



OHS BULLETIN

34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2

Issue 119 • APRIL 1999

We Won!

Robert Leverty, OHS Programme Co-ordinator

The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) and the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) have won a decisive and final victory at the appeal hearing on the Clendennen Cemetery. After reviewing the Tribunal's unanimous 125-page decision, Catherine Bray of Borden & Elliot, who represented the OHS and OGS throughout the entire struggle declared, "This is a landmark precedent setting decision which recognizes the importance of respecting and preserving cemeteries in their original location."

The Clendennen Cemetery is a pioneer cemetery located in the Town of Markham, northeast of Toronto. The cemetery consists of five gravestones occupying an area approximately 20 feet by 20 feet square.

839374 Ontario Inc., now owns the land where the Clendennen Cemetery is situated. The owner's development of these lands is managed through a company, Samcor Inc., and the development itself is referred to as the "Swan Lake Development."

In 1994, 839374 Ontario Inc. applied to the Province of Ontario to close and move the Clendennen Cemetery. The Town of Markham supported the developer's request for cemetery closure. On February 9, 1995, the Provincial Registrar for the Ontario Cemeteries Act issued a "Notice of Order" to close the Clendennen Cemetery on the basis that digging up and moving the cemetery was in the public interest.

On March 8, 1995 the OHS and OGS appealed the Provincial order to close the Clendennen Cemetery to the Commercial Registration Appeal Tribunal. The appeal hearing took place in Toronto from November 27, 1995 until July 30, 1997 and it was the first time such a case had ever been heard in the Province of Ontario. It took 19 months for the Tribunal's three Hearing Officers to write and release their decision. None of our opponents appealed the Tribunal's decision to Divisional Court within the 30 day limit.

The OHS and OGS had asked the Tribunal to set aside the Province's order to close and move the pioneers buried at the Clendennen Cemetery for two fundamental reasons: that the Registrar did not follow the required process under the Cemeteries Act and that the Registrar was wrong in his determination that the closing was in the public interest.

In an exhaustive and comprehensive analysis of the evidence presented at the hearing, the Tribunal entirely concurred with the OHS and OGS. "The Tribunal has concluded that the procedure followed by the Registrar was not correct because it was not in accordance with the requirements of the Act (Cemeteries) and that closing the Clendennen Cemetery was not in the public interest. Accordingly, the Registrar's order to close (and move) Clendennen Cemetery is not reasonable and therefore, the Registrar is directed to refrain from taking any action with respect to such order."

There is also another important victory implicit in the Tribunal's decision. The Province, the Town of Markham and the developer had vigorously op-

posed full participation in the hearings by the Clendennen descendants. The OHS and OGS always maintained that it was in the public interest to hear the concerns of family members. Harold Clendennen, a dairy farmer from Hampton, Ontario testified as an OHS and OGS witness on behalf of his family and in a memorable moment turned to the Tribunal and said "My family is against relocating it—the cemetery was there first....once a cemetery, always a cemetery." The precedent is now established that the Province of Ontario cannot in future willfully ignore or dismiss the voices of its citizens when deciding the fate of cemeteries and burial grounds.

While it is important to celebrate this decision, history has shown us that this will not be the last battle to save our heritage. During the last four years, there have been other attempts to close and move pioneer cemeteries and our appeal of the Clendennen closure to the Tribunal has undoubtedly assisted us in thwarting these threats. However, as pressures for development of land across the province increase, there will be more challenges. With this knowledge and your ongoing support, the OHS's *Cemetery Defence Fund* will continue to monitor cemetery closures with a view to respecting the wishes of our ancestors and their descendants. As interested citizens we should all make this decision known to our local planning departments and town councillors and advise them that preservation of cemeteries and sacred burial grounds in their original location is in the best interest of our communities.

We would like to thank again our partner the OGS, our lawyer, Catherine Bray, our witnesses and the Clendennen descendants. We also want to thank our members and the hundreds of organizations and individuals across North America who have generously donated to the *OHS Cemetery Defence Fund*. This is your victory and it is because of your support that the heritage movement can move forward with renewed respect and confidence.



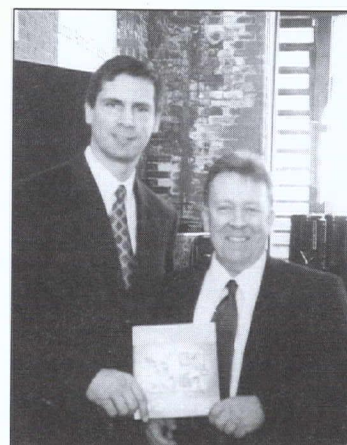
Gillian Federico, an accomplished harpist, delighted the participants at the successful OHS fundraiser St. Patrick's Supper.

Liberals First to Announce Heritage Policy

On Tuesday, March 23 Provincial Liberal Leader Dalton McGuinty announced *Why Arts, Culture and Heritage Matter: What We Heard and What We'll*

Do, the Liberal commitment to this sector if they are elected in the upcoming election. As OHS members know, Liberal MPP Michael Gravelle, the Culture and Heritage Critic has held a series of community meetings across Ontario to learn the state of affairs in this sector, recognizing that we contribute \$12 billion to the economy, provide 265,000 jobs and are supported by hundreds of thousands of volunteers. For your copy of the policy: (416) 325-1559.

We look forward to announcements from the other parties in the near future.



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The President and Board of Directors of The Ontario Historical Society invites you to attend the Annual Business Meeting to be held

Saturday, May 8, 1999 at 2:00 PM
at the John McKenzie House
34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale

President's Message

Bruce Richard, President

Where has history gone? The cries to protect and promote our disappearing past continue to grow. Educators are enraged that history is evaporating from the curriculum. Historical societies and museums are struggling to survive as long term commitment to support dwindles. The Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation's (MCzCR) services continue to erode. Heritage organizations and institutions continue to focus aggressively on securing means of financial support through innovative partnerships. The familiar and conventional solutions no longer seem to work.

In as much as these statements are true, there are clearly glimpses of hope; the most fundamental of which is the fact that we are still writing and you are still reading. Thankfully, the community of people who participate in exploring, studying, protecting, and remembering the past forge on in their efforts.

The power and vibrancy of our past is finding ways to make its presence felt. Evidence the recent forum, *Giving The Past a Future*, held in Montréal. The conference aimed to explore the challenges, and solutions in communicating the past to the present. By bringing together a wide range of stakeholders, including the OHS, the event sought to capitalize on the fact that many Canadians still think the past is important. This forum advances the search for alternative approaches and

delivery systems to bring history to audiences in the places, and ways that they want.

The Internet represents an interesting and powerful domain for communicating, documenting, and extending the past. There is a phenomenal amount of material and information, and a significant platform available for discussion and debate. The real unknowns that remain with this technological resource are access, and purpose. If it is to be of real value to the community, many questions of who will use this, how, and where, still need to be addressed.

The real point is that we, as the protectors and promoters of the past, must pursue ways of communicating our information that are provocative, innovative, and yet maintain the integrity we value. The CRB Heritage Project is a familiar example of the means by which the past becomes accessible to an audience demanding of action and sophistication in delivery. While not a doctoral dissertation on the subject, the *Heritage Minutes* have been the source of many peoples' knowledge of Emily Carr and Jacques Plante! This May, *Heritage Fairs* across the country will celebrate students exploring their communities and their country. What an ideal opportunity to work with the next generation!

A matter of emerging debate facing the heritage community is the question of the transitory value being placed on some historical collections. Opening

the door to reassess a museum collection as a source of revenue for a project, or as leverage to gain support, marks a dangerous precedent for the state of sites in the province. That our community is faced with these kinds of issues, let alone that they entertain them, brings into question where we will stand on the place of our heritage as we enter the next millennium.

Yet another issue of grave concern is closure of the conservation laboratory as a result of the MCzCR relocation. This marks a new level in the reduction of the provincial government's participation in the preservation and protection of our past and it does a disservice to the Ministry which continues to lose credibility as these supports recede. It can only be hoped that valuable equipment invested by our tax dollars will go to assist the small museums and galleries left in the cold without this support.

Finally it is with great pride that I congratulate the OHS staff for the tremendous effort in regards to the Clendennen Cemetery Tribunal. Through your efforts, the generous and ongoing support from the heritage community and organizations such as the OGS, we can be assured that some consideration will continue to be given to those who have gone before us. Through the effort and commitment of dedicated staff and volunteers, cemeteries will remain at rest rather than being displaced for the convenience of development.

Executive Director's Report

Dorothy Duncan, Executive Director

This Call Is For You!

The tempo of activity in the OHS office has certainly accelerated this season. With the announcement of the federal Millennium programme, the provincial Millennium programme and the enlarging of the Trillium programme to include "heritage" and a base of \$100 million, our telephones and fax machine have gone into overdrive.

What do the callers require? Evidently individual artists, designers and researchers have been told they *must* find a heritage partner, so wouldn't we like to be it?

Meanwhile, heritage organizations and institutions have been told that they must provide proof that they are indeed non-profit corporations registered in the Province of Ontario with the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations and that they are charitable organizations registered with Revenue Canada. Every caller vows that their organization/institution does not have one scrap of paper in their files that confirms this legal state of affairs and that the OHS *must* fax or courier it *at once!* Their grant depends on the OHS and if they don't meet *their* deadline (within the hour) it is *our* fault.

As this goes on, day after day, I am reminded that history does indeed tend to repeat itself. As Canada approached the Centennial in 1967 a Canadian Centennial Commission was appointed and it was announced that \$1 per person was available, if matched by the province and the initiating agency, for permanent projects. This was heady news for the heritage community! In Ontario the alarm bells sounded and concerns were expressed that *quantity* rather than *quality* would be the result. Ruth Home, Director of the Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty and President of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario wrote: "About 1966, all Ontario will be in a dither over the celebration for 1967...there could be a crop of fake forts, insulbrick period houses and a hurried, almost hysterical, expenditure of money that could be very wisely used for the betterment of museums. We in 1967, will have only regrets." Unfortunately Ruth Home died on November 3, 1965 and so did not see her dire prediction come true in several communities across Ontario.

The heritage community in Ontario has been so devastated in recent years, that these new funds are like rain after the drought. As you prepare your application, remember Ruth Home, remember that *quality* does beat *quantity* and please keep better records and files out there in your offices.

'Twas a Sad Season

The past few months have also brought sad news from every corner of the Province as members have passed away. Our sympathy goes out to the families and friends of Una Abrahamson, Frank Dunbar and Brigadier General John McGinnis all of whom have made tremendous contributions to the preservation of Ontario's history. Tributes to Una, Frank and John will appear in the next issue.

Looking Ahead

Crossing Borders: Food and Agriculture in the Americas, the joint conference of the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society and the Association for the Study of Food and Society will be held in Canada for the first time June 3 to 6. The OHS is one of the sponsoring organizations for this Toronto-based event and we have organized a *Taste of Historic Toronto* tour including Historic Fort York, The Gibson House and Black Creek Pioneer Village. With the assistance of our volunteers the OHS will be serving a 1913 luncheon at the John McKenzie House. Two OHS members, Frank Bartoszek and Daniel O'Brien are also leading a visit to St. Lawrence Market. We have received many donations of mugs for this conference, but more are needed, so please send some along if possible, preferably with your logo or society or museum name so our American colleagues will have a memento to take home. Contact Elias Chu (416) 979-5135 or the OHS if you have questions or need registration forms for the conference.

Mark your calendar now for Saturday, November 6 when the OHS hosts *Buon Appetito: A Symposium on Italian Foodways in Ontario*, exploring Italian cuisine through lectures, demonstrations, hands-on participation, and food related book displays. This promises to be a fun-filled learning experience so plan to join us!

Ontario History Spring 1999

Gabriele Scardellato, Editor

This is my first issue as the new editor of *Ontario History* and I am fortunate that my predecessor, Professor Terry Crowley, has done much to ease the anticipated challenges of this and perhaps subsequent issues. Because of his work, assembling volume xci of the journal is a relatively straightforward task and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Professor Crowley for his dedication and for making my first steps easier.

Despite this good preparation however, there are still difficulties ahead for the journal. Perhaps first amongst these is the ever-present concern of funding. The journal's financial future is far from secure and efforts have to be made to make its publication more cost effective. A somewhat revised format to be introduced in this issue will produce a more attractive and more easily read publication.

The current issue is as diverse in content as most that have preceded it. Through four articles it ranges in time from the late 18th century to the late 20th. Arranged chronologically, the first study in the issue provides an interesting perspective on the

career of Upper Canada's first fulltime surveyor-general, David William Smith. Kathleen Burke traces Smith's career in a larger imperial context by following him back to England after his Upper Canada experiences. In the process she does much to illuminate the relationship between colony and empire as experienced through the career of a prominent colonial or provincial figure. Almost a century later, Smith's York had become the bustling city of Toronto with a population of some 100,000 including a large, and active working-class, intent on organizing and gaining control of its workplaces. It was this working class which formed an audience for two well-known American Methodist evangelists whose campaigns in Toronto in 1886 and 1887 are described by Eric Crouse. Their successes and failures provide useful insights into a phenomenon which, though perhaps changed dramatically, is still with us.

A different type of religiosity, as represented by Dutch Calvinism and its Christian School Movement in Ontario, is

presented in Bert den Boggende's study of the Hamilton Christian School as he traces the varied fortunes of Dutch Calvinism in southern Ontario in the years leading up to the creation of the Hamilton Christian School in the early 1950s. Although he closes his study in the early 1960s, the issues he touches upon, in particular those concerning government funding for religious schooling in a diverse society, are as important now as they were then. Finally, on what may prove to be the eve of a provincial election in Ontario, *Ontario History* also includes an article on very recent provincial politics, and in particular, the Progressive Conservative Party, and its so-called Big Blue Machine. Political scientist Keith Brownsey describes the creation of this Conservative Party organization by the then newly-elected party leader, William Davis in 1971, and its role in the party's fortunes until the Progressive Conservatives were defeated in 1985. For Brownsey, the Big Blue Machine is emblematic of the party's "professionalization" in the 1970s and 1980s.

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Across the Province

Richard Gardiner, Chair, Local Societies Committee and Dorothy Duncan, OHS Executive Director

Explore the origins of formal gardens, smell the blossoms of the ancient apothecary rose and the foliage of the tree that cured scurvy on a "Garden History Walk" at **The Arboretum, University of Guelph**, either June 7 or June 9 at 7:00 PM. Call (519) 824-4120 for details.

The **Simcoe County Museum** and the **Historical Construction Equipment Association** co-curated the exhibit "Building for the Future" at the Museum, with demonstrations of antique construction equipment May 15 and 16. Information: (705) 728-3721.

John Beamer is searching for descendants of John Beamer, Jr. who journeyed to Grimsby in 1790. If you have information (519) 428-1537.

The **Mackenzie Heritage Printery**, in association with **Clan Mackenzie** will commemorate the 175th anniversary of the *Colonial Advocate* by publishing the book *A Colonial Advocate: The Launching of His Newspaper and the Queenston Career of William Lyon Mackenzie* by Chris Raible. For availability and costs: (905) 262-5676.

Dr. Carl Benn, author of the *Iroquois and the War of 1812* and OHS Board member will speak at the May 19 meeting of the **Toronto Branch, U.E.L. Association**. Details: (416) 489-1783.

Waterloo Historical Society is sponsoring "Settlements, Swamps and Scarps Scenic Heritage Tours" May 26 and 28 and June 3. Registration: (519) 742-2218.

The members of the **Cochrane and Area Historical Society** have completed their wartime housing project and are now researching Island Falls. For information on this ambitious, young society write to: Cochrane and Area Historical Society, Box 1656, Cochrane, Ontario P0L 1C0.

Congratulations to the **Lake Scugog Historical Society** celebrating thirty years of serving the community with a host of events. Call (905) 985-3589 for details.

Do you have a young gooseberry plant that you are willing to let travel? Call the **Old Thyme Gardeners** at (905) 985-4048 if you do.

The "Annual Work Bee" at the **Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum** is Sunday, May 30. If you can help: (905) 727-8954.

The **Ontario Heritage Foun-**

dation plans several plaque projects this year including the Niagara Harbour and Dock Company; Stratford Normal School; Hal Rogers, OBE; Canadian International Air Show; and the Noronic Disaster. For information: Paul Litt (416) 325-5015.

The **York Pioneer & Historical Society** has donated the original *Roll of Members, York Pioneers Instituted 1869* to the **Baldwin Room, Toronto Public Library**. This important record spans 1869 to 1900 including place of birth, date of death and general information.

Old Fort Niagara has announced a busy schedule of events and fundraisers in the months ahead. Call (716) 745-7611 for details.

Were you, or do you know anyone who was, dancing at the **Lakehead Barn Dance** in August of 1935 when the floor gave way? Wilfred Moncrieff at (705) 750-1985 needs your version of the evening's events, so give him a call.

Welcome to Brian Meehan who assumed the position of Executive Director of the **London Regional Art and Historical Museums** in January. Brian had served as Director of the **Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery** in Owen Sound since 1995.

The museum community across Canada mourns the passing of Gilbert Higgins, a founding member of the **Museum Association of Newfoundland and Labrador**. He served on the Board of the **Newfoundland Historical Society**, the **Newfoundland Historic Trust** and the **Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador**. He was a walking encyclopedia for historians and an ardent collector of archives and artifacts, a truly extraordinary person who will be sorely missed.

The **Bronte Historical Society** announces the opening of **Sovereign House** on May 16 at 1:00 PM. Call (905) 825-5552 for information about exhibits and special events. When you visit you will be able to enjoy the new carpets installed through the generosity of Dominic Tonelli of Carpet Warehouse.

In 1998 the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, the federal government and **Canada's Sports Hall of Fame** agreed to make the **Government Conference Centre** in Ottawa, the home of the Hall of Fame. In the meantime, the **Hall of Fame**,

located at **Exhibition Place** in Toronto is constantly looking for ways to increase its collection of sports artifacts and memorabilia. Call (416) 260-6789 to discuss a donation.

Windsor's Community Museum is hosting an innovative blend of art and artifacts called "Windsor: Art and Objects" until September of this year. Call (519) 253-1812 for details on this thought-provoking exhibit.

The **Mississauga Symphony** is sponsoring a tour of beautifully designed homes, fashion shows, refreshments and musical interludes all on Saturday, June 5. Tickets and information (905) 615-4404.

Carassauga 99 with 15 international pavilions arrives in Mississauga on May 28. **Benares Historic House** will become the Canada Pavilion with the theme "Anne of Green Gables—A Salute to the Maritimes." For information (905) 822-1569.

Jim Neal of the **Scarborough Historical Society** is looking for Bruce Bairnsfather materials such as cartoons, postcards, plates. If you can help, (416) 694-2973.

Congratulations to Bruce Taylor, Secretary of the **Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association**, on winning the **Presbyterian Church in Canada's National History Prize** for *A Pioneer Ministry*, the history of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in New Liskeard.

Congratulations to Mary Allodi and Sheldon Godfrey, on their well-deserved recognition with the **Order of Canada**. Sheldon recently represented Ontario region on Heritage Canada's Board of Governors and with his wife Judith, were recipients of the Joseph Brant Award, presented by the OHS in 1998.

The **Esquesing Historical Society** has announced two upcoming meetings: "Making Your Own Family History Album" with Peel Region archivist Diane Allengame-Kusterd on May 12 and a "Walking Tour of Limehouse" and Pot Luck Supper on June 9. For details (905) 813-7632.

Nipissing University of North Bay is sponsoring the Fourth Annual Northern Cultural Conference "Visions of the North: Space for Dreams, Visions and Plans: The North, Past, Present and Future" May 13-16 at the Temagami Shores Resort in Temagami. The focus will be on dealing with the realities of promoting a distinctive northern culture, lifestyle and economy in small northern towns. For details or registration, contact: Jodi Sutherland (705) 474-3461, ext. 4558.

Mark your calendar now for the "Gala Fundraiser Dinner Dance and Silent Auction" sponsored by



Recently, the *Mariposa Belle* (Enterprise), fabled steamship of Stephen Leacock's *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town* was discovered near Sibbald Point, close to the author's home, Old Brewery Bay, a National Historic Site in Orillia. Efforts are being initiated to have the shipwreck recognized and protected.

the **South Simcoe Railway Heritage Corporation** on September 17. Tickets (905) 936-5815. This popular Railway hosted over 41,000 passengers in 1998!

The **Richmond Hill Historical Society** is sponsoring the production of a video biography of the life and times of Dr. James Rolph Langstaff. The estimated cost of production exceeds their financial resources and they need sponsors! Call President Mary Lou Griffin (905) 773-3351 if you can assist.

The Honourable Sheila Copps, Minister of **Canadian Heritage** announced support funding for further work on the **Hamilton and Scourge** project in the amount of \$1.3 million. These vessels sank in western Lake Ontario in August, 1813 where they now sit upright, almost perfectly preserved 100 metres deep.

The **Scarborough Arts Council** is sponsoring "Poetry Contest 1999" with 2 categories—youth (13-18 years) and adult. The deadline is June 30, so if you are interested in entering, call (416) 698-7322.

Best wishes to Elayne Goyette, formerly of the **Salvation Army Archives and Museum** and Yves Goyette, formerly at **Black Creek Pioneer Village** in their new positions with the **Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Park** in Dearborn, Michigan.

The **Ontario Genealogical Society** holds its Seminar '99 *Our Ontario Families* May 28 to 30 at the Regal Constellation Hotel in Toronto. A range of workshops, seminars, tours and events are planned to help organize, research, and compare research sources and resources. Contact (905) 846-1637 for registration information.

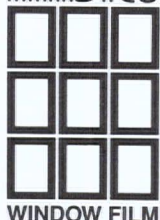
This year marks the 42nd year of historical preservation of buildings and artifacts, and public education at **Doon Heritage Crossroads** in Kitchener. Set against 60 acres of forest, marsh and farmland, Doon is a re-creation of a rural village and two farms, over 20 historic buildings, period furnishings, farm animals, heritage gardens and demonstrations interpreted to the year 1914. To arrange a visit to this living history museum contact (519) 748-1914.

Are you planning an event and are seeking live period music? Consider **Freshwater Trade**, a quartet of talented musicians who specialize in the lore and music of the Great Lakes, canals and waterways of Canada. Through voyageur paddling songs en français, lumberjack shanties, songs about historic events, and shipwrecks, they bring the past to life with a blend of music, hearty singing and good humour. For details contact (705) 742-2824.

The **Trent Port Historical Society** is hosting a "Victorian Garden Tea" on June 26 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. MF James, Hwy 33 South in Carrying Place from 2:00 to 4:30 PM and includes refreshments, music and games. The raindate is June 27. Contact: (613) 392-3746.

The **Gibson House Museum** in North York is the 1951 restored home of David Gibson, local politician and land surveyor. A variety of programmes are offered throughout the year, many of which take place in the large historic kitchen. Hands-on participation is emphasized as visitors of all ages can create traditional dishes—some familiar and some unique, using original and adapted recipes. For information (416) 395-7432.

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Upcoming Events

April–June 27: For a hair-raising experience, visit **Told and Retold: an inquiry about hair** at the Museum of Textiles. The viewer is invited to wear headsets and listen to recorded voices that share their answers to two questions: What does it mean to cut your hair? and How does it feel to lose your hair? In the adjoining gallery are artifacts made from human hair. The Museum is located at 55 Centre Street in Toronto. (416) 599-2911.

April–October 3: Heritage Toronto, in co-operation with over a dozen Toronto heritage agencies and individuals presents a full season of fascinating walking tours on literary, industrial heritage and neighbourhood themes. **Battlefield Walking Tour, Toronto’s Terra Cotta, Toronto’s Midtown Downtown, The Queen’s Park Stroll** and **The Waterfront Walk** are just some of the many offered. Call Heritage Toronto for details (416) 392-6827 and press *500.

April–January 2000: The Bata Shoe Museum showcases Japan’s unique heritage in **Japanese Footgear: Walking the Path of Innovation**. The Japanese do not have an actual word for footwear, but do have one for footgear and the artifacts reflect a tradition of functional design. Included are *tageta oashi* meaning “rice field wood sandals big feet,” which carried planters and harvesters over muddy floors or flooded rice fields, and *tabi* or socks which have slightly inverted molded rubber soles with treads to provide suction, ideal for workers scaling roofs. The Museum is located at 327 Bloor Street West, call (416) 979-7799.

April–January 2000: The Canadian Museum of Civilization presents an intimate, firsthand look at women’s lives through a seamstress’s art: the making of wedding dresses through the exhibit **Fabrications: Stitching Ourselves Together**. The 23 wedding dresses were all made by the curator’s mother, allowing the collection to explore many themes. The Museum is located at 100 rue Laurier in Hull, Quebec. Contact (819) 776-7169.

May 22–23: The Friends of Fort York and Garrison Common invite you back in time to learn “first-hand” about the art and technology of war when Historic Fort York comes alive with the pageantry of Napoleonic history. Re-enactors dressed in colourful uniforms of Irish, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, British and French troops will perform tactical demonstrations giving the feeling of the historic battles of the Napoleonic Wars in Europe. In addition, music jesters, folk dancing, puppet shows and more will enhance the activities. Fort

York is located between Bathurst Street and Strachan Avenue. Call (416) 392-6907 for details.

May 27–August 1: The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum opens its doors for the season with three new exhibits. **What on Earth!: A Creation Myth for the Millennium**, a wearable art exhibit may introduce new methods of recycling. How about a paper coat and pop can shoes? **Kimono: Scenes in Silk** is a pictorial narrative of Japanese culture presented through painting, dying, printing, weaving and embroidery on silk kimonos. **Art Aprons: A Cyber Challenge** is a collection of decorative aprons put together by international artists via the internet, exploring the symbolic meaning of the apron from whimsical to contemplative. On **May 29–30** the Museum hosts its annual **Promises of Spring** featuring hands-on activities, demonstrations and unique textile arts and crafts. The Museum is located in Almonte at 3 Rosamond Street East. Call (613) 256-3754.

June 5: Smith Township Historical Society in conjunction with Trent Valley Archives announces a **Garden Party & School Reunion** a celebration of the SS# 4, Smith Township, Fairview School’s 100th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at 567 Carnegie Avenue in Peterborough. For details contact (705) 745-4404 or (705) 742-7390.

June 19: The Friends of the Brockville Museum invite you to attend **Heritage House and Garden Tour** from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and visit eight host sites. The cost is \$15 per person and tickets are available in advance through the Brockville Museum, 5 Henry Street, Brockville, Ontario K6V 6M4 (613) 342-4397.

June 24: Take the plunge with The New Toronto Historical Society as they host the lecture **Swimming in New Toronto**. Guest speakers include Kim Lumsdon who swam Lake Ontario and Lucille Gamble, Gus Ryder’s first champion swimmer. The presentation takes place not in the pool, but at the New Toronto Public Library on 12th Street from 7:00–9:00 PM. For details contact (416) 259-1563.

July 11: The Victoria County Historical Society announces their sixth annual **“Blooms of Summer” Garden Tour** from 11 AM to 6 PM. Visitors will stroll through a variety of Lindsay area gardens—large and small, formal and informal, town and country. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions. Tickets are \$12 and sold in advance. Contact (705) 324-6756.

July 16–18: Heritage Mount Pleasant invites you to attend the

Liberty Street and heritage walks

Ian Wheal



Liberty Street 1967 looking west. On the right is the former St. David’s Wine Growers Bottling Factory now the City of Toronto Artscape (1992). Alongside the building is Canadian Pacific Railway Liberty Street branch now granted as a linear park. (D.H. Ritchie Collection, Metro Toronto Reference Library.)

Liberty Street occupies an important position in Toronto’s history. Liberties were areas attached to prisons where the authorities allowed trusted inmates to spend part of their day in activities such as tending the gardens, making bricks or doing road work.

In the 19th century, the government removed the forest and wetlands from an area originally within the Garrison Military Reserve, and what is today south of King Street West and west of Strachan Avenue to allow for the establishment of an asylum and a prison. The ‘bounds’ for the liberty of the Ontario Central Prison (1874–1915) extended from Strachan Avenue to Dufferin Street. Liberty Street led from the south-west gate of the prison west to Dufferin and it served as both the main access road to the fields and the exit route for released convicts. Dufferin Street marked its western terminus.

Over the years, new railways seeking marshalling yards developed this open area. With the railways came industries, obliterating the natural landscape and most traces of one of Canada’s most brutal penal sites. The street name survived and although the railway severed Liberty Street, it remained the common thread linking the area, whether it was the smell of wetland, the harsh spectacle of public floggings on the prison green, or the din of machinery fashioning carpets or farm implements. The original topography remains only in the informed imagination of those who make the effort to interpret the faint clues of the institutional and industrial past.

These days, Liberty Street is home to a thriving community of artists, film producers and other flexible space users looking for substantial but cheap accommodation. The memorable bulk of the Toronto Carpet Manufacturing complex near the western end

of the street is the home base for many of these activities. Occasionally the public becomes aware of the area when the new occupants publicize events such as the “Third Rail Arts Festival” or the “World Cycle Messenger Championships” or when they produce a parody of themselves such as the 1995–6 television series *Liberty Street*.

Enticed by the Toronto Field Naturalists and the Ontario Society for Industrial Archaeology, guided rambles and walks comb the historical evidence to rediscover what was there and to conjure up scenes now long gone. Sites such as Liberty Street are places of memories; even of ghosts.

The Toronto Field Naturalists have promoted the study of nature and geology through walks and lectures for more than 75 years. The Ontario Society for Industrial Archaeology has added its interest in built or buried industrial artifacts. Together,

their members expand and illustrate each others’ knowledge, adding immeasurably to the enjoyment of these walks. Their enthusiasm led to the initiation of these walks and their support encourages them to continue.

Upcoming heritage walks include: **Evening Rambles of Liberty Street** on June 15, meeting at the southeast corner of King and Dufferin Streets at 6:45 PM; **Black Creek-Symes Road,—Cattle Drovers Trail** on Sunday June 6, following the route of an actual livestock trail. Meet at the north-west corner of Runnymede Road and Dundas Street West at 2:00 PM for a 3 hour walk. On Sunday, July 11, meet at the Rouge Hill GO Station at 2:00 PM for a 4 hour long walk along the **Lake Ontario Shoreline** for a marine–natural heritage walk. Bring water. For details call the Toronto Field Naturalists (416) 968-6255.

Upcoming OHS Events

DATE	PROGRAMME	LOCATION
May 8	OHS Annual Business Meeting	Willowdale
June 3–6	Crossing the Borders: Food and Agriculture in the Americas (OHS a co-sponsor)	Toronto
July 1	Canada Day Street Sale	Willowdale
November 6	Buon Appetito: A Symposium on Italian Foodways in Ontario	Toronto

For information on these events and others in the planning stages, please contact the OHS, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011 or fax 226-2740.

Bicentennial Homecoming featuring a variety of family-oriented events including historical displays, arts and crafts vendors, homecoming dance, interdenominational church service, parades, and much more. Contact: (519) 484-2263 or (519) 484-2905.

August 7: The Aerospace Heritage Foundation of Canada is pleased to present **Jetliner 99’** at the Toronto Airport Holiday Inn Select, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the inaugural flight of the C-102 Avro Jetliner. The agenda includes hanger flying, displays, films, presentations, and more. In addition, members of the Avro Team will be honoured. For costs and details call (416) 410-3350.

Cemetery News

Marjorie Stuart, Editor

The **Federal Secretary for Parks**, Andy Mitchell, has announced that the graves of former prime ministers will be maintained and marked with sign posts to make sure that they are officially recognized as national historic figures.

The legal battle to maintain **Beechwood Cemetery** in Ottawa as a non-profit cemetery has ended satisfactorily. Many have suggested that the cemetery, which was established in 1873 as a public service for Ottawa's residents, be given the status of Canada's national cemetery.

The Cemetery Committee of **Salem Cemetery** in Elderslie Township, Bruce County undertook the restoration of their cemetery in 1996. Mary MacKay researched the 88 families buried in the cemetery, contacted living descendants and compiled a book entitled *Families Buried in Salem*. In September 1998 the monuments were restored and the work was paid for from the sale of the book and family donations. Congratulations!

A survey is in progress by the Town of Halton Hills to determine the location of a cemetery on the Civic Centre property. The Esqueusing Historical Society has raised this matter with the Town and it is hoped that the site will be suitably marked.

Concerns continue to be raised over the proposed redevelopment of the Ontario Hospital property in Etobicoke. This is the site of a cemetery that was established c. 1892. A total of 1512 burials occurred between 1892 and 1974. However, the only burials marked are from

1957 to 1974. Since the exact location of the remaining burials is unknown it is urged that archaeological assessments be carried out to determine the exact extent of the cemetery.

Memorial Gardens (Canada) Ltd. has opened a new 86 acre cemetery, **Highland Hills Memorial Gardens** in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Cummer Cemetery also known as **Willowdale Pioneer Cemetery** was restored during the 200 Yonge Street celebrations. Construction is due to start on the adjacent property and concerns have been raised as to the safety of the markers during the construction period.

Greg Stott, writing in *Lifeline*, the Lambton Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society newsletter, tells of **Port Franks Cemetery**, an abandoned cemetery sometimes known as Squatter's Cemetery. The cemetery was established about 1850 and was used mainly for infants and the occasional drowning victim. The markers were removed during the 1920s and the cemetery is now neglected and reforested. The writer asks that the cemetery be recognized as the resting place of Port Franks early inhabitants.

The Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation sponsored a Monument Restoration Workshop during Heritage Week. This hands on workshop was held at **Woodlawn Cemetery** in Guelph and participants received instruction on proper repair methods.

Descendants of Christian Warner and others buried in **Warner Cemetery** located in

the Niagara Falls area are concerned that the proposed widening of the Queen Elizabeth Way will impact on the cemetery. The cemetery, which is still active, was designated under the Heritage Act of Ontario and was the site of a Methodist Episcopal chapel—the first erected west of Prince Edward County. Those who are willing to help are asked to contact John Warner, 14220 Marsh Hill Road, R R # 4, Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1R4.

The State of Florida has created a Task Force on Abandoned and Neglected Cemeteries to look into the cemeteries that are in disrepair, overgrown and abandoned. The Task Force has appealed to the public to assist in locating these cemeteries. They will recommend ways to regulate the cemeteries. Officials in Madison County have added cemetery clean up to the work detail of prisoners.

Welcome new members

Burlington: Wendy Woytasik-Karr

Campbellville: Susan Duval
Grand Blanc, Michigan, USA: Donald B. Simons

Midland: Deborah Crawford
Peterborough: Trent Valley Archives

Stratford: Christine Ritsma
Toronto: Landon B. Keith, Marilyn Rognvaldson, Tory Thompson

Windsor: Hugh Massey Barrett
Les Amis Duff-Bâby

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors

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"Money Does Matter" when it comes to heritage these days!

Jim Watt, Volunteer with the OPP Museum, Orillia

Drastic budget cuts—the mantra of all levels of government—have hit the heritage field particularly hard. Never high on the priority list at the best of times, the heritage community is suffering. Cuts and restructuring have resulted in downsizing, layoffs and closings. It was this climate that spurred the OHS to organize workshops on fund raising for heritage groups entitled *Money Matters!*

The purpose of the workshops, according to Programme Coordinator Robert Leverty is, "to help groups in the non-government field discover where government is providing funding and to share ideas on private fund raising in the heritage field." This article reports on the workshop recently held at the General Headquarters of the Ontario Provincial Police in Orillia. Jeanie Tummon, Curator of the OPP Museum, served as host for the workshop.

Delegates from museums, historical societies and galleries across Central Ontario heard many useful ideas on fund raising. Government help is still available under certain circumstances. Daniel O'Brien, Heritage Organizations Advisor from the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation spoke about *Regulation 879* that provides for grants to incorporated societies and associations. Up to \$2,000 could be granted to a local heritage association as an active outreach programme which might promote an increased awareness of a community's heritage.

Under the *Ontario 2000 Initiatives Programme* to commemorate the Millennium, there are a host of initiatives that the Ontario Government will support. For example, *Main Street Ontario* provides funding, through municipalities, for lasting and community-oriented millennium activities "to help encourage local heritage and tourism activities."

Particularly interesting during the workshop was the presentation by field representatives of the revamped *Ontario Trillium Foundation*. With a budget of \$100 million, heritage projects will be eligible for a share of this money although these projects will have to compete with sports and recreation along with social services. However, the good news is that capital projects for the restoration of structures fall within the foundation's mandate.

The Executive Director of the OHS, Dorothy Duncan, emphasized that heritage could and should mean \$\$ and sense. She advocated that in a time when the bottom line reigns supreme, heritage events make for good business. Heritage events bring people who spend money in communities that ultimately boost the local economy. She outlined methods that the Society has used with the private sector, a sector whose support is necessary in a period of shrinking government funding. In order to lease and then renovate the John McKenzie house, the Society's new headquarters, the OHS raised a total of \$465,000.00. Innovative methods including the *Cook Book Caper* brought in buyers from far and wide to purchase new and used cook books, and food related items. Another project with a flair, the *Preserve the Pudding* series of three fundraising dinners, helped raise money for the project and promote preservation. By understanding its communities and using creative methods, the OHS set a fund raising example.

As Merrill Stephen, the education officer at the Penetang Community Museum said in response to the workshop, "fund raising is a reality in today's environment. We need more workshops like this one so we can work together instead of in isolation." As the workshop title emphasizes, "Money Does Matter"!

HERITAGE RESOURCES CONSULTANT

- ♦ **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

Brian Wood, Editor

Advocacy Alert: Loss of conservation lab in Ministry move an indicator of government decisions to come?

Susan Hughes, OHS Museums Committee

The Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation is relocating to new office space and the plans do not include any provision for a conservation lab.

The Ministry has had a long history of providing treatment based conservation services to a wide range of museums across Ontario. The service began in 1981 and a full conservation lab was added in 1984 with a staff of three. The provincial government's *Community Museums Policy for Ontario* clearly defines the Ministry's role, stating "The province has a fundamental commitment to the preservation and presentation of the material culture of Ontario."

As recently as December 1998, in a letter to the President of the OHS, Minister Bassett wrote that, "When the Ministry relocates to a new building next summer, there will be a much scaled down facility."

This shift away from the range

of on-site workshops in the conservation lab, direct treatment of objects and a strong presence and role in the museum community was a step taken without any consultation with the museums that use the service.

With decreases in provincial museum operating grants and funding levels, few museums have the resources to contract private conservation services. The treatment services once available through the Canadian Conservation Institute in Ottawa now have user fees, so where are under-resourced museums to turn for support?

The *Community Museums Policy for Ontario* is still a valid government document—so why the shift? Why was this decision made, which affects the very core of our business—the care and custodial responsibility for our material culture? What will vanish next, as government redirects its focus away from its respon-

sibility and role in the care of our heritage?

This is why this issue is so important for the entire heritage community, and not just those institutions who will be directly affected by this decision and loss of conservation services.

I urge you to take action and fax Minister Bassett at (416) 325-6195, send a copy to your local MPP (make sure they know how your area will be affected by such decision making), and the OHS.

Fax a copy to the Liberal Culture Critic Michael Gravelle, at (416) 325-1564 and NDP Culture Critic, Rosario Marchese at (416) 325-7111. Tell them you require a full conservation services lab. Museum collections have suffered enough. Protect our non-renewable heritage resources. The loss of the conservation lab is a serious comment on how this government is doing business with us.

More Ontario museums enter the world wide web

Laura Couvrette, Windsor Wood Carving Museum

Fifteen Southwestern Ontario heritage sites will soon be on the World Wide Web, thanks to a co-operative effort.

The initiative to promote the area's smaller historical organizations was undertaken by South Western Ontario Heritage Council member, Bob Garcia of the Fort Malden National Historic Park, and Julie Lawrence of the Windsor Wood Carving Museum.

"Combining grant monies was the key," says Lawrence, who manages Ontario's only wood-carving museum. Late last year,

Lawrence was successful in a bid to hire a videographer, writer and web page designer through the Human Resources Development Canada's Job Creation Program.

Garcia, a resource specialist at nearby Fort Malden National Historic Park, had earlier received a grant from the South Essex Economic Development Corporation to start a website dedicated to SWOHC members.

Combining their efforts meant the creation of the site: www.swoheritagesites.org, which is set to launch in the Spring of 1999.

Brantford celebrates 125 years of the telephone

The telephone is almost 125 years old and what a tremendous 125 years it has been. Alexander Graham Bell probably never imagined that, what became known as his greatest accomplishment, would still be such an integral part of all of our lives.

Two special events in Brantford will celebrate this milestone. On July 24 the Bell Homestead NHS hosts "Anniversary Barbecue and Boogie," an outdoor dinner and dance. On October 29 a special Gala Performance features the music and comedy of Don Harron & Catherine MacKinnon, held at Brantford's historic Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts. For ticket, contact the Bell Homestead N.H.S. at (519) 756-6220.

Submissions for Museum News

should be sent to
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Settlers' log cabin

Vi Collins, Friends of Westfield



On Regional Road 229, formerly Highway 99, hidden in a hollow, sits an unpretentious log cabin. If walls could talk, what history this one-of-a-kind discovery could tell! Though extraordinarily simple and rather rudely finished, it speaks very convincingly of the first attempt at making a permanent shelter for the early pioneers.

This little, single-storey home, constructed in the 1790s by Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe's Queens' Rangers appears to be the only remaining structure of all those built at 24-mile intervals along the Governor's Road. The homes were built to encourage settlement in the area and the settlers would in turn provide maintenance for this roadway linking Head-of-the-Lake to London.

These dwellings had to meet the standards of the by-laws imposed by Simcoe. A minimum size was 16 feet by 20 feet and it had to be "reasonably well constructed." This log cabin meets the criteria. It is of adzed white oak logs with halved and lapped corners—a primitive treatment. Many of the edged beams to the second floor remain in place and protrude through to the exterior. The access to the loft is through a small cut-out for a ladder. Sections of the original whitewashed log interior can be seen, particularly on the underside of the up-

stairs floor boards. Chinking on the outside is mortar, added at a later date and covering over the original mud packing.

The log cabin was occupied continuously until 1997 but now, to save it from demolition, it must be moved to a new location. The new site has been chosen—Westfield Heritage Village in Rockton—and plans are in place to make the move. Many interested organizations and volunteers have made contributions to assist with the fundraising committee in financing this project. However, more is needed to raise the estimated \$36,000 required. If you can help, contact Andrew Tapajna, Fundraising Chairman, Westfield Heritage Village, Rockton P.O., Rockton, Ontario L0R 1X0.

Log houses are fast disappearing. It is true that these log homes are not architecture in the Grand Manner. They have never known the influence of a Wren, Jones or Adam. They very humbly performed the task expected of them without the sophistication of the "Georgian" house or the air of the "Classical Revivals." They are the forgotten beginning of Ontario's architectural history.

This is one log home that will be preserved to give visitors to Westfield a true picture of how our early settlers founded this great province of Ontario.

Cold war era anti-aircraft gun available to public museums

The City of Toronto plans to transfer a historic anti-aircraft gun in its care to an appropriate public museum. The artifact is a United States 90 mm anti-aircraft gun, Model M1A3, with 1943 American Ordnance markings, but was used by Canadian forces in the 1950s.

The transfer of this object will involve a two-step process. First, museums should communicate their interest in it by letter. Next, these institutions will receive a questionnaire to enable City staff to assess the different applications to recommend to City Council which museum is best qualified to receive the object.

The primary criteria in judging applications will be the ability of the acquiring institutions to maintain the artifact over the long-term and to interpret it in a contextualized museum collection for the public benefit.

Museums which would like to participate in the competition should express their interest in a letter, to be received no later than May 3, 1999. Letters of interest or enquiry should be addressed to Dr. Carl Benn, Curator, Military History, Heritage Toronto, 205 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 1N2, (416) 392-6827, fax 392-6917.



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From the Bookshelf

Pat and Chris Raible, Editors

Art History

Tom Thomson: Design for a Canadian Hero. By Joan Murray. Dundurn Press. 109 pages. Illustrations. \$29.99 hardbound.

This new biography explores Tom Thomson's life as well as his art. A legend after his death, he was in life a troubled man, outwardly kind and generous, inwardly angry and wounded, in many ways his own victim, says Joan Murray. But as an artist she notes that he is a Canadian hero. Trained as a commercial artist, he was employed by the highly successful Grip Limited, where his boss was "Mr. MacDonald" (J.E.H. MacDonald) and co-workers included Arthur Lismer, Frank Johnston, F.H. Varley and Franklin Carmichael. As commercial artist and as painter his great gift was his eye for design. With this eye he looked at nature and captured the "primitive splendour" of the Canadian North. This most attractive book—which includes 25 quite stunning colour plates—is a worthy testament to Thomson as Designer.

Gaelic Guide

The Emigrant's Guide to North America. Edited by Elizabeth Thompson. Natural Heritage/Natural History. 159 pages. Illustrations. \$18.95 softbound.

An *Talamb Fhuar* (the cold land) and *Tir nan Craobh* (land of the trees) were the phrases Gaels used a century and a half ago to describe Canada. One highlander, Robert MacDougall, spent three years here and wrote a book about it. His guide is unique because it was in Gaelic, the mother tongue of many Scots on both sides of the Atlantic. It has just been republished—in English translation, yet retaining the flavour of the original work. What a fascinating volume it is! The author's major purpose is to advise would-be settlers with chapters on choosing land, on clearing land, on crops, on grass, on the making of maple sugar, on and livestock. It also describes the flies and mosquitoes and gives warning about wild animals and about the winters.

City Neighbourhoods

Your Guide to Toronto Neighbourhoods. By David Dunkelmann. Maple Tree Publishing. 337 pages. Illustrations. \$24.95 softbound.

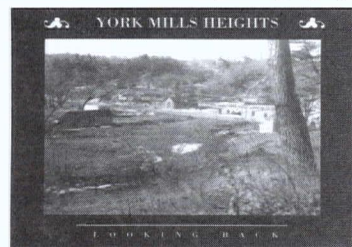
A carefully organized intro-

duction to each of more than a hundred and fifty of Toronto's neighbourhoods. Some, like Lansing or Islington, are the remnants of vanished villages that the city has overgrown. Others, like Markland Wood or Thorncrest Village, are names created by developers. Many, like High Park or Don Mills simply took the name of some area landmark. Whatever the name, the history and features of each is briefly described, complete with its residential and real estate values.

Awe-inspiring

Superior: Under the Shadow of the Gods. By Barbara Chisholm and Andrea Gutsche. Lynx Images. 282 pages. Illustrations. \$24.95 softbound; video \$29.95; book & video \$49.95.

Lynx Images have added another book and video to their series of explorations of Ontario's maritime history. This one tours the shore of Lake Superior—and superior it is! Here are stories of natives and immigrants, miners and sailors, explorers and entrepreneurs. As with the earlier books on Georgian Bay, the emphasis is especially on the darker side of life on the lake; the storms, disasters, failures and broken dreams. But there are some triumphs amidst the tragedies. The marvellous 72-minute video has archival footage and photos, along with maps and splendid aerial photography.

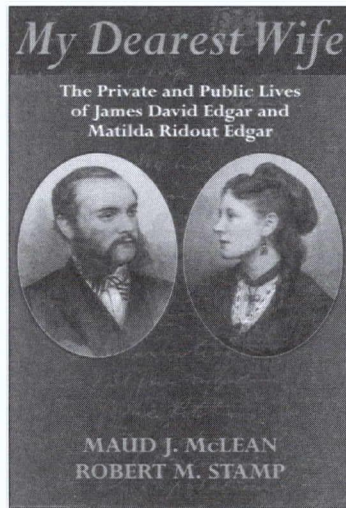


Past Still Present

York Mills Heights: Looking Back. York Mills Heights Association. 75 pages. Illustrations. \$20.00 softbound.

A collection of cherished vignettes about an area which is but a small piece of metropolitan Toronto, but which has a character and history of its own. Full page photographs—some archival, some especially taken for this book—are accompanied by just enough descriptive text to inform and often delight. Word and image tell their tales of the Hoggs Hollow bridge (which an elephant once refused to cross), the Armour Heights airfield (frequently visited by Amelia Earhart), and the Hilton Tudhope

Mansion (built in the 1930s, demolished later by land developers). Here also are reminders of Hurricane Hazel, of bathing in the Don River, of early services at St. John's Church, and much more.



Home and Heart

My Dearest Wife: The Private & Public Lives of James David Edgar & Matilda Ridout Edgar. By Maud J. McLean and Robert M. Stamp. Natural Heritage/Natural History. 297 pages. Illustrations. \$21.95 softbound.

James David Edgar is best known as the first lieutenant in the 19th century Liberal political army captained by better known men like George Brown, Alexander Mackenzie and Wilfrid Laurier. Matilda Ridout Edgar is perhaps most lauded for her biography of Isaac Brock in the *Makers of Canada* series. Throughout their lives, whenever Edgar was away—on political causes or legal cases—the pair corresponded. These letters, along with other family correspondence and diaries, are used to tell us about their shared personal, domestic life as well as to detail their professional careers. Maud McLean, a direct descendant of the couple, and Robert Stamp, historian and author of many books on Ontario, were well matched to write this insightful and worthwhile joint biography.

Story History

The Tramp Room. By Nancy-Lou Patterson. Wilfrid Laurier Press for the Friends of Joseph Schneider Haus. 158 pages. Illustrations. \$14.95 softbound.

Young Elizabeth Salisbury is a junior interpreter at Kitchener's Joseph Schneider Haus. Dressed in her period costume for the museum's St. Nicholas Eve programme, she falls asleep—and wakes up in the mid 19th century! Elizabeth is warmly welcomed as the new servant girl expected by the Mennonite family living in the house. She soon finds herself caught up in the drama of a young apprentice being relentlessly pursued by a cruel master. Details of the daily lives of a Mennonite family—from cookie cutting to flax breaking—enhance this adventure for young adults.

On a Golden Note

They Loved to Play: Memories of the Golden Age of Canadian Music. By Murray Ginsberg. eastendbooks. 272 pages. Illustrations. \$29.95 softbound.

Celebrated here are people, places, and performances in the Canadian music scene over the past sixty years or so, seen and heard through the eyes and ears of Murray Ginsberg. During World War II, Ginsberg played trombone with the Royal Canadian Army Show, returning to Canada to play with Bert Niosi in Toronto at the Palais Royale, and eventually with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. He weaves personal experiences and anecdotes with his interviews of many, many other musicians. Archival photographs will stir fond memories for those who lived and listened through the "golden age," and will put a face to a name for those who didn't.

Canadian Shields

A Canadian Heraldic Primer. By Kevin Greaves. Heraldry Society of Canada. 34 pages. Illustrations. \$3.00 softbound.

As the title suggests, this is a simple guide to the fascinating and confusing world of coats of arms and their symbolism. Here are helpful hints to creating a Canadian shield of your own.

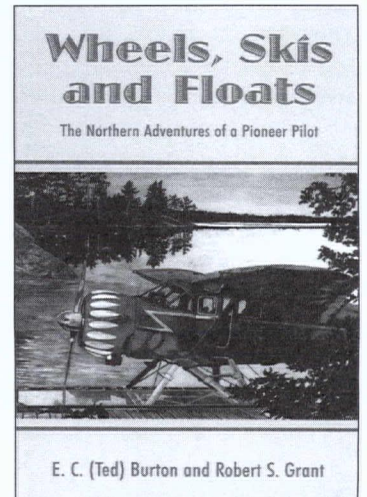
History Noted

Since our last issue, we have received these flyers and notices describing publications of interest.

An Illustrated Companion to Canadian Folk Art. An updated reprint of two out-of-print volumes, *Folk Art: Primitive and Naïve Art in Canada* and *A Dictionary of Folk Artists in Canada from the 17th Century to the Present*. Jennifer McKendry. 297 pages. Illustrations. \$45.00.

Global Everything for the Family Historian 1999 Catalogue. Global Genealogy Supply. Free. More than 40 pages listing publications and other resources for genealogists.

1901 census for Wentworth county transcriptions: East Flamborough Township; Binbrook Township. An ongoing project of the Hamilton Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society—several other township will



Up North and Away

Wheels, Skis and Floats: The Northern Adventures of a Pioneer Pilot. By E.C. (Ted) Burton and Robert S. Grant. Hancock House. 174 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.

Ed Burton spent most of his life as a bush pilot with the Ontario Provincial Air Service. Here are his memories, accompanied by quotes from letters, diaries, and clippings. Those who lived in the vast regions to the north, as well as the hunters, prospectors, and others who (so to speak) dropped in, all depended on the biplanes and monoplanes for transportation, mail delivery, and emergency service. Central to the book is a fine collection of photographs of vintage aircraft and their pilots at work.

also soon be available "at reasonable cost."

Heritage Books of Haldimand-Norfolk. Heronwood Enterprises. Free. The third edition of a catalogue listing more than 50 heritage titles.

The Parish and Cathedral of St. James, Toronto 1797-1997. The collaborative work of 7 authors and historians: Carl Benn, Giles Bryant, William Cooke, Paul H. Friesen, Alan Hayes, C. Thomas McIntire and Shirley Morriss. Includes chapters on architecture and music as well as the parish history. \$35.95.

Who's Who in Heritage in Niagara 1997-1999. By Gail Benjafield, Lynne Prunskus & John Benjafield. 78 pages. Illustrated. \$8.00 softbound. A sourcebook of all societies, museums, historic sites and annual events in the Niagara Peninsula.

Directory of Publishers

Cathedral of St. James, 65 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario M5C 2E9.

Dundurn Press Ltd., 8 Market Street, Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario M5E 1M6

eastendbooks, 45 Fernwood Park Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4E 3E9.

Gail Benjafield, 83 Glenridge Avenue, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 4X2.

Global Genealogical Supply, 13 Charles Street, Suite 102, Milton, Ontario L9T 2G5.

Hancock House, 19313 Zero Avenue, Surrey, British Columbia V4P 1M7.

Heraldry Society of Canada, Box 8128, Station T, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3H9.

Heronwood Enterprises, RR# 2,

Nanticoke, Ontario N0A 1L0.

Jennifer McKendry, 1 Baiden Street, Kingston, Ontario K7M 2J7.

Lynx Images, Box 5961, Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1P4.

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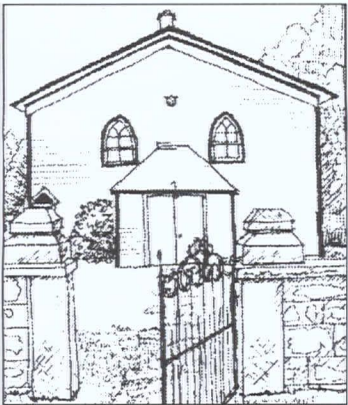
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Help save the Melville “White” Church

Belfountain Heritage Society

Thousands of people drive past one of Ontario’s heritage gems every day.



The beautiful 1837 Melville “White Church” just south of Belfountain on the Mississauga Road is one of the last remaining timber-framed churches in Ontario predating the Victorian era. It was built by Daniel McMillan and brothers, a founder of the nearby community of Erin. Upon completion the frame building was painted white, hence the popular name, “The White Church.” It has been abandoned since the 1970s. The Belfountain Heritage Society has embarked on a fundraising campaign to restore the church and

return it to the community for concerts, meetings, readings, choirs, and weddings. The society has raised \$17,000 to date, mainly from the immediate area, making it possible to construct a new cedar roof—miraculously completed just before last winter’s first big snow fall! The Belfountain Heritage Society is hosting a fundraising restoration celebration at the church on Monday, May 24 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. There will be a delicious pancake breakfast, a silent auction including old church benches, crafts, entertainment and more. The Belfountain Heritage Society welcomes donations for its continuing restoration. Phase two will encompass new foundation and flooring. If you can assist in this project, please contact the The Belfountain Heritage Society, 17246 Main Street, Belfountain, Ontario L0N 1B0. Cheques should be made out to The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (our partners in this project) and will be acknowledged with a charitable tax receipt.

The prospects and pitfalls of preservation

Martin Ahermaa, Toronto

At one time or another we all identify, even grieve, the loss of a cherished touchstone with our shared past. It is an all too common and distressing media scenario; outraged citizens are pitted against developers, politicians, or unidentified private interests about the loss, destruction, demolition or wilful neglect of an historic building or archaeological site, wetlands, document collection, and so forth. Unfortunately, this seems to be happening everywhere, all over the world, not just in our own communities in Ontario. I’ve recently read the book by David Lowenthal, *The Heritage Crusade and the Spoils of History* (Cambridge University Press, 1998) and am encouraged to share my comments because I believe he offers useful lessons in heritage advocacy. Through his experience in a wide variety of confrontational situations, the author documents and shares his experience and insight with an audience frazzled by the tensions of relentless progress, and the prospect of the disappearance of identity and context in personal life. In ten carefully structured chapters, along with superb endnotes and bibliography, Lowenthal surveys the uses and abuses of heritage. What I found particularly useful was his examination of how the aims of heritage have

diverged from history and historiography. One goal is to show how “...heritage is not history at all; while it borrows from and enlivens historical study, heritage is not an inquiry into the past but a celebration of it, not an effort to know what actually happened but a profession of faith in a past tailored to present-day purposes.” By discussing just what these purposes of heritage are and the impulses that drive the issues, Lowenthal helps the reader become a better advocate for heritage. Yet he stresses that advocates must recognize that their own assumptions about the significance of value of, for example, buildings or artifacts may not be equally shared by all. Lowenthal quotes an Australian Aborigine, “white people don’t know what to remember and what to forget, what to let go of and what to preserve.” Disputes arise and can be overcome, “only by understanding what heritage means to myriad claimants, whose desires differ with culture, time and circumstance.” If you are concerned about heritage and preservation, I suggest reading Lowenthal and absorbing his challenging, invigorating, at times, infuriating book and thought-provoking lessons. Think through your options (especially human and financial) then saddle up and join the crusade.

Looking for Mr. Davidson

Lorne Saxberg, Silver Islet

One of Ontario’s oldest and most historic general stores is looking for an important piece of its history. The Silver Islet General Store was built on the shores of Lake Superior near present-day Thunder Bay in 1871. It was the company store for the Silver Islet Mining Company which extracted nearly three million dollars in rich, silver ore from beneath Lake Superior during the final years of the last century. When the rich vein of silver dwindled and world prices of the metal dropped, the mining company folded. Silver Islet became a ghost town. Today, Silver Islet is a vibrant summer community. Many of the original miners’ homes have been restored as summer cottages. The store is still the hub of the tiny hamlet, just as it was in those early days. Scant records show that the first storekeeper during the mining era was a Mr. John Davidson of Bruce Mines, Ontario. He was responsible for the day to day operations of the store including purchasing, bookkeeping and overseeing staff. Though extensive records of daily transactions are on file in the Archives of Ontario, little was documented about Davidson, the length of his stay at Silver Islet, or where he eventually settled. In 1988 the Saxberg family of Thunder Bay bought the Silver Islet store and began an ambitious restoration of the building. A diary, found under some loose floorboards, listed daily transactions from 1875 in Davidson’s handwriting. Curious to know more about the man, Lorne Saxberg Jr. began making inquiries. A visit to the Bruce Mines Museum helped uncover an obituary from the *Bruce Mines Spectator* dated January 26, 1911. It mentions the death of Mr. Davidson, “father of a Mr. A. Davidson, formerly of Bruce Mines.” According to the newspaper, “the deceased was 88 years of age and was born in Ireland, coming to Canada about



thirty years ago. He leaves two sons and four daughters to mourn his loss, his wife having passed away about 12 years ago. In religion, Mr. Davidson was a Presbyterian. The funeral took place on Tuesday to the Bruce Mines Cemetery.” Today, no tombstones or gravemarkers bear the Davidson name in that cemetery. The deceased may have been Davidson himself, his father, or no relation to the shopkeeper at all. Efforts to narrow the search have included letters to the editor of the newspaper in Sault Ste.

Marie and inquiries to the Thunder Bay area. As the Silver Islet Store approaches its 130th anniversary, the Saxberg family is anxious to find information on Davidson and possibly a photo to include in special displays, events and advertising. If anyone can help, please contact Lorne Saxberg in Toronto (416) 694-6269 or at the family’s Thunder Bay address, 367 Marion Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 1C6. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

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ISSN 0714-6736

The *OHS Bulletin*, the newsletter of The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2 (416) 226-9011, fax 226-2740 will be published five times in 1999; February, April, June, September and December. The copy deadline for the next issue is May 10, 1999. Reprinting of articles must be accompanied by the acknowledgement: Reprinted from the *OHS Bulletin*, (issue and date), published by The Ontario Historical Society. All photo credits and bylines must be retained. The views expressed by the contributors and advertisers are not necessarily those of the OHS. The OHS gratefully acknowledges the support of the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation.

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