



OHS BULLETIN

34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2

Issue 124 • APRIL 2000

Provincial and Territorial historical societies meet in Willowdale



Representatives of Canada's provincial and territorial historical societies met for the first time in Willowdale, sponsored by Canada's National History Society. (CoEd Communications Inc.)

Canada's National History Society (CNHS), based in Winnipeg,

Manitoba, hosted the first National Conference of Provincial and Territorial Historical Societies in Willowdale in February. Speakers and session leaders included: Jean Allan, CBC; Laurier LaPierre, Writer and Historian; Ken Osborne, University of Manitoba; Marianne Fedori, Historical Society of Alberta; Patricia O'Brien, Joseph Martin and Laird Rankin, CNHS; Jacques Bensimons, TFO-TVO Ontario; Kevin Kee, National Film Board; Tony Lovell, Lovell & Company Inc.; Ann Medina, TV Ontario; and Bryan Walls, Robert Leverty and Dorothy Duncan from the OHS.

The delegates defined the teaching and understanding of history as a vital component of our educational system and Canadian way of life. A resolution calling on the provincial and ter-

ritorial governments of Canada to recognize the value of history in education and to develop and implement dedicated history courses in their curriculum requirements for both public and private schools was passed unanimously by the delegates and sent by each organization to the provincial premier, or territorial leader.

The delegates attended the Pierre Berton Reception and Award Dinner at the Albany Club, sponsored by The Hudson's Bay History Foundation and The Historica Foundation of Canada. Pierre Berton, after whom the Award is named and its first winner in 1994, presented The 2000 Pierre Berton Award for distinguished achievement in popularizing Canadian history to Peter C. Newman.

Banting Update

Colin Agnew, Research Co-ordinator

As many of you know, the OHS recently inherited the farm in the Town of New Tecumseth where Sir Frederick Banting, one of the co-discoverers of insulin was born.

One of our neighbours to the south of the property, Northcroft Properties Inc., has proposed to develop a subdivision on their property.

Due to a number of unresolved issues between Northcroft and the Town of New Tecumseth, an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) Hearing is required. On February 14 and 15 there was an OMB Pre-Hearing Conference in Alliston to identify the participants in, and set the dates for, Northcroft's upcoming OMB Hearing.

The hearing has been set for June 26, 2000 and will last for 5 days.

A number of concerned New Tecumseth residents, including a representative of the Mnjikaning First Nation attended the Pre-Hearing Conference. The Mnjikaning First Nation have an interest in the proposed Northcroft subdivision because of the Paleo-Indian site located in the area.

You will remember that the OHS is still looking for suggestions for the Banting property.

Send your suggestions to The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011, fax (416) 226-2740.

One thousand reasons to celebrate Ontario's history

The Ontario Historical Society is sponsoring a major symposium April 14, 15, and 16, 2000 which will reintroduce Ontarians to the rich and fascinating history of their province. "Celebrating One Thousand Years of Ontario's History" is being held in the Council Chambers of the North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge Street, Willowdale and you are invited to attend.

Beginning with "The World One Thousand Years Ago" and concluding with "Ontarians Who Have Changed the World," sessions will trace the occupation of the land that today we call the Province of Ontario, from the life and times of the First Nations to the arrival of the newcomers from all over the world while exploring their challenges and accomplishments.

The Friday session begins at 7:00 p.m. with introductions from OHS President Jeanne Hughes, and presentations by Dr. Ilvana Elbl, Trent University "The World One Thousand Years Ago"; and Margaret Sault, Mississaugas of The New Credit First Nation, "The Lands That We Now Call Ontario One Thousand Years Ago."

The Saturday programme features several speakers: Dr. Carl Benn, Historic Fort York; Dr. Douglas Leighton, University of Western Ontario; Esther Osche, Whitefish River First Nation; Dr. Lisa Rankin, McMaster University, and others to be announced who will move us through time "From First Nations to Newcomers: A Land in Transition."

The symposium continues Sunday morning and features Dr. Michael Bliss, University of Toronto; Dr. Bryan Walls, John Freeman Walls Historic Site and Underground Railroad Museum, and others to be announced bringing us to the present and projecting us into the future.

The registration fee for the symposium is \$25.00 and includes sessions, a kit of resource materials, and light refreshments. Lunch on Saturday is available for an extra fee of \$15.00. Space is limited. To register contact the OHS at 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2.

The support of the Government of Ontario, through *Ontario 2000* and the *Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation*, is gratefully acknowledged for this event.

Doors open and books for sale

The OHS is taking part in the "Doors Open Toronto" weekend sponsored by Heritage Toronto and the Toronto Historical Foundation May 27 and 28.

This is the first time many heritage buildings that are privately owned, will be open for public tours.

Contact Heritage Toronto at (416) 392-6827 for a complete listing of the sites included in this

innovative programme for the city.

In addition to having a tour of the historic headquarters of the OHS, you will have an opportunity to browse and buy books at our popular "Histories and Mysteries Book Sale."

The hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. We await your arrival with our doors open.

IN THIS ISSUE:

SPECIAL FEATURES:

- An old festival, a new festival p.8
- A tale of two townships, Paipoonge Museum, and amalgamation p.6
- Celebrate Canada's heritage at the Toronto Regional Heritage Fair 2000 p.2
- Heritage Challenge Fund announced p.2
- Local History workshop returns to Cobalt p.4
- MCzCR attempts to ease challenges of amalgamation p.6
- On the grounds of history p.8
- Ontario History Special Issue p.5
- Perth Museum celebrates 75 years p.8
- Red Lake Museum hosts early Norval Morrisseau paintings p.6
- The 9th annual International Museum Publishing seminar p.5
- What in the World's Going On p.8

REGULAR FEATURES:

- Across the Province p.3
- Cemetery News p.5
- Executive Director's Report p.2
- From the Bookshelf p.7
- Join the OHS at these events p.4
- Museum News p.6
- President's Message p.2
- Upcoming Events p.4
- We gratefully acknowledge the following donors p.5
- Welcome new members p.8

The Ontario Historical Society
34 Parkview Avenue
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M2N 3Y2

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President's Message

Jeanne Hughes

A short while ago, at a meeting held at the OHS office, someone made a remark about the late Russell Cooper to the effect that probably no one had done more in this province to further the cause of heritage generally than Russ. There was, of course, complete agreement around the table and those of us who had known Russ perhaps nodded our heads with a little more energy than others.

I count myself as extremely fortunate to have been both a colleague and, more importantly, a friend of Russ' for twenty years and so I had the opportunity to see him both in his professional capacity as well as at less formal times.

His passion for preserving the history of Ontario was shown in so many ways. Whether he was functioning as part of the group which founded the Ontario Museum Association, a member of the Minister's Advisory Committee to review the Ontario Heritage Policy, a member of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, planning a new phase for Black Creek Pioneer Village, or helping a local society or community museum solve a knotty problem, he gave the subject at hand his complete attention and sense of importance.

We who worked with him learned much from him; his knowledge of Canadian artifacts was based on a lifetime of study and his understanding of how governments and bureaucracy think and work came from decades of dealing with these bodies. Consequently, Russ was one of the first people one thought of when seeking help, and considered advice. In 1988, the Society's centennial year, Russ was one of three recipients of a special OHS Award of Merit for outstanding service to the heritage community and to the province of Ontario.

I am delighted therefore to announce that, starting in 2001, The Ontario Historical Society will be giving an annual Russ Cooper Award of Merit for an aspect of excellence in a living history museum. This award is being generously donated by Rowena Cooper, his wife of many years. To quote Rowena, "The Ontario Historical Society, the Ontario Museum Association, the Ontario Heritage Foundation, the Ontario Genealogical Society and many local historical societies and LACACs across the Province are all the richer for having had the benefit of his expertise over the past nearly forty years."

The details and terms of reference for this new award, as well as all the other established OHS awards will be available from the office in May. It is certainly not too early to don your thinking caps and look around your community for likely candidates for the Carnochan Award, made to an individual who has contributed many years of service to the heritage community; or for the Scadding Award, made to a society or heritage group; as well as a number of other categories that cover a wide range of heritage activities. The heritage sectors in our communities get little praise and glory for the good work that they do and, for most, it is a shot in the arm to receive public acknowledgement for their efforts.

The awards will be presented at the OHS Annual General Meeting on May 6 at the Society's headquarters. I look forward to seeing many of you at that meeting and honouring this year's award winners. I am delighted to announce the winners:

The Carnochan Award: John Stuart Hulbig of Kinmount; and Aureen Richardson of Warkworth.

Fred Landon Award: C.M. Blackstock for *All the Journey Through*, University of Toronto Press.

Joseph Brant Award: Mark G. McGowan for *The Waning of the Green: Catholics the Irish, and Identity in Toronto, 1887-1922*, McGill-Queen's University Press.

Museum Award of Excellence in Community Programming: the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte.

President's Award: Rick Lovekin and Ron Moreland of #122035, Ontario Inc.

Scadding Award of Excellence: The 75th Anniversary of the Great Fire of 1922 Committee, of the Haileybury Heritage Museum.

Alison Prentice Award: Charlotte Gray for *Mrs. King: The Life and Times of Isabel Mackenzie King*, Penguin Books.

J. J. Talman Award: Christopher Andreae for *Lines of Country: An Atlas of Railway and Waterway History in Canada*, Boston Mills Press.

Riddell Award: Helen Smith and Pam Wakewich for "'Beauty and the Helldivers': Regulating Women's Work and Identities in a Warplant Newspaper" published in *Labour/LeTravail*.

Special Award of Merit: Margaret Angus of Kingston; William Le Surf of Smiths Falls; and Mary Evans of Woodstock.

The President and Board of Directors
of The Ontario Historical Society
invite you to attend the
Annual Business Meeting
to be held
Saturday, May 6, 2000 at 2:00 p.m.
at the John McKenzie House
34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale

Executive Director's Report

Dorothy Duncan

Remembering Ward Cornell

To the rest of Canada, Ward Cornell will be remembered as Mr. Hockey Night in Canada, or as Ontario's agent-general in London, but to those of us who worked in the Museum Section of the then Ministry of Culture and Recreation in the 1980s he will always be the Deputy Minister who was constantly looking for sticks and pucks. Whenever he arrived on our floor we all knew that he was concerned about finding more sticks and pucks, or the money to buy them, for First Nations children. Since the only budget that we controlled was earmarked to serve the community museums in Ontario, and Mr. Cornell believed he did not have an appropriate budget either, these discussions always ended in our "passing the hat" around the Section, the only compromise we could find. It was while he was Deputy Minister that Ontario's mobile conservation lab was funded, outfitted and went on the road to assist community museums with the conservation of collections, and to Ward and Bob Bowes, then Director of our department, we all owe a debt of gratitude for their successful negotiations with the

Canadian Conservation Institute and the National Museums of Canada over that much-needed initiative.

And while We're On the Topic of Conservation Labs

As our members know, the OHS has been concerned for some time about the closing and moving into storage in Ottawa of the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation's conservation lab that, for many years, served the community museums in Ontario with hands-on service, training and advisory services. As our members know, the OHS asked the Ministry in June 1999 to give us the opportunity to make a proposal concerning the continued operation of the lab that has been in storage in Ottawa for the last ten months. As we go to press we are pleased to learn that the Ministry will issue a call for proposals for the lab in April.

Welcome

To Cristina Perfetto and Colin Agnew who joined the OHS staff earlier this year. Our members will remember Cristina was one of our speakers at "Buon Appetito! A Symposium on Ital-

ian Foodways in Ontario" and is now applying her considerable talents to membership, subscriptions and accounting. Colin Agnew has worked as an archaeologist in Belize, Ecuador and Ontario, and is making a valuable contribution concerning research and decisions surrounding the Banting Estate and the presentation of our symposium in April.

May 6 will be a Busy Day!

Plan now to join us at our headquarters at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 6 for the Annual Business Meeting of The Ontario Historical Society, the presentation of Honours and Awards to those winners able to attend, and to participate in the launch of the OHS's newest publication, *Buon Appetito! Italian Foodways in Ontario*. As our members know this is the compilation of the papers presented at the symposium held last November. Professor Jo Marie Powers, of the University of Guelph and OHS Board member has edited the papers for publication. The afternoon will conclude with Italian treats and an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new friends.

Heritage Challenge Fund announced

The Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, the Honourable Helen Johns, recently announced the \$10 million Heritage Challenge Fund. The announcement was made at the Joseph Schneider Haus.

The Heritage Challenge Fund, promised almost a year ago in the 1999 Budget Speech, is directed at preserving and enhancing heritage in communities across Ontario. The fund will be delivered in partnership with the Ontario Heritage Foundation and will provide dollar-for-dollar matching grants of up to \$200,000 for eligible applicants in communities across Ontario.

The new fund will be divided into two \$5-million components. One part, directed to communi-

ties, will help to preserve, restore and maintain their designated properties. The fund will provide capital assistance to heritage projects and provide seed money for endowment funds to help eligible community organizations meet the ongoing costs of maintaining the heritage resources under their stewardship. Eligible recipients include not-for-profit incorporated bodies that own or have a long-term lease on a heritage property, First Nations Band Councils, municipalities, and local service boards.

The other \$5-million component will provide a source of funding for the Ontario Heritage Foundation (OHF) to preserve heritage buildings and natural heritage land it holds in trust for

all Ontarians. This component will allow the OHF to set up an endowment to ensure its long-term viability and will require the Foundation to raise matching funds from other sources.

The OHF will work in partnership with the Ministry to administer the fund under a partnership agreement signed by both parties. The agreement will clarify roles and responsibilities regarding the Heritage Challenge Fund, including investing and managing the fund account, and accepting and reviewing applications for the fund.

For information, contact Rul Brum, Minister's Office at (416) 325-6024, or Steven Davidson, Heritage and Libraries Branch (416) 314-7124.

Celebrate Canada's heritage at the Toronto Regional Heritage Fair 2000

As part of the CRB Foundation's Heritage Programme, five schools from the Toronto District School Board will be showcasing projects on Canadian history, geography and heritage at the Toronto Regional Heritage Fair 2000.

The Fair will be held at Toronto Harbourfront, York Quay on Friday May 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The students will be on hand to explain their work and several musical performances have been scheduled throughout the day.

The event is open to the public and admission is free. We wel-

come everyone, including groups to come to the Fair, view the projects and talk with the students to encourage their interest in Canadian heritage.

For further information please contact Fair Co-ordinator, Lynn Voisard at John Fisher Public School (416) 393-9325.

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Across the Province

Mary Simonds, Chair, Local Societies Committee and Dorothy Duncan, Executive Director

Roger Gordon, Acting Deputy Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation has announced the appointment of Miriam McTiernan as the new Archivist of Ontario. Miriam has served with the **Human Resources Professional Association of Ontario** and in the Yukon as Territorial Archivist and as both Assistant Deputy Minister and Deputy Minister of Government Services, Economic Development and Renewable Resources. Welcome!

The **Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association** has announced the launch of *Canada's Forgotten Gold Rush: The Goldfields of Larder Lake* by Duff Dufresne and Clark Thompson. Costs and availability: The Township of Larder Lake, Box 40, Larder Lake, Ontario P0K 1L0.

The **Peterborough Historical Society** has launched a campaign to "Save the Market Hall and Clock Tower" and is offering innovative gifts to all donors to this worthwhile project. For more information: (705) 742-7777, extension 4692.

Do you have a wedding dress or bridesmaid's dress that you would be willing to loan to the **Norfolk Historical Society** for the wedding show of the century, "A Century of Weddings" to be presented in May? Call (519) 426-1583 if you do.

The **Grimsby Historical Society** April 19 meeting will feature "Ontario's Niagara Escarpment—A World Biosphere Reserve for Future Generations" with Sue Powell and Martin Killian, at 8:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Parish Hall, Grimsby.

The **Town of York Historical Society** has announced the resignation of Victoria von Schilling, the dedicated and esteemed curator of **Toronto's First Post Office**. The Board of Directors has appointed Louise Bridge as curator. Welcome Louise, and Vicki, do keep in touch with your scores of friends in the heritage community!

The 1999 issue of *Huron Historical Notes*, published by the **Huron County Historical Society**, features the early military history of the County and is an engrossing read. Requests: Secretary, Huron County Historical Society, c/o Huron County Museum, 110 North Street, Goderich, Ontario N7A 2T8.

Esqueusing Historical Society has three programmes scheduled: "Acton Fire Department" on April 12; "Ghost Towns of Ontario" on May 10; and "A Walking Tour of Norval" on June 14. To join these events, or to join this active Society: (905) 877-6506.

The **Albion Bolton Historical Society** April 17 meeting will remember "The Hickman Street Arena" with speaker Isabel Bottoms and story swapping in the Heritage Hall of Bolton United Church at 7:30 p.m.

The dedication of a very special nature reserve including the Krug Woodlot, was held in Kinghurst late last year. This includes the most significant large area of old growth maple-beech forest in south-western Ontario and was donated by the late Howard Krug to the **Federation of Ontario Naturalists**.

The **Simcoe County Museum** is planning for the future, both on site and out in the community, with the proposal to introduce a museumobile and to acquire adjoining lands for expansion. Call (705) 728-3721 to learn more!

Plans are now finalized for the **Viking Millennium International Symposium** which begins in St. John's, Newfoundland September 15, moves to the Norse site at L'Anse aux Meadows September 18, and then to Labrador Straits for September 21. Fax your inquiries to (709) 753-0879 for a detailed schedule of events.

The **Ailsa Craig and District Museum** is holding a fundraising "Antique Auction and Dinner" April 16. Tickets: (519) 293-3694.

The **Bronte Historical Society** is appealing for items on their

Wish List: a reliable photocopier, a small computer desk, and a CD player. Call (905) 825-5552 if you can help.

The **Campbellford-Seymour Heritage Society** has announced that *Gleanings: A History of Campbellford-Seymour* will be published in August. Call (705) 653-5594 to reserve your copy.

Congratulations are extended to Dr. Margaret Angus, well-known Kingston historian, author, and a Past President of the OHS, on *The Kingston Connection: The Story of Kingston as the Capital of the United Provinces of Canada*. Four thousand copies of her book will be distributed to grade 7 and 8 students in the **Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic School Board** and the **Limestone District School Board**.

The **St. Joseph and Area Historical Society** was formed and became an affiliate of the OHS just two short years ago and we have been amazed by their accomplishments, including the new Historic Park Walkway in St. Joseph Memorial Park and a partnership with the **Zurich Chamber of Commerce** for "Revitalizing Zurich's Heritage: Using Our Past to Ensure Our Future" with support from the **Ontario Trillium Foundation**.

What have you planned to recognize your volunteers during **National Volunteer Appreciation Week** April 9 to 15? Most of our organizations and institutions could not survive without them, so here is your opportunity to say **Thank you!**

"Bethel Cemetery: Then and Now" is the topic of the May 29 **Scarborough Historical Society** meeting that includes a tour and lecture. Call (416) 759-6052 for details.

Rita Davies, Managing Director, **Culture Division, Department of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, for the City of Toronto** has confirmed the following appointments to the Division's Senior Management team: Manager, Arts Services, Alexandra Semeniuk; Manager, Museum Services, Karen Black; Manager, Preservation Services, Denise Gendron; Manager, Cultural Affairs, Beth Hanna.

If you are interested in joining the **Etobicoke Historical Society** bus trip "Over the Hills to Georgian Bay" hosted by Ron Brown on May 30, call (416) 488-2674.

The **Markham Historical Society** April 10 meeting will hear archivist Jane Boyko describe the "Lunau Collection" and on May 8 Paul Burkholder will speak on the "Reesor Family in Canada." Call (905) 294-4576 for details.

Congratulations to Carman Lewis of Markham on receiving the Seniors Hall of Fame Award from the **Town of Markham** in recognition of 40 years of service to the community.

The **Innisfil Historical Society** will be participating June 16,



Bryan Walls, OHS Vice President congratulates Peter C. Newman on winning The 2000 Pierre Berton Award, presented during Canada's National History Society meeting in late February. (Dorothy Duncan)

17, 18 in the Township of Innisfil's anniversary. Look for members in the parade at "Summerfest" and for their display of historic photographs.

The **Kingston Economic Development Corporation Tourist Information Office** is located in the former Kingston Pembroke station and plans to restore this historic structure to its formal architectural splendour. For information: 1-888-8555, ext. 4555.

On the same note **Hearthstone Partnership** was honoured recently by the **Burlington LACAC** for their splendid restoration of the landmark Pig and Whistle Inn that will be converted to a non-profit community centre.

The year 2000 is the anniversary year for many of our member museums, historical societies and heritage groups. Congratulations to the **Norfolk Historical Society** celebrating 100 years, as it was organized on February 9, 1900 "when a small group of interested citizens of Simcoe assembled for this purpose at the Norfolk County Courthouse." Best wishes also go to **Montgomery's Inn** celebrating 25 years, **Bytown** (Ottawa) and the **Township of Innisfil** were incorporated 150 years ago and the **United Church in Canada** celebrates 75 years. What are you celebrating this year?

Bryan Walls, First Vice President of the OHS was one of the featured speakers at the Black History programme at **NASA Headquarters** in Washington in

February with the theme, "Underground Railroad: Path to the Rainbow of Love."

Congratulations to the **Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society** on the receipt of a major grant/loan from the **Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation**. A library, archives, increased storage, conservation and registration areas, offices, and a display area for the large fire engine will be housed in a newly restored and expanded wing of the museum.

Murney Tower National Historic Site, located on Kingston's waterfront in Macdonald Park opens for another season. The Martello Tower, built in 1846 during the Oregon Crisis is a squat circular structure with walls ranging from 15 feet thick on the lake side to 8 feet on the land side, and has been operated by the **Kingston Historical Society** since 1925. Inside are exhibits depicting military life in Kingston during the 19th century. To arrange a visit, call (613) 544-9925, or (613) 544-3715.

The **University of Toronto** is hosting a "Seminar on Self Publishing" on April 29 featuring experts from the book, printing, and publishing industry; including eight successful self-published authors. Call (416) 221-9259 for registration details.

Black Creek Pioneer Village opens for another season on May 1 with many activities planned to keep you returning throughout the summer. Contact (416) 736-1733 for dates and details.

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.)
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Upcoming Events

April–May 15: Learn about some of Toronto’s classically designed homes through a collection of images at the **Pillars of the Millennia** exhibition at Campbell House. Trace the development of classical architecture from ancient Greece and Rome to England, and finally to Upper Canada. Read about early Toronto buildings, such as Castle Frank, the simple log dwelling that aspired to Greek temple design. Campbell House, an excellent example of classical design, is located at 160 Queen Street West in Toronto. (416) 597-0227.

April–May 31: The Thunder Bay Museum hosts **Z-Z-Z-ZAP! Electrifying Ontario** the newest travelling exhibit from the Royal Ontario Museum, with assistance from Ontario Hydro. This interactive display explores the basic concepts of electricity through personal stories, historic facts, and intriguing questions with archival photographs from Ontario Hydro and participating centres. The Museum is located at 425 Donald Street East. Call (807) 623-0801.

April 8: The annual **Crokinole Classic** invitational team challenge tournament takes place at the Joseph Schneider Haus, and spectators are welcome to see the game played the traditional way. Plan to return on **April 15–16** for the **Eggstravaganza** weekend featuring an outdoor egg hunt for children 10 and under, and decorating Ukrainian and Pennsylvania-German Easter eggs for the whole family. The Haus is located at 466 Queen Street South in Kitchener. (519) 742-7752.

April 12: Enoch Turner Schoolhouse invites you to attend an entertaining slide presentation by Toronto historian Mike Filey, **Tearful Tour of Old Toronto: From the Native People to the Avro Arrow** on April 12 at 7:30 p.m. The Schoolhouse is located at 106 Trinity Street in Toronto, call (416) 863-0010 to reserve your place.

April 12: The Friends of Glanmore National Historic Site host a fund-raising **Bridge Desert Buffet** from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Belleville Recreation Centre. For details, contact Glanmore at (613) 962-2329.

April 28–29: The Niagara Regional LACAC (Local Architec-

tural Conservation Advisory Committee) Association in partnership with Niagara-on-the-Lake LACAC has organized a unique hands-on heritage weekend of events throughout the Niagara region. Some of the activities planned include: a workshop on **Heritage Districts**; a showcase of heritage districts throughout the province; a presentation by the Navy Hall fife and drums; tours of the old town; specially designed wine-tasting tours; and a children’s programme at Fort George/Navy Hall. For a registration package, contact the Niagara Regional LACAC Association, 62 Carleton Street South, Thorold, Ontario L2V 2A1 (905) 227-5899, Fax (905) 227-8526, or register by mail to the Heritage Planner, Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, 1593 Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, Ontario L0S 1T0.

May 9–13: The Prince Edward Hotel in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island hosts the Canadian Museums Association delegates for its 53rd Annual Meeting and conference, **Charting Our Course**. Topical subjects such as digitalization, customer service, professionalism, and reaching your audience will be explored through sessions, tours, the trade show, and more. Contact the Canadian Museums Association, CMA Annual Conference, 280 Metcalfe Street, Suite 400, Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1R7 (613) 567-0099 to register.

May 13: Join the Ontario Society for Industrial Archaeology and the Toronto Field Naturalists on a heritage walk and learn about the natural and human heritage of the **Ontario Central Prison Grounds**. See wetland remnants, orchards, herb gardens, a greenhouse, a nursery, and more, before they are lost to site re-development. Meet at the southwest corner of Jefferson Avenue and King Street at 2:00 p.m. An evening ramble on **June 1** along **Old Danforth Road**, and Gerrard Prairie, features unique vegetation from former gravel pits and wetlands. Meet at 6:45 p.m. at the northeast corner of Kingston Road and Victoria Park Avenue. A second evening ramble on **June 15** follows the **Edges of High Park**, exploring the perimeter before landfill and levelling changed the park’s shape. Meet at the Quebec Avenue entrance to High Park subway station at 6:45 p.m. On **July 9**, re-

visit the **West Toronto Maria Street Streetscape** for a walk that explores early 20th century ideas regarding personal safety in the workplace and on the street. Meet at the southwest corner of Dundas Street West and Keele Street at 2:00 p.m. For more information on these and other walks, contact the Toronto Field Naturalists (416) 593-2656.

May 22: The country comes to the city when Montgomery’s Inn holds its 26th annual **Celebration in honour of Queen Victoria’s birthday**. The whole family can listen to the music of the Bond Head Old Tyme Fiddlers, browse the Kingsway Sunnylea Horticultural Society plant sale, watch demonstrations of open hearth cooking, penmanship, and participate in weaving a wattle fence. Afternoon Tea will be served. Montgomery’s Inn is located at 4709 Dundas Street West in Etobicoke (416) 394-8113.

May 28–June 2: Make the most of your research time in Toronto at **Genealogy Summer Camp**, sponsored by the Ontario Genealogy Society. The intensive one-week hands-on family history programme for adults is designed for ‘out-of-town’ researchers, as well as local ‘day-campers.’ The fee includes approximately 7 hours of lectures and tutorials, 30 hours of hands-on instruction, handouts, and public transportation. Contact “Summer Camp,” Ontario Genealogical Society, Toronto Branch, Box 518, Station K, Toronto, Ontario M4P 2G9, or call Jane MacNamara at (416) 463-9103, or fax (416) 463-6755.

May 30: Oshawa is the place to be when the historical society hosts a **Come and Go Tea**. The Oshawa Historical Society celebrates the 40th anniversary of the opening of Henry House as a museum. It was originally constructed in 1849, purchased by Reverend Thomas Henry in 1850, and remained in the family until 1920 when purchased by George and Samuel McLaughlin. It was later sold to the Town, and in 1940 acquired by the Society and is one of three restored homes located in Oshawa’s Lakeview Park as part of Oshawa Community Museum. The tea will be laid out in the gardens of Henry House from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. To visit, call (905) 436-7624.

June 6: The Kingston Historical Society invites you to Cataraqui Cemetery on Sydenham Road in Kingston for the annual celebration of the life and achievements of Canada’s First Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald. The programme includes an Honour Guard of Fort Henry cadets, music, wreath-laying, light refreshments, walking tour of the cemetery, and guest speaker, Helen Cooper, former Mayor of King-

Local History workshop returns to Cobalt

The Classic Theatre, Cobalt will again be the site of the ever-popular “Northern Ontario Local History Workshop,” sponsored by the Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association on Saturday, April 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Speakers will include: Gino Chitroni, Cobalt Town Councilor, describing the Cobalt Heritage Trail and other mining trails; Terry Fiset, Elk Lake Model Forest, with plans for a new interpretation centre; John Long speaking on the Hannah Bay Massacre; Robert Surtees, Nipissing University, speaking on Life Before the Rails; and Dorothy Duncan, OHS, speaking on Eating on the Rails.

To reserve your place contact, Chris Oslund, Haileybury Heritage Museum, (705) 672-1922, fax (705) 672-3200.

ston. Contact the Kingston Historical Society at Box 54, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4V6.

June 25: Ridge House Museum is an 1875 retored, middle class working man’s family home. It was a gift from the Ridgetown Rotary Club to commemorate the community’s centennial in 1975. As part of the 25th anniversary celebrations, the Museum holds a **Backyard Social** featuring blacksmithing, spinning, rope making, a band, story telling, games, lemonade, and of course, birthday cake. Visit the museum, located at 53 Erie Street South in Ridgetown (519) 674-2223 to join the festivities.

September 14–17: The **Annual Conference** of the Association for Great Lakes Maritime History will be held in Amherstburg, co-sponsored by the Friends of ErieQuest, Fort Malden National Historic Site, Marsh Collection Society, Project HMS Detroit, and the Windsor Branch of Save Ontario Shipwrecks. The programme highlights many aspects of Great Lakes history, annual general meeting, social events, diving expeditions, site tours including the Amherstburg Coast Guard Base. For details, contact the Marsh Collection Society, 235A Dalhousie Street, Amherstburg, Ontario, N9V 1W6 (519) 736-9191.

Join the OHS at these events

DATE	EVENT	HOST/SPONSOR/ LOCATION
April 8	Customer Service –workshop at Voyageur Heritage Network Spring meeting–	Voyageur Heritage Network at Musée Sturgeon River House Museum Sturgeon Falls
April 14–16	Celebrating One Thousand Years of Ontario’s History –symposium–	OHS, Council Chambers North York Civic Centre Willowdale
May 6	Annual General Meeting	OHS John McKenzie House Willowdale
May 10	Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About a Historical Society, but were Afraid to Ask –workshop–	OHS and Ross Township Historical Society Cobden
May 27–28	Doors Open Toronto –open house tours–	Heritage Toronto John McKenzie House Willowdale with “Histories and Mysteries” Book Sale
June 21	A Search for Truth: Interpreting the Past –workshop–	OHS and the Friends of Muskoka Pioneer Village Huntsville
July 1	Canada Day Street Sale	OHS John McKenzie House and our neighbours on Parkview Avenue

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Cemetery News

Marjorie Stuart

The Weston Historical Society and Montgomery's Inn are sponsoring a tour of **Riverside Cemetery** in Etobicoke on Sunday, June 4 at 2:00 p.m. The \$4 admission ticket includes a complimentary afternoon tea at Montgomery's Inn. To reserve contact Randall Reid, (416) 394-8113.

Tony O'Loughlin of Kingston's Irish Folk Club has written of the search for unmarked burial sites of Irish labourers who died during the construction of the Rideau Canal. In the Leeds and Grenville OGS newsletter he asks for assistance in locating these sites particularly in the Kingston Mills area. Tony can be reached at (613) 389-0754.

In Ottawa the **Sandy Hill Cemetery** research project is progressing well. It is hoped to rededicate the site this summer. Catherine Canning is seeking descendants to assure that all names are recorded. It is believed that a number of Rideau Canal workers were buried at this site. Any information will be welcomed. Contact Catherine at (613) 744-5677.

Tamara Anson-Cartwright, Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation conducted a Monument Restoration course at the **Woodlawn Cemetery** in Guelph, in conjunction with the Ontario Association of Cemeteries. For information on this annual event, contact Tamara at 400 University Avenue, 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9.

Lawrence Hayward of Kingston has spent many years researching Ontario's gravestone carvers. His hobby has taken him to over 400 cemeteries in Eastern Ontario where he has made a record of over 165 carvers.

A committee has been formed to raise funds for the restoration of **The Old Protestant Burying Ground** in Charlottetown. They are anxious to include the names of all those buried in the cemetery established in 1784. For donations or to provide information contact The Old Protestant Burying Ground, P.O. Box 23048, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, C1E 1Z6.

John Herbert reported in the *London Free Press* that the skeletal remains of two people were found during sewer repair work. These remains may be from a Catholic cemetery which was moved. They are held at the University of Western Ontario and will be reinterred by the city or the church when more information has been discovered.

The Hamilton Branch OGS is seeking information relating to a mystery burial plot at the **Holy Sepulchre Cemetery** in East Flamborough. In 1852 Charles Person and Frederick Blain sold the property. The deed of sale contained a reservation—"one eighth of an acre appropriated and used as a burying ground." The cemetery purchased the property in 1874. Anyone with information is asked to contact John Quinsey at 2678 Home-

lands Drive, Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1H8.

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 23 of North Bay is updating records of North Bay war veterans. They seek the names of those who served in both World Wars, the Korean War and those that served in the Gulf War.

The 1824 burial site of Mrs. Eleazer Lundy and her children has been found in Whitchurch-Stouffville. The information has been forwarded to the Ontario Cemeteries Regulation Branch and to the municipality to be included in their official plan.

In suburban Atlanta, Georgia, developer Darrell McWaters of Meridian Homes Inc. is working with local citizens to identify unmarked cemeteries to preserve and protect them. At the same time the Association of Grave-stone Studies is working with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to develop federal protective legislation for cemeteries.

McCullough Cemetery in Esquesing Township, Halton is being studied for possible redevelopment by Extendicare (Canada) Ltd. The **Wesleyan Methodist Cemetery** was used between 1821 and 1890. It is urged that an assessment be made to determine where the burials are located. This can be done using a sonar process or an archaeological assessment.

When Etobicoke's **Park Lawn Cemetery** purchased its present site in 1915 a covenant was attached to the deeds stating that the properties were to be used as cemetery properties in perpetuity. Despite this covenant the Ontario Municipal Board has ruled that the sale of two acres within the cemetery property can proceed. A condominium is planned for the site.

Hearings continue before the Etobicoke Community Council with regard to the Ontario Government's proposed sale of the **Ontario Hospital Cemetery**. A crematorium and columbarium with two retorts is proposed for the site. Local residents have expressed concern relating to the increased pollution, traffic, and the impact on investment as well as serious reservations over the effect that the emissions will have on the future health of the residents and their children. The heritage societies have urged that an assessment be made to establish the exact burial location of over 1500 bodies believed to be interred at the site between 1882 and 1974.

Descendants of Martin Snider will gather at Fort York on the July 1st weekend. Among the festivities are trips to **Mount Pleasant Cemetery**, the **Necropolis**, and **Willowdale Methodist Cemetery**. The United Empire Loyalists will be dedicating a special insignia to honour Martin Snider later this year at **Willowdale Methodist Cemetery**. For information contact Bill Ramsay, 129 Blythwood Road, Toronto, Ontario M4N 1A5.

Ontario History Special Issue "Continuity and the Unbroken Chain: Issues in the Aboriginal History of Ontario"

Dr. Gabriele Scardellato, Editor

"The place we now call Ontario has an unbroken Chain of Aboriginal history. This mirrors the larger diplomatic device invented and initiated by the Aboriginal Nations and known as the Covenant Chain of Silver or also known simply as the Chain." With these words Dr. Dean Jacobs, guest editor of volume XCII of *Ontario History*, introduces a special issue of the journal for Spring 2000, titled "Continuity and the Unbroken Chain: Issues in the Aboriginal History of Ontario." Dr. Jacobs, who is the Executive Director of the Walpole Island Heritage Centre, NIN-DA-WAAB-JIG, brings together four articles that range widely in First Nations' history in Ontario. Between them these studies cover the time period from the middle of the eighteenth century to the present and topics that are of continuing importance for the history of both the province and the country.

The opening article in the issue, "For Good Will and Affection": The Detroit Indian Deeds and British Land Policy, 1760-1827" is co-authored by Dr. Victor Lytwyn and Dr. Jacobs and deals with the treaty-making process between the British government and First Nations peo-

ples from the end of the Seven Years War. In particular, the authors are concerned with the traditional use of wampum belts in negotiations concerning Aboriginal title and land rights, and their replacement over time by the European system of deeds. This study sets the tone for the two following articles that are very much concerned with Aboriginal title and with land and water rights in particular.

Dr. David Moorman's "Roads and Rights: Public Roads and Indian Land in Nineteenth Century Ontario," analyses how public roads came to be constructed across reserve lands in the nineteenth century and the local or provincial legislation which accompanied their construction. Through this study, the author attempts to better our understanding of "...the historical development of native land rights and... issues of sovereignty, ownership, and control of Indian reserve lands." Similar themes are the subject of Dr. Peggy Blair's article, "Taken for 'Granted': Aboriginal Title and Public Fishing Rights in Upper Canada." Blair's is a very illuminating study of a topic which has been much in the news lately and her history of Aboriginal title over fisheries and

the waters in which they are based should prove to be very useful for present-day debates.

Finally, this issue of *Ontario History* includes another study of a topic which also is very timely. Dr. Edmund Danziger, Jr. and Dr. James Miller's "In the Care of Strangers": Walpole Island First Nation's Experiences with Residential Schools after World War One" is based on an original survey carried out by the authors with individuals from the Walpole Island First Nation community who experienced the residential school system. The responses to their survey questions provide the authors with information and insights that make possible a better understanding of residential schools and how they affected the lives of those who they sought to educate or assimilate.

Dr. Jacobs concludes his introduction to this special issue with the observation that it is "a significant milestone for Aboriginal history ... as the first issue ... that has been edited by an Aboriginal person." Of course, it is equally a milestone for the journal itself and it is hoped that the collaboration it symbolizes will continue and strengthen.

The 9th annual International Museum Publishing seminar

Ottawa hosts the 9th "International Museum Publishing Seminar" July 13-15, highlighting the challenges facing communications and publishing in museums, heritage sites, parks and interpreted attractions such as zoos, aquariums, and gardens.

The link between education and publishing departments will be explored as will the emerging

technologies, with emphasis on reaching young audiences with the Internet, and specific programmes. In addition, the impact of web marketing, policy and funding issues will be addressed.

The seminar is co-sponsored by the Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing at Simon Fraser University and the University of Chicago Publishing Programme,

together with the National Gallery of Canada, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, and the Canadian Museums Association and features speakers from Canada, the United States, England and Mexico.

Contact Continuing Studies at Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, (604) 291-5093 for registration materials.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors

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Museum News

Cindy Crawford, St. Joseph Island Museum

MCzCR attempts to ease challenges of amalgamation

Cindy Crawford, St. Joseph Island Museum

There is no sure-fire formula on how to handle amalgamation but the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation (MCzCR) has produced two bulletins that will make finding the solution a little easier for everyone.

For several townships or municipalities across Ontario, municipal restructuring, or amalgamation has already happened. "Toronto, Prince Edward County and Chatham-Kent have all gone through ordered municipal amalgamations," says John Carter, Museum Advisor, MCzCR, adding that the Township of Paipoonge has also amalgamated with its neighbouring municipality.

MCzCR has produced two helpful bulletins that can walk a municipality and its respective museum parties through various steps that must be considered in order to ensure the museum remains eligible for provincial funding.

These short bulletins are called *Changing Times—Municipal Restructuring and Heritage*, and are big on helpful tips. Guidance in what processes need to be taken if a municipality is considering either changing its relationship with the museum or the way the museum is operated are clearly explained.

According to MCzCR, 64 percent of museums are owned and operated by municipalities. "All existing by-laws are in effect until new ones have been drawn up and passed by the new council," says John. "A museum by-law would have to be re-written if new partners join the projected amalgamated municipality."

The Ministry's Bulletin #5, *Municipal Museums* provides a

grassroots understanding of the who, what, where, when, why and how of amalgamation, and its impact on Ontario museums. It states that, in addition to the Community Museum Policy for Ontario, other areas that need to be examined include: issues of governance, service, operation, facility and finance. And, in order for museums to remain eligible, or become eligible for the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG), they must continue to meet the requirements of Regulation 877.

MCzCR Bulletin #6, *Community Museums: Governance and Management—Meeting the Requirements of Museum Regulation 877* provides an outline of everyone's role and respective responsibilities at the municipal level, including those on the museum board/committee and the curator/director.

Understanding one another's role is critical in producing practical recommendations. Examples of how several municipalities, who have already experienced amalgamation handled the challenges are also provided.

Also emphasized is a practical check list of all important considerations which were outlined in the previous Ministry Bulletin, *Grants to Museums*, concerning governance, service, operation, facility, finance and, of course, ensuring eligibility (on-going or future) for a Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) under Regulation 877, R.R.O. 1990.

Copies of all of these bulletins can be obtained by contacting John Carter, MCzCR, 400 University Avenue, 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9.

Red Lake Museum hosts early Norval Morrisseau paintings

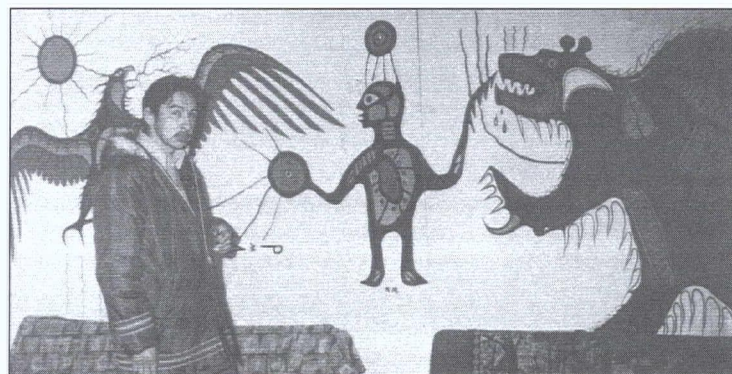
Cindy Crawford, St. Joseph Island Museum

Later this spring, the Red Lake Museum's exhibition entitled "Norval Morrisseau: The Red Lake Years" will provide an intimate glimpse into the early trials, tribulations and influences of an Aboriginal and Canadian artist. Word of mouth has enabled the Museum not only to create an art exhibition honouring the artist, but also to collect revealing, and often humorous anecdotes on his early years. This information is of particular value to the art world since his early years have not been well documented.

"Norval Morrisseau: The Red Lake Years" is a collection of original paintings on loan from collectors in the Red Lake District, and will be held at the Red Lake Museum from June 1 until September 30. With the exception of one painting, all are being displayed for the first time. Nancy Phillips is the project coordinator and is developing a catalogue on the exhibition. The common theme on the diverse range of works is that they reflect his life and influences in the Red Lake area.

"Norval came here as a goldminer but all he wanted to do was paint, I've heard it said that the art poured out of him," says Michele Alderton, Director/Curator of the Red Lake Museum. The stories behind the acquisition of many of the paintings are as appealing as the works themselves. Many of the collectors knew him in the 1959–1970s period which covers his early developmental stages through to the start of his widespread recognition.

"There are many humorous stories such as exchanging a painting for money to do his laundry," says Michele. In preparation for his first solo exhibit, in



Norval Morrisseau stands before a mural at the old Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre, 1960 or 1961. The painting on the left was done by Carl Ray, a Woodland artist of the area, and the painting on the right is by one of the Kakagemic Brothers. (Red Lake Museum)

1962 at the Pollock Gallery in Toronto, the prolific painter produced 40 paintings within a six week period.

Since the majority of his artwork was done in Red Lake, and then shipped elsewhere, it was somewhat surprising to discover just how many paintings remain in the Red Lake district. "We knew there were a number of paintings in the area and once we started asking people, they referred us to other collectors," explains Michele. "In determining what we'd exhibit, we went by content...we didn't want too much duplication of a specific subject, such as fish, but also wanted to cover a certain time frame."

For Morrisseau enthusiasts, or even those interested in the boreal geography and cultural heritage of the Red Lake district, the museum has entered into a partnership with the Woodland Caribou Park and the Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre.

"We're working with the outfitters so that people can go and see the rock woodland paintings that inspired him," says Michele, adding that canoe trips, boat tours as well as self-guided walking excursions will be available. The

use of the Friendship Centre will enable a guest lecturer to work in small groups with artists, particularly young artists, on how to develop their art. Approximately 20 percent of the local population is Native and it is believed many aspire to artistic endeavours.

"Staying at the centre and participating in the workshops will enable them to immerse themselves in the experience and workshops," says Michele, who has identified the local population as their target audience. "We want everyone to understand what has happened here and to see how they can take pride in it."

Although the museum invited Norval to attend the exhibition, confirmation had not yet been received as of press time. Now in his late 60s, Norval is wheelchair bound and afflicted with Parkinson's disease. His spirit and style, however, continues to influence new generations.

The Red Lake Museum is located in northwestern Ontario at the end of Highway 105, approximately 170 km north of the Trans Canada Highway 17. For further information on the exhibit or the accompanying events contact the museum at (807) 727-3006.

A tale of two townships, Paipoonge Museum, and amalgamation

Cindy Crawford, St. Joseph Island Museum

It has been two years since the Township of Oliver and the Township of Paipoonge, and their respective museums have been amalgamated, and the Paipoonge Museum is still experiencing growing pains. "It is a bit of a balancing act between the shortfalls and advantages," says Lois Garrity, curator of Paipoonge Museum, a seasonal museum located in the new Township of Oliver and Paipoonge, just outside Thunder Bay.

Although a special committee had been created to investigate the outcomes of the amalgamation, Lois and the museum board were given free reign over the status of the museum. "I was asked to decide whether the Kakabeka Falls Museum, which had been

closed for some time, should be re-opened as a second museum, or if we were going to operate out of the existing Paipoonge Museum," said Lois. Despite her attempts to garner local interest in the Kakabeka Falls Museum, there weren't any takers. A local, privately-operated heritage site has since expressed interest in acquiring the building, which originally served as a 19th century church, and adding it to their collection of historical buildings.

Supported by the museum board and municipal council, Lois decided to put an ad in the local paper reaffirming that the Paipoonge Museum was for everyone and encouraged people to get involved. "I really wanted to emphasize that it was our mu-

seum; it was for both townships under the new amalgamation," says Lois. "I didn't receive a single reply with the first ad but the second ad brought forth some volunteers and artifacts."

One of the biggest challenges has been in determining where and how to accommodate the influx of "new" artifacts. After 40 years of collecting artifacts reflecting the 19th century settlement of Paipoonge, the museum was already tight for space. Originally a small building, the museum had three additions over the years. The next task at hand was to sift through the collection at the closed museum and determine what would be added to the Paipoonge Museum. "It was a difficult process because every-

thing has some significance, so by the time I was through, we had to purchase a 40 foot trailer to store some of these items," says Lois. The acquired collection, in addition to what local residents have since donated, has resulted in a ten percent increase in their collection of approximately 6,000 artifacts. Cataloguing and creating displays for the new items is an on-going process. Lois says excellent volunteers

have come forth representing both of the former single townships, even the curator of the former Kakabeka Falls Museum sits on the Paipoonge Museum Board of Directors.

"We've had to do a lot of reassuring to convince people from Oliver Township that we were there for them too," says Lois. "Municipal restructuring creates uncertain times so people need extra reassurance."

Reminder

Submissions for the Museum News page of the *OHS Bulletin* should be sent to Cindy Crawford, St. Joseph Island Museum, RR # 1, Richards Landing P0R 1J0 (705) 246-3223 or e-mail at sjmuseum@canada.com

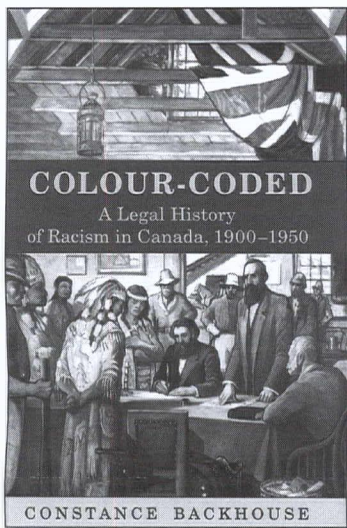
From the Bookshelf

Chris and Pat Raible

An Untold Tale

A Stolen Life: Searching for Richard Pierpoint. By David Meyler and Peter Meyler. Natural Heritage Books. 141 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.

Only few specifics are known about Richard Pierpoint: born in Bundu (now part of Senegal), captured and enslaved in 1760, brought to America and sold to a British officer, owned in New York state, served as a Loyalist with Butler's Rangers, emigrated to Canada and (at age over 70) in military service again with the Coloured Corps of the War of 1812, eventually granted land in Garafraxa, and died in 1837. The authors have combined their knowledge of military history and their research into African culture and the slave trade to flesh out a full and fascinating story.



Blind Justice?

Colour-coded: A Legal History of Racism in Canada 1900-1950. By Constance Backhouse. University of Toronto Press. 485 pages. \$60.00 hardbound. \$27.50 softbound.

Canadians pride themselves on being tolerant and essentially colour-blind. But Constance Backhouse submits that racist attitudes have all too often permeated our Canadian institutions, not merely reflecting but actually perpetuating racism. From census gathering to legislation to case law, "race" and "colour" have been manipulated to the benefit of "white" society. Backhouse reviews six judgments which focus on treatment of Aboriginal, Inuit, Chinese-Canadian, and African-Canadian individuals. The cases take us from the criminal prosecution of traditional Aboriginal dance to Six Nations sovereignty. Note-worthy is her account of the trial of members of the Ku Klux Klan in Oakville, Ontario. (The Klansmen were pretty much vindicated.) Backhouse concludes, "To fail to scrutinize the records of our past...is to acquiesce in the popular misapprehension that depicts our country as largely innocent of systematic racial exploitation."

Digging up the Past

Taming the Taxonom: Toward a New Understanding of Great Lakes Archaeology. Edited by Ronald F. Williamson and

Christopher M. Watts. eastendbooks. 416 pages. Illustrations. \$29.95 softbound.

The 22 papers published here were first presented at the Ontario Archaeological Society-Midwest Archaeological Conference symposium held in 1997. Although originally directed at a scholarly audience, more general readers will find the book an interesting introduction to recent archaeological research on the area's early history—i.e., before the arrival of European explorers and traders in the 16th and 17th centuries. Illustrations include maps of indigenous settlement sites and photographs of pottery and tools.

Local Colour

Early Temiskaming Stories of Survival: "Root, Hog, or Die!" 78 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 spiralbound.

People, Places and Memories: "To Preserve and Restore." 44 pages. Illustrations. \$14.95 spiralbound.

"Times were Hard but Memories are Good." 71 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 spiralbound.

The Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association is to be commended for publishing these three attractive booklets. They include papers and presentations at four of the Association's annual workshops, and they certainly testify to the fact that local history is alive and well in and around Temiskaming. Some of the papers deal with local matters, such as the basket works in New Liskeard; some, such as the restoration of the Temagami Train Station, have regional significance; and some, such as the story of the first scheduled air mail service in Canada, have national significance. The recorded history of Temiskaming goes back to the 1680s, and these booklets with their wealth of stories and many illustrations give an enticing taste of it.

Bang! You're Dead!

Murder Among Gentlemen: A History of Duelling in Canada. By Hugh A. Halliday. Robin Brass Studio. 198 pages. Illustrations. \$17.95 softbound.

As one chapter in this most interesting book reveals, formal duels were fairly common in early Upper Canada and several of them were determining incidents in the colony's history. The Jarvis-Ridout duel is famous (or infamous) while others are comparatively less well known. The Wilson-Lyon duel fought in Perth in 1833 may not have been "the last fatal duel in Canada," but the circumstances surrounding it are clearly described. The decline and ultimate demise of duelling shows that some things have changed for the better. A lively treatment of a deadly subject.

War of 1812

The War of 1812. By Victor Suthren. McClelland & Stewart.

288 pages. Illustrations. \$60.00 hardbound (with CD-ROM). **The Incredible War of 1812: A Military History.** By J. Mackay Hitsman, updated by Donald E. Graves. Robin Brass Studio. 400 pages. Illustrations. \$22.95 softbound.

The War of 1812 is of especial interest to Ontarians because so much of the actual fighting took place in Upper Canada. These two books, written from a Canadian perspective, chronicle the war. One, a spin-off from last year's television series, is a lavishly illustrated volume that comes complete with a CD-ROM (full of details, but not always easy to use). The other is a revision and updating of a work that remains the single best book on the conflict that was ultimately settled by a return to the *status quo ante bellum*. Each side could claim a victory of sorts because their perspectives were so different—the Americans successfully defended their sovereignty against British encroachment, the British successfully defended the integrity of their Canadian territory.

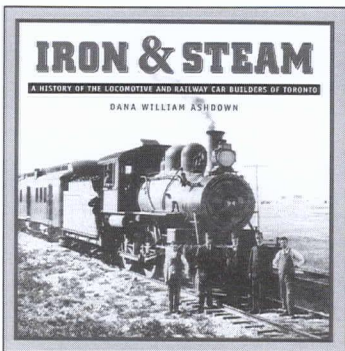
Memories/Histories of War

Not All of Us Were Brave: Perth Regiment 11th Infantry, 5th Canadian Armoured Division. By Stanley Scislowski. Dundurn Press. 368 pages. Illustrations. \$24.99 softbound.

It was a long way from Windsor, Ontario, to the battlegrounds of Italy. Stanley Scislowski, a private in a Canadian division, waited half a century to record his story, and that of his comrades. Because it is so frank and personal, it is very real—a credible account of one division's part of an awful war.

Destined to Survive—A Dieppe Veteran's Story. By Jack A. Poolton, with Jayne Poolton-Turvey. Dundurn Press. 144 pages. Illustrations. \$16.99 softbound.

Much has been written about the politics and strategies that led to the disastrous 1942 invasion at Dieppe in which so many Canadians died. Jack Poolton, a native of Kapuskasing, survived the bloody massacre. He was captured, imprisoned and eventually liberated. Some 50 years later, he recorded his personal experiences—it is a story worth waiting for.



On Track

Iron & Steam: A History of the Locomotive and Railway Car Builders of Toronto. By Dana

William Ashdown. Robin Brass Studio. 302 pages. Illustrations. \$22.95 softbound.

The first railway engine used by the Ontario, Simcoe & Huron Union railway (the first to operate in Canada West) may have been named the Lord Elgin, but it was built in Maine. Its import duties alone (\$1,000) prompted Toronto foundry owner James Good to fabricate the next one. In the course of the next 70 years some 220 steam and electric engines—and many hundreds of railway cars—were built in Toronto. There are many books about constructing Canada's railways, but few about the engines and equipment that rolled on the rails.

Behind the Headlines

Circles of Time: Aboriginal Land Rights and Resistance in Ontario. By David T. McNab. Wilfrid Laurier University Press. 280 pages. \$54.95 hardbound; \$29.95 softbound.

Disputes over Aboriginal rights are dramatized in the media, as at Oka and Ipperwash, when they erupt into direct confrontation and violence. Such

events occur, David McNab contends, because "Aboriginal people and the rest of Canada speak to one another from different historical and cultural assumptions and experiences, including languages, customs, governance, lands and waters, as well as time and progress." Here is a thoughtful defence of the reliability of Aboriginal oral tradition.

From Hope to Harris: The Reshaping of Ontario's Schools. By R. D. Gidney. University of Toronto Press, 1999. 362 pages. \$65.00 hardbound; \$24.95 softbound.

A fundamental shift took place in the Ontario school system in 1998: the provincial government assumed the power to set the amount that could be raised from local property taxes to fund education. School boards were no longer able to decide how much money they needed nor how that money was to be spent. This study places that change in the historical context of educational turmoil and conflict during the whole second half of the 20th century.

History Noted

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

Trapping the Boundary Waters: A Tenderfoot in the Border Country, 1919-1920. By Charles Ira Cook, Jr. Minnesota Historical Society Press. 192 pages. Illustrations. US\$16.95 softbound. A true adventure set in territory spanning the Minnesota-Ontario border.

Puslinch Profiles 1850-2000: A social commentary on the changes in our township. Puslinch Historical Society. \$10.00. A new township history that traces the changes in life in the township since its inception.

Significant Treasures. Canadian Federation of Friends of Museums. Illustrations. \$29.95. A treasury of articles from 131 of Canada's museums chosen by their curators.

Ninth Annual Archaeological Report. Ontario Heritage Foundation. Illustrations. \$13.00 softbound. Describes the archaeological digs that occurred in 1997 across the province.

Ancaster, A Pictorial History, Vol-

ume I. Edited by Arthur Bowes. Ancaster Township Historical Society. Illustrations. \$35.00 softbound. Ancaster in black and white—a coffee table book of over 300 pictures with historical captions.

Ancaster Heritage, Volume I and Volume II. Edited by Paul Gremwood. Ancaster Township Historical Society. \$25.00 (each) hardbound. Interesting family connections and events in the two centuries of Ancaster's evolution—the supplementary second volume contains a complete index for both.

Dictionary of Hamilton Biography, Volume IV. Edited by J. Melville Bailey. Dictionary of Hamilton Biography. \$40.00 hardcover. Biographies of 289 interesting Hamilton area personalities who flourished in the period 1940-1970.

Global Everything for the Family Historian Catalogue, Millennium Issue. Global Genealogy. Free. Features book, preservation materials, reunion supplies, charts & forms, maps and more maps.

Directory of Publishers

Ancaster Township Historical Society, Box 81123, Ancaster, Ontario L9G 4X1.

Canadian Federation of Friends of Museums, 317 Dundas St. West, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1G4.

Dictionary of Hamilton Biography, Box 81148, Ancaster, Ontario L9G 4X2.

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

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

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

Minnesota Historical Society Press, 345 Kellogg Blvd. West, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102-1906, U.S.A.

Natural Heritage Books, Box 95, Station O, Toronto, Ontario M4A 2M8.

Ontario Heritage Foundation, 10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3.

Puslinch Historical Society, c/o Township of Puslinch, R.R.#3, Guelph, Ontario N1H 6H9.

Robin Brass Studio, 10 Blantyre Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario M1N 2R4.

Temiskaming Abitibi Heritage Association, Box 995, Haileybury, Ontario P0J 1K0.

University of Toronto Press, 10 St. Mary Street, Suite 700, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2W8.

Wilfrid Laurier University Press, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3C5.

Perth Museum celebrates 75 years

Founded in 1925 by Archibald Campbell, the nationally designated Perth Museum is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. The museum was originally housed in a number of very small rooms on the third floor of the original Carnegie library built in 1907. The award winning museum (OHS Museum Award of Excellence in 1994, among others) is now located 2 blocks up the street in the heart of downtown Perth, in the stone house built for the Matheson family in 1840. The museum offers an intimate look at the lifestyle of the Honourable Roderick Matheson, a prosperous Scottish merchant, and his family.

Roderick Matheson came to Canada from Scotland at the age of 13 and during the War of 1812-14 he served in the Glenarry Light Infantry Fencibles. He came to Perth as a half-pay officer and established himself in the mercantile business now known as Shaw's of Perth. Roderick's store prospered and by 1840 he was able to build a fine Georgian home of local sandstone. By 1860 he was a wealthy man owning 8000 acres of land in and around Lanark County including 20 houses in Perth.

Matheson was a staunch Tory all his life and when his friend John A. Macdonald formed his

first government in 1867 he was named to the Dominion Senate.

Roderick Matheson married twice, first to Mary Fraser Robertson who gave birth to twin sons in 1825 but died 20 days later at the age of 22. His second wife, Annabella Russell, had 11 children, 7 girls and 4 boys. The Matheson House in Perth was owned and lived in by the family until 1930.

In 1966 the town of Perth bought the house and restored it to its original splendour. Four period rooms, containing original Matheson furniture as well as other artifacts of the era reflect life as it once was. Visitors remark on a feeling of elegance and good taste that pervades this classic residence. The dining room contains a 52-piece set of Matheson handpainted china from England as well as other notable pieces of china and sterling silver. The French doors lead to a charming enclosed Scottish garden containing flowering plants and shrubs true to the time period.

The drawing room was used for entertaining the frequent visitors to the Matheson house whereas the parlour/library was used as the family room and is furnished with books and games, framed photographs, a papier mache sewing basket and other examples of everyday life in the

19th century. Just down the hall is a warm and welcoming 1840s kitchen with a large stone fireplace. Many visitors call the kitchen their favourite room.

Perth's historical past is chronicled in the gallery on the third floor. Highlights include the pistols from the fatal duel in Canada, which took place in Perth in 1833; a sample of the Mammoth Cheese produced in Lanark County for the Chicago World's Fair of 1893; a pre-settlement exhibit of the area's first inhabitants, and an accurate miniature of the house, scale 1:12, furnished with tiny handmade Victorian pieces. Changing exhibitions are featured in the main floor gallery which was added to the back of the house in 1988. The summer exhibit will be "Reflections of Cottage Life," a look at the last 150 years of life on the local lakes and waterways. This very colourful and entertaining exhibition will be presented from May 20 to September 23.

Outdoors is the newly created interpretation centre. Within the stone courtyard is an outdoor bake oven and an herb garden. Special activities are planned for this area during the summer season.

The Perth Museum is open year round and located at 11 Gore Street East in Perth. (613) 267-1947.

What in the World's Going On (in heritage preservation)

From May 26 to 28, developers, planners, municipal officials, concerned and interested citizens, and LACAC members will gather in Brantford at Laurier University, formerly Andrew Carnegie Library, for the annual conference of Community Heritage Ontario to explore what is going on in heritage preservation, and what we can do about it.

LACACs are Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committees, which advise municipal councils on matters of heritage designation and preservation. This educational forum allows the issues to be heard from a variety of perspectives.

Topics will include: "Coming Crisis of Identity in Canadian Historic Preservation", "Concrete Ideas to Revitalize the Heritage of Ontario", "In the eye of the Beholder?" Defining, Evaluating and Protecting Cultural Landscapes", "Simple Cost-Effective and Practical Solutions to Conservation Problems", and "Heritage Tourism in the Millennium."

Throughout the conference a Marketplace featuring publications, products, ideas, and services will be open for browsing, buying, and mingling.

To register, contact Mary Stephens at (519) 439-3373.

An old festival, a new festival

The Fort York Festival has traditionally been held in May over the Victoria Day long weekend. This year, as part of the City of Toronto Harbour Parade of Lights, the festival has been moved to the July 1st weekend and grown in scope.

The waterfront is the setting for a host of historic activities on July 1st, featuring tall ships, defending troops, naval bombardment, attacking forces, skirmishes, and vessels sailing the 'seas.'

In the evening the Parade of Lights will see hundreds of deco-

rated and dramatically lit boats in a great flotilla, many sponsored by a charitable organization.

On July 2 the activities are centered at Historic Fort York where re-enactors will once again wage the 'Battle for Fort York.' Its defense from capture will be followed by displays of military drills, period dancing, puppet shows, music, and an 1812 'mess dinner.'

All in all it will be an impressive show of historic re-enactment.

On the grounds of history

Have you ever had the opportunity to visit the statues on the grounds of Queen's Park? Since the late 19th century, statues and commemorations have been placed on the legislature grounds. Some of the funds were privately raised, others provided by the Ontario government. There are presently 9 statues representing various figures in the development of the province. Can you name any of them, or do you know why they are represented? The statues depict: The Honour-

able John Sandfield Macdonald, Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe, The Northwest Rebellion Monument, Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir James Pliny Whitney, George Brown, Sir Oliver Mowat, and William Lyon Mackenzie.

In addition to the statues, there are ten other memorials. Can you name any of them? They are: Russian cannons from the Crimean War, Queen's Park Provincial Plaque, Ontario's Official

Tree Plaque (the Eastern White Pine), the 25th Anniversary of the Accession of King George V, 1935, Air India Disaster Plaque, Queen Elizabeth II Rose Garden and Plaque, Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion Plaque, Recognition of service-Honourable John Black Aird Lieutenant Governor 1980-1985 Plaque, Canada Map/Post One Survey Marker, and the King's College Plaque. Should additions be made?

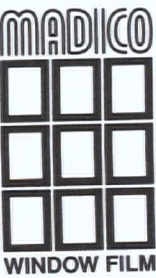
Take a walk in the park and revisit some of Ontario's heritage at Queen's Park, or your own community parks, statues, plaques, and other markings, and discover a part of our province's past.

Welcome New Members

The OHS welcomes new members:

Ayton: Wm. and Donna Maine
Etobicoke: Christopher Durand
Goderich: John Graham
Metcalf: Viviane N. Shorey
North York: Victoria von Schilling
Ottawa: Sarah Fontaine

Richard's Landing: Cindy Crawford, The St. Joseph Island Museum
Toronto: James Paxton, Carol Rothbart
Townsend: City of Nanticoke
Waterloo: Ronna Ells



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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; 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 biannual 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.

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

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