontario L4R 5B6.
Town of York Historical Society,
260 Adelaide Street East,
Toronto, Ontario M5A 1N1.
University of Toronto Press,
10 St. Mary Street, Suite 700,
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2W8.
Vanwell Publishing Limited,
1 Northrup Crescent, Box 2131, Station B,
St. Catharines, Ontario L2M 6P5.
Waterfront Regeneration Trust,
207 Queen's Quay West, Suite 580,
Toronto, Ontario M5J 1A7.

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Cemetery news

By Marjorie Stuart, Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society and OHS Member

The Ontario Genealogical Society and The Ontario Historical Society have objected to the proposed closure and removal of the **MacNaughton Family Cemetery** in the City of Vaughan. This site is located on property which has been owned by Variety Village, who has carefully maintained the cemetery for many years. Now the property is to be developed. In 1833, Rev. Peter MacNaughton was asked by Scottish settlers in Maple to establish a church. He founded St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Maple and St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in 1844 and conducted mission services throughout King and Vaughan Townships.

The Town of Scarborough has designated **Secor Memorial Cemetery** as an historic site. This family burial ground is located on Stevenwood Road. Peter Secor and his family settled on the property in 1815. An unknown number of family members are buried at this site. The land was assigned to the Town in 1950 and a right of way was granted from the road.

The Norfolk County Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society, has reported that **McQueen Cemetery** on Tisdale Road in Nanticoke has been designated as a heritage site by Nanticoke Council. Alexander McQueen, a United Empire Loyalist, purchased the land in 1800 and was buried there in 1804 at age 94. He had a distinguished military career fighting for the British under General Wolfe on the Plains of Abraham in 1759.

In the September-October 1995 *OHS Bulletin*, we reported that a memorial had been placed in Hamilton's Woodland Cemetery to commemorate the Inuit from the eastern Arctic who are buried there. Most died in the 1950's at Hamilton's Mountain Sanatorium. From the Hamilton Branch OGS *Newsletter*, we have learned that a documentary video is being prepared by a local art teacher, Jerry Apanasowicz. He would like to contact those who were involved in the care of the Inuit who were brought to Hamilton for medical treatment. Jerry may be reached at (905) 522-6013.

Concern is raised for the future of **Wurts Cemetery** located on the 10th concession road, north of

Highway 7, in the Town of Markham. The cemetery was once marked with metal stakes and there were three markers. The stakes and markers have all been removed and the cemetery is now beneath a corn field. Research has indicated that the remains of John Wurts and two grandchildren were interred between 1852 and 1854. There is evidence that others were buried there, as well, and it is possible that this was a com-

munity, rather than a family burial ground. Wurts Cemetery and nearby Reesor Pioneer Cemetery are both within the new community of Cornell which is soon to be developed. Anyone with further information is asked to contact the OHS at 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2.

Various committees across Ontario are busy planning for this summer. These groups include those raising funds for local

cemeteries, family reunions and historical organizations and institutions, and the events include cemetery tours, special memorial services and dedications. We would be pleased to mention these cemetery events in this column and we would also like to recognize those who have worked or are working to restore and preserve Ontario's burial grounds. Please send your information to the OHS.

Another impending closure?

The Ontario Historical Society has learned that Variety Club of Ontario has applied to the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations to close and move the MacNaughton pioneer cemetery in the Town of Vaughan. A copy of the letter (see below) from the Ministry in response to the application was sent to the OHS' President, Judy McGonigal. The appeal of the Clendennen Cemetery closure is having an effect! For further information on the MacNaughton cemetery, see "Cemetery news" on this page.

December 14, 1995
Mr. Stephen Auerback
Spencer, Romberg Associates
Suite 700, 21 Dundas Square
Toronto, Ontario M5B 1B8

Dear Mr. Auerback:
Re: Variety Club of Ontario
Application to close cemetery in
Vaughan, Ontario.

This will acknowledge your letter of November 7, 1995 and the application to close a cemetery in Vaughan, Ontario and to remove the remains for re-interment in Maple United Cemetery, Maple, Ontario.

Please be advised we are holding review of this application pending the outcome of a hearing, appealing the Order to close a cemetery located in the Town of Markham.

We will correspond with you again as soon as the results of this hearing is finalized.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to call us if you have any questions in this regard.

Yours truly,
Cora dela Cruz, Deputy Registrar
cc. Ms. Judith McGonigal,
President, The Ontario Historical
Society



The OHS and the Ontario Genealogical Society are objecting to the closing, disinterring and moving of the MacNaughton Cemetery in the City of Vaughan. See further details on this page. (Photo courtesy of Robert Leverty.)

Eat, drink and be merry *continued from page 1*

or you can take a bus to the Billing's Estate to view a Victorian dining exhibit. (A limited number of delegates can be accommodated so sign up soon if you are interested.)

Friday evening's dinner takes us back to 1901 featuring selected dishes from the menu of a repast presented in Rockcliffe in honour of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York. The Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa/le conseil des organismes du patrimoine d'Ottawa (CHOO/COPO) has a special evening of entertainment planned.

Get up early on Saturday, May 4 for the OHS' Annual General Meeting with a continental breakfast. Concurrent sessions highlight the theme, "Everyone eats, but not everyone needs to cook". Recipe testing, developing food programmes in Ontario's museums, changing technology to serve the multitudes, a walking tour of the Ottawa Byward Market, the revolution in the sugar bowl, demonstrating and interpreting

food traditions in Ontario museums, Viceregal food preparation and service at Rideau Hall and a tour of the Radisson kitchens give a variety of choices.

Lunch features the favourite foods of some of Ontario's cultural communities, then Frits Marechal, Executive Chef at the Radisson discusses the inns of eating out on the ground and in the air. Elizabeth Collard, well-known author of *Nineteenth Century Pottery and Porcelain in Canada* explores how we have set the Canadian table over time, then the conference wraps up at the Canadian Museum of Civilization to view the ceramics exhibit with Elizabeth, the guest curator, leading the tour.

Speakers also include: Linda Ambrose of Laurentian University, Sudbury; Susan Bennett, Research and Reference Librarian and Lynn Campbell, Researcher, both at the Ontario Agricultural Museum; Robert Burns, Heritage Resources Consultant, Ottawa; Dr. Paul Couture, Parks Canada, Cornwall; Jean-Luc Doudeau,

CBOF, Radio Canada and food writer for *Le Droit*; Dorothy Duncan, OHS Executive Director and Country Fare editor, *Century Home*; Richard Feltoe, Curator, Repath Sugar Museum, Toronto; The *Toronto Star's* Food Editor, Marion Kane; Fiona Lucas, Toronto Historical Board; Richard Nigro, Chef at Ottawa's Domas Café; Jo Marie Powers, Department of Food and Hotel Administration, University of Guelph; Michel Prévost, Chief Archivist, University of Ottawa; Paul Robertson, Historical Researcher, Ottawa and Sheila White, Thyme and Again Creative Catering and Take Home Foods, Ottawa. (The programme and speakers are subject to change without notice.)

On May 3 and 4, the Marketplace of Programmes, Products and Publications will be open for browsing and buying with a special autographing session on May 3.

If OHS members register before **April 9**, the Full Package, including all sessions and meals, is \$150.00. The non-member's

rate is \$195.00. The Basic Package, including all sessions, Thursday reception and Saturday breakfast, but no other meals, is \$95.00 for members and \$125.00 for non-members. To attend the meals only is \$95.00 for members and \$125.00 for non-members. After April 9, the rate increases substantially so please register now.

The Radisson Hotel has reserved a block of rooms for OHS delegates for the special rate of \$89.00 (single or double occupancy, plus taxes). Please make your own reservation by calling toll-free 1-800-333-3333 or locally at (613) 238-1122. Be sure to tell them you are with our conference.

The Ontario Historical Society is grateful for the support of the City of Ottawa, CHOO/COPO and le regroupement des organismes du patrimoine franco-ontarien.

For further information and to register, please contact the OHS at 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011 or fax 226-2740.

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ISSN 0714-6736

The *OHS Bulletin* is the bimonthly newsletter of The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011, fax (416) 226-2740. Publication dates for 1996 are February, April, June, August, October and December. Copy is due the first day of January, March, May, July, September and November.

Enquiries concerning submissions and advertising rates should be directed to The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011 or fax (416) 226-2740.

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The several classes of membership in the Society are: Individual/Institution/Organization \$20.00; Family \$25.00; Sustaining \$50.00; Life \$300.00; Patron \$500.00; Benefactor \$1000.00. Membership is open to all individuals and societies interested in the history of Ontario. The *OHS Bulletin* is sent free of charge to all members of the Society. The Society's quarterly scholarly journal, *Ontario History*, is available to member individuals for \$21.40 per year, member organizations and institutions and non-member individuals for \$32.10 and to non-member organizations and institutions for \$42.80.

Editor: Meribeth Clow
"Cemetery news" Editor: Marjorie Stuart
"From the Bookshelf" Editors: Pat and Chris Raible
"Museum News" Editor: Karen Vanden Brink, Stratford-Perth Museum
Printer: Versatel Corporate Services Limited

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The Ontario Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the support of the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation.