



OHS BULLETIN

34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2

Issue 130 • July 2001

Congratulations Awards Winners!

The Ontario Historical Society announced the recipients of this year's Honours and Awards on Saturday May 5th, 2001 at a ceremony at the Society's historic headquarters, the John McKenzie House at 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale.

Museum Award of Excellence in Community Programming to a museum showing excellence in community programming and involvement: **Battlefield House Museum and Park National Historic Site** at Stoney Creek, based on the efforts undertaken by its small staff, numerous volunteers, and supporters within the community.

Russell K. Cooper Living History Site Award: Dundurn National Historic Site, Hamilton, which comprises eight heritage structures, including the imposing Dundurn Castle, within the 32-acre picturesque estate of Sir Allan Napier MacNab. The castle is operated as an historic house living history museum.

Scadding Award of Excellence for outstanding contributions to the field of history: **The Ajax Historical Board**, in recognition of its

outstanding contribution in preserving the history of the community, and in particular the legacy of *HMS Ajax* and its veterans.

Alison Prentice Award honouring the best book on women's history in the past three years: **Lori Chambers** for *Married Women and Property Law in Victorian Ontario*, published by University of Toronto Press.

Fred Landon Award for the best book on regional history published in the past three years: **Doug and Paul Mackey** for *The Fossmill Story: Life in a Railway Lumbering Village on the Edge of Algonquin Park*, published by Past Forward Heritage.

Joseph Brant Award for the best book on multicultural history in Ontario published in the past three years (see OHS Awards Winners on page 8).



The Ontario Historical Society Honours and Awards winners display their awards following The Ontario Historical Society's Annual General Meeting on May 5th, 2001. See page 6 for more photos of the Awards Ceremony.



David White as a ceremonial Chief and Mark Walsh as Alexander McKee at last year's St. Anne Island Treaty Re-enactment. (Lance White WIFN)

Watch the Walpole Island First Nation Sign the St. Anne Island Treaty of 1796...Again!

Bud Whiteye

The lush green, blue sky setting at High Banks is the backdrop for the St. Anne Treaty Celebration and Re-enactment. For two years now the Walpole Island First Nation has been honouring the eighteenth century treaty with a celebration – the last one – with an elaborate re-enactment.

Beginning in June workers and supervisors began setting the stage for the August 25th event. A 1700s "floor plan" village is being drawn up featuring wigwams, longhouses and camp fires. British troops will be staged in the background.

In the 21st century section of the Park there is plenty of seating room to accommodate

visitors and locals alike to view history unfolding. There is a huge tent resplendent with traditional corn soup and breads, and other foods found at contemporary gatherings, like salads, turkey, beef and sandwiches to satisfy all who come.

By the third week of August, students, public workers, and council staff will have pulled together yet another setting that will capture a past moment in time, a time still honoured by the Anishnabek of Bkejwanong Territory. On August 25th, 2001, "Alexander McKee" and "area Chiefs" will again sign the St. Anne Island Treaty of 1796. For further information: (519) 627-1475.

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Office Closing
The Ontario Historical Society office will be closed from Tuesday August 14th, 2001 until Tuesday September 4th, 2001.

The Ontario Historical Society
34 Parkview Avenue
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President's Message

Frank Bartoszek



OHS President Frank Bartoszek and OHS staff member Carlos Faria prepare to greet visitors at Doors Open Toronto 2001! (Dorothy Duncan)

Doors Open Toronto!

On Saturday May 26th, 2001 I participated in the Doors Open Toronto 2001! event by welcoming the visitors to The Ontario Historical Society offices at 34 Parkview Avenue in Willowdale.

The day was memorable for many reasons: for the opportunity to meet OHS members; to meet our neighbours; and to meet members of the public who are interested in our rich architectural heritage in Toronto. For many people, the two day event was an opportunity to view the interior of McKenzie House. Comments such as "I have been driving by for many years" or "We always walk past the house but we've never had the opportunity to see inside - we're so curious" were heard on visits throughout the day. It is heart warming that we were able to satisfy group curiosity, while at the same time enticing all our visitors to look over our offerings at the book sale. The book sale, by the way, netted over \$1000, which will be used to support OHS programmes across Ontario.

This event is important for Toronto because it gives people an opportunity to visit, admire and think about architecture in this city. Too often significant examples of architecture are allowed to fall to the wrecker's ball in the name of progress. When that happens, an important link with our past, and indeed our heritage, is lost. And part of that loss is our sense of community and belonging. Architectural design reflects the attitudes, opinions, vision, values and aspirations of a society. Functionality, of course, is important, but so too are the aesthetics of a building - not only how it fits into the locale, but also how we react to it emotionally on our daily excursions.

Buildings as public art? Most definitely! We cannot help but be influenced by their presence as we roam the streets throughout the province. To

understand and appreciate their effect on us is to realize that it is unwise on our part to turn our backs on the traditions that have been handed to us. Great cities around the world have distinguishing features that have grown and been influenced by their pasts.

Doors Open Toronto! has given the city an opportunity to think about architecture in day-to-day living. The exercise is not limited to large cities. Every community in this province can benefit by increased public awareness of its rich architectural heritage. Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committees (LACACs) across the province already know this and continue to work within their communities. The task is for the rest of us to help increase this awareness more broadly. What can you do for your community?

New Board Members

At the Annual General Meeting in May, five new members were elected to the Board to add to the group still serving as officers and directors. I will take this opportunity to introduce them to you:

Penny Potter has been a volunteer within the heritage community for many years with both the North York Historical Society and the OHS. As a former elementary school teacher-resource-librarian, she was particularly interested in museum education, and the development of historical programmes for young people. She is a Past President of the North York Historical Society.

Ross Wallace was a social worker for 40 years, working in Saskatchewan, Ontario, Scotland and Ireland. He has been a member of The Ontario Historical Society for almost 20 years, and has been involved in local historical societies for the past 25 years, including the Simcoe County Historical Association, Innisfil Historical Society and the Orillia Historical Society. He has also worked on

the editorial committee of a township historical book.

Chris Raible has been a minister, an historical interpreter and a bookseller. Now retired, he continues to be an historical writer. His column "Booknotes" is a regular feature in *The Beaver* (Canada's popular history magazine) along with his articles and reviews. With his wife Pat, he edits the "From the Bookshelf" page in the *OHS Bulletin*. He is the author of two books on the career of William Lyon Mackenzie: *Muddy York Mud: Scandal and Scurrility in Upper Canada*, and *A Colonial Advocate: The Launching of His Newspaper and the Queenston Career of William Lyon Mackenzie*. Chris serves as Secretary for The Ontario Historical Society.

Brian S. Osborne, a professor at Queens University, Kingston, is an historical geographer. His research interests have been concerned with the settlement geography of such diverse locales as Wales, Colorado, Western Canada, and Ontario. Currently he is examining areas of monumentalism, commemoration, and performance as contributors to the construction of social memory and national identity. He has written (with Donald Swainson) *Kingston: Building on the Past*. Brian is active in the Kingston Historical Society as Vice-President and Editor of the KHS's publications *Limelight* and *Historic Kingston*.

Gloria Taylor is the new Chair of the Museums Committee. Gloria began her museum career at the Royal Ontario Museum and the National Museum of Natural Sciences in Ottawa, then moved to the Toronto Historical Board in 1982. She became the Curator of the Simcoe County Museum in 1992, and still holds that position. From 1985 to 1996 Gloria served as the volunteer curator of the museum and collections of the Women's Canadian Historical Society.

Executive Director's Report

Dorothy Duncan

Congratulations Cobalt!

When the telephone rang in my office in May and the voice on the other end of the line invited me to be a judge for TV Ontario's Studio 2 contest to choose the most historic town in Ontario, it never occurred to me to say "No!" Little did I realize what a challenge it would be. Along with history Professor Desmond Morton, then Director of the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada, and well-known author, Ron Brown, whose latest book *Castles and Kings: Ontario Mansions and the People Who Lived in Them*, has just been launched, we had the task of reading, rating, discussing and finally choosing Ontario's three most historic communities from over 100 entries. Finally we were unanimous in choosing Cobalt as the winner, followed in quick succession by Kingston and Petrolia. There should have been a prize for every community, for the submissions were superb, confirming once again the rich history of this province and the pride Ontarians take in their communities.

Thank You!

Pride, curiosity and a love of history were abundant at Doors Open Toronto 2001! in May when over 700 visitors toured our headquarters during the two-day event. We were blessed with volunteer

support from Frank Bartoszek, Daniel O'Brien, Jeanne Hughes, Carlos Faria, Adam Truax, Payal Lall, Cristina Perfetto, Edith Geduld, Bev Hykel, Penny Potter, Hazel Kitto, John Carter, Margaret Machell, Grace Matthews and Rob Leverty.

Our volunteers were on duty again on July 1 for our Annual Garage Sale. Frank, Daniel, Jeanne, Adam, Rob, Edith, Bev, Penny, Charlotte Wilkinson, Glenn Bonnetta, and Geoff Geduld managed to persuade our customers to buy the enormous and varied assortment of merchandise we had for sale. Thank you donors! Thank you buyers! Thank you volunteers!

Mark Your Calendar!

Our next fund-raising event will be held August 12th when a traditional afternoon tea will be served on our magnificent veranda. Through a generous donation by the family of the late Eleanor and Tom Ronaldson, we will also be showing and selling a beautiful assortment of household linens and textiles. From many generous donors we have also accumulated a collection of craft books ranging from traditional to modern, and they will be for sale as well. Drop in between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on August 12 and enjoy a leisurely afternoon.

Good News for the "White" Church

James B. Douglas, President of the Belfountain Heritage Society, has announced another step forward in the project to restore the 1837 Melville "White" Church south of Belfountain on Mississauga Road.

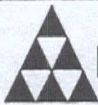
The Ontario Heritage Foundation has granted a \$33,500 matching grant under the Heritage Challenge Community Programme, another striking affirmation of the esteem this heritage project has generated from all sectors of the community.

This heritage gem, at one time slated for demolition and slowly sinking into decay from

the 1960s, now has a totally refurbished roof and new foundation that should last for another hundred years! All of this has been possible through the diligent efforts on the part of members, volunteers, the donations of countless supporters and friends, and the support of the Town of Caledon, its Mayor and Councillors.

The dream of this heritage building being returned to the community for concerts, recitals, meetings, art exhibits and weddings is now closer to reality.

For more information contact the Belfountain Heritage Society (519) 927-5277.



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Across the Province

Dorothy Duncan

"Meet me at the Station" in early June featured the 1852 railway station that now resides at the **King Township Museum**. It served the Northern Railway in King City until 1962; then spent time in storage and finally returned after a spirited fundraising campaign, thanks to the **King Township Historical Society** and their supporters.

If you are visiting Ottawa this summer don't miss the **Canadian War Museum** featuring the work and equipment of Canadian forces, with personnel on hand to describe and demonstrate. Call (819) 776-8600 or 1-800-555-5621 for details.

Congratulations to Charles Garrad, former Executive Director of the **Ontario Archaeological Society**, and OHS Life member, on being the first recipient of the James and Margaret Pendergast Award. This award honours the memory of the late James Pendergast and the criteria includes: original research, publications, papers delivered at conferences, active training, and much, much more!

Congratulations to the **West Toronto Junction Historical Society** on twenty years of service to the community. The September 6th meeting of the Society will be held at the **Annette Library** at 7:30 p.m. and will feature Loet Vos, Museum of Childhood speaking on "Victorian Toys for Girls and Boys."

Brant County Museum and Archives is again offering Summer Camps suitable for 6 to 12 year olds. Call (519) 752-2483 and ask about "C is for Creativity", "M is for Museum" and "Mummies Alive," all scheduled for August.

Plan now to attend the September 26th meeting of the **Oakville Historical Society** at **Knox Presbyterian Church** at 7:30 a.m. and hear Upper Canada's first Lieutenant Governor describe his life and times here.

Brickyard Park, located at 3061 Clayhill Road in Mississauga was officially opened in June on the former site of the Cooksville Brickyard. Further information: (905) 615-4162.

The **Manitoba Historical Society** Fall Field Trip will be September 14th, 15th, 16th to Estevan, Saskatchewan. If you want to learn more about "mining, mounties and Remittance Men" call (204) 947-0559.

Are you a Canadian veteran who is willing to share your stories and memories with school students? The **Dominion Institute** would like to hear from you: (416) 368-9627.

Grand River Branch, United Empire Loyalists' has plans underway for the June 6-9, 2002 Conference of the Association. The Waterloo Inn

will be the host site with visits to the surrounding area. Past President Marilyn Branch and her committee look forward to welcoming the delegates from across Canada and sharing the rich history of the area. For further information: (905) 632-1973.

The many friends of Diana Park were saddened to learn of her passing in April. Diana was a dedicated member and tireless worker for many heritage organizations in Ontario and will be sorely missed.

Travel through time with a ride on the **Timber Train** as it winds its way from Mattawa to Temiscaming in Quebec. There are Historical Tours, Industrial Tours and an Algonquin Heritage and Eco-Tour. Call 1-800-648-4446 for costs, availability and other details.

The **Assembly Hall, the Lakeshore Community Cultural Centre** opened in Toronto in May with a full programme of exhibits, art shows, live performers and programmes for all ages. This hall for all has rental space for meetings, workshops and social events: (416) 338-7255.

The **Historical Society of St. Catharines** has prepared the 2002 calendar, the 75th anniversary edition. Send \$10.00 to Box 23104, 124 Welland Avenue, St. Catharines, L2R 7P6, to obtain your copy.

The **Lennox and Addington Historical Society** has a full schedule of events planned for the Allan Macpherson House in Napanee in August and September including cream teas, drama camps, pot luck and harvest suppers. Call Director Marten Lewis (613) 354-5982 for details.

Professor Antonia Maioni became the new Director of the **McGill Institute for the Study of Canada** on July 1st. Meanwhile, Professor Desmond Morton, founding Director of the Institute, moves to McGill's Department of History.

The **St. Catharines Museum** is home to the official archives of the **Niagara Grape and Wine Festival** and has created a new exhibit commemorating the Festival's 50th anniversary, (905) 984-8880.

Our sympathy goes out to the friends and family of Goldie Connell and Enid Simzer, both dedicated supporters of the **Grenville County Historical Society**.

Congratulations to Elise Harding-Davis, curator of the **North American Black Historical Museum** and Nazrey A.M.E. National Historic Site Church on being chosen 2000 Citizen of the Year by the Amherstburg Chamber of Commerce.

The **Richmond Hill Historical Society** has announced a full programme of fall events including picnics,

corn roasts, dinners, lectures and a Christmas party! (905) 773-3351.

The **Trent Port Historical Society** will have the Town Hall 1861, 55 King Street in Trenton, open for displays Saturday September 8th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, September 9th from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., while the Scottish-Irish Festival is in progress, (613) 392-8418.

Enjoy tea and tours of **Hillary House** in Aurora on Sunday afternoons in August at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Details (905) 727-4015.

If you are in the Kitchener Waterloo area, enjoy Tea Time at **Woodside National Historic Site** on Thursday afternoons in August at 2 p.m. or the Family Tea Party on Sunday August 12th (519) 571-5684.

The **Markham Historical Society** has issued invitations to the surrounding historical societies to gather at the Pavilion at the Markham Museum on September 10th at 6:30 p.m. for a Pot Luck Picnic and Corn Roast, (905) 294-4576.

The **Peterborough Historical Society's** latest *Occasional Paper*; "The Gypsies That Visited Peterborough," is now available. For costs and availability: (705) 740-2600.

If you live in the Toronto area, *The Mayors of Peterborough, 1900-2000* can be yours at a nominal charge by contacting Arthur Smoke at (416) 223-4330. The entire print run was donated by the author and publisher to **Hutchison House** in Peterborough as a fundraiser.

Bill LeSurr of Smith Falls, heritage activist, and OHS award winner is concerned that a rare lift bridge in the community that was designated by the federal government in 1983, may be in jeopardy. Can you help? Write Bill at R.R.#5, Station Main, 139 Pointview Drive, Perth, K7H 3C7.

On selected Sundays until October, the **Guelph Arts Council** offers guided walking tours of the historic city. For information on the two-hour tours: (519) 836-3280.

Peterborough playwright Brian Mitolo wants to hear your stories about the area from 1945 to 1952. Call him at (705) 748-9182 if you have stories about music, events, characters, or everyday life.

The French Connection opened at the **Windsor Wood Carving Museum** in commemoration of Detroit's 300th anniversary and the rich tradition of woodcarving that has survived for three centuries (519) 977-0823.

Due to the research of the **Oro-Medonte Historical Committee**, the **Oro African Church** at the corner of Old Barrie Road and the Third Line in Simcoe County was recently declared a National Historic Site.

"Images of the Humber" opened at **Black Creek Pioneer Village** in Toronto in May to celebrate this Canadian Heritage River. This juried show includes 130 paintings, drawings, photographs, sculptures and multi-media pieces. The show continues until October. Call (416) 736-1733.

The many friends of Olive Newcombe, Director of the **Dundas Historical Museum** and former member of the OHS' Museums Committee, wish her a speedy recovery and a swift return to her duties.

The **Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre** in Sault Ste. Marie is looking for well used, even abused, fedoras, stetson felt hats, plaid shirts and other aviation or bush clothing for the Children's Centre Tickle Trunk. Call (705) 945-6242 if you can help.

The second floor galleries of the **Thunder Bay Historical Museum** have turned into a concert hall this summer as the "Band Played On." Call (807) 623-0801 for information on all the programmes and exhibits.

Members of the **Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps** from Michigan will perform at Historic Fort York on Sunday July 29th. This is their first stop on a 10-city tour to present colonial period music. Call (416) 392-6907 for details.

Pack up your bears (both real and ideal) and head for White River for the Annual Winnie's Home Town Festival August 17th, 18th, 19th sponsored by the **White River District Historical Society**: (807) 822-2783.

The **Niagara Historical Museum** in Niagara-on-the-Lake is hosting "Traditions in Elegance," an exhibit of 100 teapots from the Norwich Castle Museum, England, until September 16th. In addition, September 8th will be Discovery Day with Jack Kerr-Wilson and Robert Parks of Phillips Ward Price available to evaluate tea paraphernalia. Information: (905) 468-3912.

Early Teawares is also the featured exhibit at the **Lennox and Addington County Museum and Archives** in Napanee. Exquisite teapots, teabowls, cups and saucers, creamers, sugar bowls, waste bowls, tea caddies and coffee cans are included.

Nominations for the Heritage Toronto Awards for Individuals, Organizations, Architecture and Craftsmanship are due July 31st and will be presented on November 8th at the Old Mill in Etobicoke. Information: (416) 392-6827.

An exciting new exhibit has opened at the **Sault Ste. Marie Museum**. "Disasters and Heroes" is an exhibit with photos of fires, floods and other local disasters as well as some of the equipment, both modern and antique, that was used by the heroes who answered the call. This exhibit runs until August. For more information call the Sault Ste. Marie Museum (705) 759-7278.

The **Voyageur Heritage Network's** fall meeting will be held on October 13th in North Bay. For more information contact Pierrette: (705) 753-4716.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jane Beecroft of Toronto for being awarded the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship. Jane has devoted nearly 25 years to issues of heritage building, natural heritage and to Ontario's First Nations' people. As a director of the Toronto Historical Association Jane has spearheaded the study of 250 lost historical sites in Toronto. Through the Community History Project, she conducts numerous historical walking tours through Yorkville and South Rosedale. Jane has been a great force in the efforts to preserve the Bloor-Yorkville neighbourhood and has documented much of its

history. Her great love of history led to a project to provide books to native libraries.

The Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship is an official award of the province and recognizes and encourages the virtues of good citizenship. Recipients must have made outstanding public contributions through exceptional long-term efforts.

For further information on the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship and other provincial awards contact Nanda Casucci-Byrne, Honours and Awards Unit, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, (416) 314-7587

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V L
C U S T O M

Upcoming Events

August 1: Primitives and Folk Art: The Handmade Heritage of Uxbridge Township at the Uxbridge-Scott Museum until mid-September, (905) 852-5854.

August 4: Enjoy Queen Elizabeth's 75th Birthday Tea; an English High Tea from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ross Museum, Forester's Falls, (613) 646-2445.

August 4, 5: 23rd Annual Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival at the Port Colborne Historical Marine Museum, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., (905) 834-7604.

August 4, 5: Experience an 18th Century Faire that old Fort Niagara's British and colonial soldiers would have enjoyed, (716) 745-7611.

August 6: Colonel By Day at the Billings Estate Museum, Ottawa, with guided historical tours and tea under the marquee, (613) 247-4830.

August 6: Joseph Brant Day at La Salle Park, Burlington, (905) 632-6153.

August 7 and 9: Enjoy playing a variety of games, watching a magic lantern show and creating a classic shadow box arrangement in **The Victorian Parlour** at Annandale National Historic Site, Tillsonburg, (519) 842-2294.

August 10-12: The Great North American Land Yacht Regatta, celebrating Lincoln, Continental, Cadillac and Imperial motorcars, returns to Cobourg, (416) 461-6032.

August 11: All aboard the air-conditioned coach to Hamilton with the Governor Simcoe Branch, United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, for a **Tour of Historic and Loyalist Hamilton and Area**, (416) 964-7766.

August 11: A Dream Denied: The Avro Arrow Story opens at the Welland Historical Museum, (905) 732-2215.

August 11, 12: Blueberry Social at the John R. Park Homestead and Conservation Area in Essex County. Blueberry sundaes, baking, games, live music, (519) 776-5209, ext. 352.

August 11, 12: Living History Weekend at Historic Fort Erie recaptures the drama of the fort's capture and occupation by American troops in 1814, (905) 356-7404.

August 12: Visit the **28th Annual Antique and Classic Car show** at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., (905) 727-8954.

August 16: Teddy Bear Picnic, McCrae House, Guelph where bear lovers of all ages enjoy games, crafts, displays, races and fun for everyone, (519) 836-1221.

August 18, 19: Two days of magic and mayhem unfold at the **Harry Potter Extravaganza** at the Victoria County Museum, Lindsay, (705) 324-6756.

August 22: Help fill the coffers at the Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum, Williamstown at the **Annual Fundraising Wine and Cheese Reception**, (613) 347-3547.

August 25: Antique Appraisal Day with Janet Carlile, well-known *Ottawa Citizen* columnist and appraiser, at the Ross Museum, Foresters' Falls, (613) 646-2445.

September 12: Acton Cemetery Tour of Fairview Cemetery begins at the chapel inside the front gates, Cobblehill Road, at 7 p.m.

September 12-15: Convention 2001 sponsored by the Ontario Black History Society at the St. Lawrence Hall, Toronto. (416) 867-9420.

September 12-15: Our Cultural Heritage: Community Partnerships for the Future conference hosted by the American Association for State and Local History in Indianapolis, Indiana, (615) 320-3203.

September 15: The 25th annual **Festival** sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of Historic Thornhill with an Olde Tyme Fashion Show, pet show and Trampoline Olympians, (905) 763-6017.

September 16: Historic Cemetery Tour in Lindsay,

sponsored by the Victoria County Historical Society, (705) 324-6756.

September 16: Fall Fair at Bradley Museum, Mississauga, (905) 822-1569.

September 22: Unionville Antique and Heritage Festival, sponsored by the Unionville Historical Society, with an antique car exhibit, square dancers, musical groups, cloggers, quilting, magic show, food and fun, (905) 724-5273.

September 26-28: East York Collegiate Institute **75th Anniversary Celebrations**, (416) 396-2355.

September 27-30: Canadian Society of Decorative Arts Symposium, Fredericton, New Brunswick, with noteworthy speakers, tours, dinners and receptions. Information: Box 502, Station R, Toronto, M4G 4E1.

September 29: Norfolklore returns! Norfolk Historical Society's genealogy fair celebrates 25 years in Simcoe with 40 exhibitors and their books and resources, (519) 426-1583.

September 29, 30: Old Fort Niagara recreates a **War of 1812 British Garrison** with uniforms, equipment and regulation drills of the 1813 period when the British captured the Fort, (716) 745-7611.

September 29, 30: Fall Colour Studio Tour sponsored by the Purple Hills Arts and Heritage Society, Creemore, (705) 466-2283.

September 29, 30: Fibrefest 2001 at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte, celebrating the creative spirit in the textile gallery, displays and demonstrations, merchants' mall, (613) 256-3754.

September 30: Harvest Festival sponsored by the Oakville Historical Society at Lakeside Park, (905) 844-2695.

October 1: Harvey Medland, author of *Tombstone Tales from Ontario Cemeteries* will speak at the **Newcastle and District Historical Society's Meeting** at 7:30 p.m., (905) 987-5433.

October 1: Local Artist Show and Sale at the Erland Lee Museum, Stoney Creek, with oils, watercolours, acrylics, pastels, ink sketches and photography, (905) 662-2691.

October 14: North Toronto Historical Society's **Fall Walk** beginning at 2 p.m., (416) 481-0426.

October 15: The West Parry Sound Museum opens **The Noble Experiment: Temperance and Prohibition**, a travelling exhibit organized by the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives, that will stay in Parry Sound until January 2002, (705) 746-5365 or 1-888-624-9005.

October 19-21: Giving the Future a Past, a conference exploring **Teaching, Learning and Communicating the History of Canada: Challenges and Solutions**, hosted by The Association for Canadian Studies in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Further information: (514) 987-7784.

October 25: The Etobicoke Historical Society presents **Dear Diary: Here I am in my New Home!** Everyday life in Upper Canada/Canada West/Ontario through the eyes and voices of the womenfolk who lived here in the 19th and early 20th Centuries, an illustrated talk by Dorothy Duncan at 8 p.m. at T. Montgomery's Inn, Etobicoke, (416) 622-3223.

October 27, 28: Harvest Pumpkin Party at the John R. Park Homestead. Ghost stories in the attic, cornhusk crafts and jack o'lanterns to be carved, (519) 776-5209, ext. 352.

Two Conferences for 2002

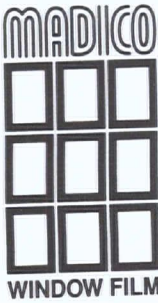
The Jane Austen Society of North America will host **"Jane Austen's World: Artistic, Domestic, Political, Social"** at the Toronto Hilton Hotel, **October 11-13, 2002** with Maggie Lane of Bristol, England as the keynote speaker. For further information about the Conference, the Society, or the Toronto Chapter, contact Nancy Stokes, #105, 195 Wynford Drive, Toronto, M3C 3P3, (416) 425-2195.

Cuisine Canada will present Northern Bounty V **"The Faces and Flavours of Canadian Cuisine"** from **October 31 to November 4, 2002.** The Delta Chelsea Hotel in Toronto will be the programme centre with Guelph, Stratford, Kingston and Niagara also hosting events and programmes.

Mark your calendars now, and watch the *OHS Bulletin* for further information.

Join the OHS at these events

DATE	EVENT	HOST/SPONSOR/ LOCATION
Aug 12	Tea on the Veranda and Linen Sale	OHS at the John McKenzie House, Willowdale
Sept 28	Presentation of Dorothy Duncan Award	OHS at the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation, West Bay, Manitoulin Island
Sept 29	Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About a Heritage Organization or Institution But Were Afraid to Ask - workshop -	OHS at the Centennial Museum, Sheguiandah, Manitoulin Island
Sept 30	Discover Your Community Through 19 th Century Foods - workshop -	OHS at the Sault Ste. Marie Museum, Sault Ste. Marie
Oct 12	Gone but not Forgotten: Cemeteries of Essex County - exhibit opening with OHS slide show and lecture -	Windsor's Community Museum, Windsor
Dec 2	Cookbook Caper	OHS at the John McKenzie House, Willowdale



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Cemetery News

Marjorie Stuart

As this is written the decision of the Ontario Registrar of Cemeteries with regards to the proposed closure and removal of those buried at **St. James' Cathedral**, Toronto is still pending. The search for descendants is continuing and we are very pleased with the response. It may be of interest to note the St. James' Cathedral Burial Register has been transcribed and published by The Ontario Genealogical Society. This record is not complete. It is believed that burials occurred from at least 1797 and possibly earlier. The Burial Register records burials from 1807-1812, part of 1824, and 1835-1850. Up to 1844, when the "new" St. James' Cemetery was established 1498 names have been recorded. The large gap in the burial record includes the time of cholera and other epidemics. Many have estimated that there are over 3000 burials.

St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Thornhill wishes to sell a portion of the church's property. The St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church and cemetery were established circa 1846. St. Vladimir's purchased the property about 1974 and the congregation has carefully maintained the church. Concern has been raised that there may be unmarked burials in that portion

of the land that is under discussion.

Cora de la Cruz has retired as Acting Registrar of Cemeteries Regulation Branch after many years of service. We wish Ms. de la Cruz well in her retirement. The new Acting Registrar is Michael D'Mello. Within days of assuming his new position Mr. D'Mello issued a notice of an Order to Close part of the **St. Alban's Cemetery** in Palgrave.

Concern has been raised by a descendant of the Kemsley family who were buried in a family plot in Sarnia. An offer has been received for the purchase of the property for use as a parking lot.

Congratulations to the Restoration Committee of the **St. John's Anglican Cemetery, Nelson** in Burlington. We participated in a Cemetery Workshop at St. John's and were very impressed with the excellent restoration work that has taken place.

Richview Cemetery in Etobicoke has received a Heritage Challenge Grant to restore the cemetery. The Trustees now have to match the funds. Donations are tax deductible and may be made

payable to the Etobicoke Heritage Foundation, marked Richview Cemetery Restoration Project, c/o Montgomery's Inn, 4709 Dundas Street West, Etobicoke, ON, M9A 1A8. For further information contact Randall Reid, (416) 394-6025.

The trustees of the cemetery at **Snake Island** on Lake Simcoe have also received a restoration grant. This cemetery was the traditional burial ground for the residents of Snake Island before they moved to Georgina Island. The exact dates of establishment are at present unknown but it is known that Joseph Snake was buried there in 1860.

The Kingston Historical Society held its annual memorial service in honour of Sir John A. Macdonald at **Catarqui Cemetery** on June 6th. This year's guest speaker was Sir Andrew Burns, the British High Commissioner. His topic was "Sir John A. - A View From Earnscliff."

Recently the Kingston Historical Society recognized Marjorie Simmons and the **Catarqui Cemetery**. Marjorie has had a long association with the cemetery board and spearheaded the cemetery's centennial events in 2000.

The town of Newmarket has proposed that the **Eagle Street Cemetery** be designated as a heritage site under The Ontario Heritage Act. The earliest known burial is that of Eli Berman in 1820. The cemetery is closed to further burials and is administered by the Town of Newmarket.

Warner Cemetery held its Pot Luck Picnic and Annual Meeting at St. David's Fire Hall. The discussions between the Cemetery Board and the Ministry of Transport have concluded successfully; an earth berm will be constructed between the cemetery and the highway.

In Victoria, B.C. restoration work has been completed at the oldest Chinese cemetery in Canada. The cemetery was rededicated during the Ching Ming Festival when relatives visit the graves of their ancestors.

A special memorial was unveiled at Queen's Park in Toronto commemorating the 211 men and women of Ontario's police forces who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

The small child whose remains were uncovered during construction of an area in London

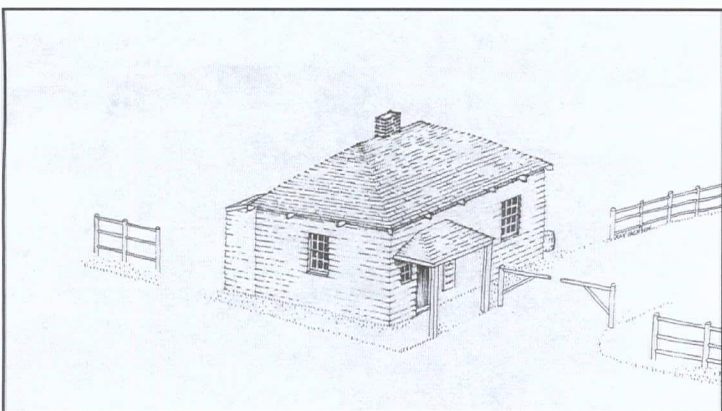
was reburied at **Oakland Cemetery** after a special service at the Metropolitan United Church. The identity of the child is unknown.

The annual Decoration Day service for **Pleasant Point Cemetery** will be held at Miller Memorial Church on Sunday August 19th at 2 p.m. The annual meeting will be held following the service.

In Halifax an honour guard interred the ashes of Merchant Marine sailors during services to commemorate the Battle of the Atlantic during World War II. The contributions of the Merchant Marines during the war has finally been recognized.

Recently the remains of 34 persons whose grave site was exposed with the erosion of Highway River were reinterred with traditional First Nation and Christian ceremonies at the St. Joseph's Industrial School Provincial Historic site near Calgary.

Much concern and controversy has arisen over the disinterment for DNA testing of Titanic victims buried in **Fairview Cemetery** in Halifax.



Artist's rendition of the Tollkeeper's Cottage when it is fully restored. Courtesy of Jane Beecroft, Community History Project.

SOS: The Tollkeeper's Cottage

The Community History Project (CHP) is asking for assistance to preserve the Tollkeeper's Cottage which originally stood near the southeast corner of Davenport and Bathurst Streets in Toronto. Built between 1827 and 1833, the cottage is one of the only examples of an early toll house. It is a rare wooden building of vertical plank construction.

The cottage must be moved to its permanent home at the northeast corner of Davenport and Bathurst (the original site is under the paving of Bathurst Street). After it is fully restored it will serve as a municipally designated museum and will be eligible for National Historic Site designation.

To succeed in preserving this heritage asset, the CHP must

have \$200,000 by the end of July. To date, over \$30,000 has been raised, but the need is urgent. Donors to the fund receive a tax receipt. Donations should be marked "Tollkeeper's Cottage Fund - Heritage Toronto" and sent to Heritage Toronto, 205 Yonge Street, Toronto M5B 1N2.

For more information contact the Community Heritage Project at 416-515-7546.

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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In June, The Heritage Burlington LACAC and the OHS co-sponsored a "Heritage of Ontario's Cemeteries" workshop at the St. John's Anglican Church, Nelson in Burlington. As part of the workshop programme Harold Sears (above photo) led a walking tour of the recently restored cemetery at the church. (Rob Leverty)

Museum News



OHS President Frank Bartoszek and Carl Benn, Chair, Museums Committee 1999-2000, congratulate Susan Ramsay, Curator of Battlefield House Museum and Park National Historic Site at Stoney Creek, on winning the Museum Award of Excellence for Community Programming. Susan also received the Bill Todd Award for the museum worker travelling the furthest to attend the Annual General Meeting. (Dorothy Duncan)

Dundurn National Historic Site received the first Russell K. Cooper Living History Award, presented at the OHS Awards Ceremony in May. President Frank Bartoszek and Rowena Cooper extend congratulations to William Nesbitt, curator of Dundurn. The Russell K. Cooper Living History Site Award includes a cash donation for publications for the winning museum's library through the generosity of Rowena Cooper in commemoration of the life and work of the late Russell K. Cooper, Administrator of Black Creek Pioneer Village. (Dorothy Duncan)



Come to Tea on the Veranda

Join The Ontario Historical Society on the veranda of our headquarters, the John McKenzie House at 34 Parkview Avenue in Willowdale, Sunday August 12th, 2001.
Sittings at 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 p.m.

Relax and enjoy tea served in the traditional way and a selection of home baking for \$5.00 per person.

We are also showcasing and selling beautiful table linens as well as books describing the needlework and crafts that have been, and continue to be, so popular in Ontario.

For further information contact
The Ontario Historical Society:
(416) 226-9011

Visibility and Invisibility in the Nuclear Era

The Diefenbunker, Canada's Cold War Museum is exhibiting a collection of the works of the Atomic Photographers Guild. Over 60 photographs by 13 international photographers document evidence of the impact the bomb and nuclear industry have had over the last fifty years.

The exhibition explores the visible and invisible evidence of the atomic age. Atomic visibility can be found in the photographs of atomic sites and in the victims by documentary photographers who in turn use photography as a tool of social activism and the amassing of social evidence. In contrast, the invisibility of atomic evidence is produced by photographers who employ conceptual, self-

reflective strategies that problematize atomic documentation as a form of strained evidence where the subject of the photograph is either lost within the process of documentation or lost to the memory of history.

The Diefenbunker, Canada's Cold War Museum is housed inside a huge four storey bunker, which is buried deep under a hillside. The museum was designed and constructed to house the essential elements of the Canadian government during times of nuclear war.

The exhibition opened in June and runs until September 15th, 2001. For more information about the exhibition contact the Diefenbunker 1-800-409-1965.

New Heritage Centre Opens in Millbrook

Last April, the Millbrook-Cavan Historical Society moved into its new home. Directly across the street from the old location, the Heritage Centre is the permanent home of the society and its collection of local artifacts.

The society was forced to move the Heritage Centre when the building that it originally occupied was sold. However the owner of the building purchased

a storefront across the street for the society to move into.

A former men's clothing store, the new location came complete with original shelving and cabinets that are perfect for displaying the society's collection.

The Heritage Centre is located at 17 King Street East in downtown Millbrook. For further information: (705) 932-5173



Kathy Elton, Treasurer of the Millbrook-Cavan Historical Society, Judith Hickey and Mary Sutherland, Past-President of the Millbrook-Cavan Historical Society tour the new Heritage Centre. (Dorothy Duncan)

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From the Bookshelf

Chris and Pat Raible

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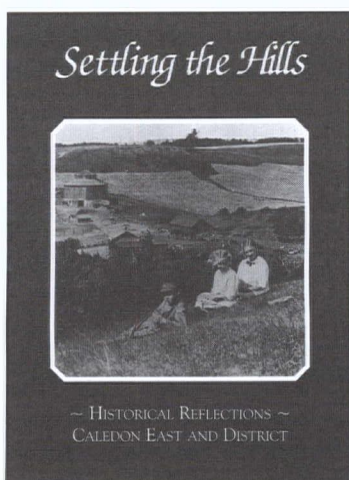
More extensive reviews of a number of books relating to the history of our province are published in each issue of *Ontario History*, a journal also published by The Ontario Historical Society.

The prices of books referred to on this page may or may not include GST or postage charges. All prices are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.

Black History

Broken Shackles: Old Man Henson From Slavery to Freedom. Edited by Peter Meyler. Natural Heritage Books. 221 pages. Illustrations. \$22.95 softbound.

Kudos to Peter Meyler and to Natural Heritage for discovering and republishing this long out-of-print collection of reminiscences of an African-American living in Owen Sound at the turn of the last century. As the foreword says, "this is a story of struggle, starvation, and savvy, balanced with dignity, devotion, diligence and determination." Never able to read or write, Henson was a great storyteller who regaled his listeners, both black and white, with the saga of his long life. One such listener was John Frost, Jr., a prominent Owen Sound businessman, and it was he who recorded Henson's life story, from his birth to his coming to Canada where his shackles were broken forever.



Around Ontario

Settling the Hills: Historical Reflections of Caledon East and District. By Elizabeth Luther. eastendbooks, 2000. \$24.95 softbound. A charming history of this Ontario township, recording many memories of the original farming families. Today the territory, like all those within driving distance of Toronto, is changing rapidly as city folk move in, trying to combine the attractions of the country with the advantages of the city. This book will serve as a reminder of what life in Caledon was once really like.

Contrasting Neighbourhoods

Rosedale. By Bell Hillery Crawford. Boston Mills Press. 176 pages. Illustrations. \$49.95 hardbound.

An attractive and affectionate history of an area that continues to be the home of Toronto's rich and famous. First created in the 1820s as the country estate of Sheriff William Botsford Jarvis, "Rosedale" was built to allow the family to escape the foul air of "Muddy York". Later subdivided as the city's first suburb, Rosedale is, of course, now almost the downtown of the metropolis. Still it retains a special flavour.

Kensington. By Jean Cochrane. Boston Mills Press. 160 pages. Illustrations. \$39.95 hardbound.

Hardly the home of the elite, Kensington is a marvellous mixture of ethnicities. Its apparently haphazard market serves a much wider area than the immediate neighbourhood. Indeed, its regular customers come from all over southern Ontario. This volume, another in Boston Mills splendid blendings of photographs and text, will be appreciated by all who savour the tastes and take pleasure in the past of a unique portion of Toronto.

Understanding Upper Canada

The Capacity to Judge: Public Opinion and Deliberative Democracy in Upper Canada 1791-1854. By Jeffrey L. McLairn. University of Toronto Press. Illustrations. 311 pages. \$75.00 hardbound.

Popular Politics and Political Culture in Upper Canada 1800-1850. By Carol Wilton. McGill-Queen's University Press. 460 pages. Illustrations. \$65.00 hardbound; \$27.95 softbound.

In the first fifty years of our province, there was a profound political change, a shift from government by a small elite to government responsive to popular opinion. These academic studies discuss the evolution in detail, casting new light on the social upheavals, including the 1837 Rebellion. Both authors are to be praised for their detailed use of early newspapers, the most public of primary documents. Together these two books offer a fascinating fresh perspective – must reading for any serious student of Ontario history. If you don't buy them, make sure your library does.

Water Works

Grand River Naval Depot. By John Thornley Docker. Dunnville District Heritage Association. 66 pages. Illustrations. \$15.00 softbound.

Shortly after the War of 1812, a Naval Depot was opened on Lake Erie near the mouth of the Grand River. Local historian John Thornley Docker has admirably traced the short history of the depot's establishment, operation, demise and abandonment. A fine example of focused historical research.

Niagara's Shipbuilding Heritage: From 1828 to Port Weller Dry Docks. By Skip Gillham. Glenaden Press. 22 pages. Illustrated. No price given, softbound.

A brief sketch of shipbuilding, an enterprise that was first stimulated in the Niagara area by the building of the Welland Canal. The industry has radically changed over the course of time, using the skills of its workforce on a variety of vessels: tugs, scows, tankers, car ferries, coastal traders and fishing boats. The work continues today, largely with the repairing and transforming of older ships.

Through Glass Brightly

Corn Flower: Creatively Canadian. By Wayne Townsend. Natural Heritage Books. 256 pages. Illustrations. \$34.95 softbound.

When Dufferin County Museum and Archives curator Wayne Townsend first heard that Canadian "corn flower" cut glass had a Dufferin connection, he decided to look into the story more carefully. The tale was true: the original corn flower manufacturer, W.J. Hughes, had indeed been born and raised in Amaranth township before moving the Toronto and learning to cut designs in glass. Today the Dufferin museum houses what is undoubtedly the finest corn flower collection anywhere. From his research Townsend is able to recount the story of both the man and the glass. The result is a fine volume, sensitively written and handsomely produced. The colour plates make it easy to appreciate the subtleties of the coloured glass pieces. Once commonly purchased as modestly priced giftware, the corn flower pattern is now prized by collectors.

Medical Memories

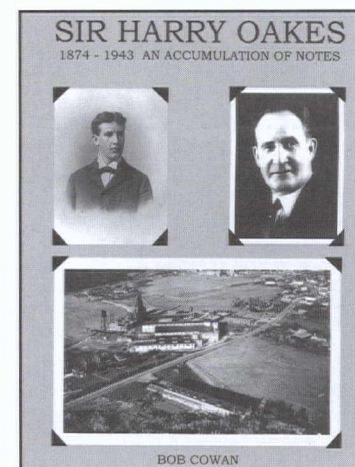
Mustard Plasters and Handcars: Through the Eyes of a Red Cross Outpost Nurse. By Gertrude LeRoy Miller. Natural Heritage Books for the Wilberforce Heritage Guild. 223 pages. Illustrations. \$21.95 softbound.

In 1922, Wilberforce became the home of the first Red Cross outpost, a government project to provide medical services to northern Ontario. Gertrude Leroy was one of the outpost's earliest nurses. This book enables us to appreciate her life as she presents a chronicle of her pleasures, her problems, her

perils – her adventures. She died in 1983, but thanks to the Wilberforce Heritage Guild, the stories of her life are now available to us all.

The Oxford Regional Centre: A 90 Year Story 1906-1996. By Mary Evans and Friends. Sponsored by the Ontario Genealogical Society, Oxford County Branch. 112 pages. Illustrations. \$12.00 softbound.

The Centre began as an Epileptic Hospital just north of Woodstock. Later it was expanded to serve epileptic children as well as adults. In the 1940s, a separate unit was built to treat patients with tuberculosis – staff called the divisions the "ep side" and the "chest side." At one time there were more than a thousand residents. In the 1970s the hospital was transformed again, becoming the Oxford Mental Health Centre. Originally situated in an agricultural area, and governed by theories that farming was therapeutic, changing needs, treatments and ideologies ultimately forced its closure in 1996.



Life and Death

Sir Harry Oakes: 1874-1943 An Accumulation of Notes. By Bob Cowan. Highway Bookshop, 2000. \$39.95 hardbound.

Oakes made his fortune – or rather found his fortune – in the area near Swastika. Born in Maine, he came to Ontario in search of gold. Striking it rich, he settled in Kirkland Lake, then moved in the 1920s to a grand estate at Niagara Falls (now administrative headquarters of the Niagara Parks Commission.)

He went on to spend his millions to support a high class social life and to subsidize worthwhile philanthropies. In good Canadian style, he moved to the 1930s to the Bahamas – to escape taxes! Amateur researcher Bob Cowan has spend a good deal of his own life (and money, too, no doubt) collecting neglected details of Oakes' life and, most especially, of his death – Oakes was murdered. One suspect was tried and acquitted, but the mystery of the murder has never been solved.

Growing Up

My Childhood in the Bush: Growing up in Brent on the CNY in Algonquin Provincial Park (1913-1919). By Rebecca Atkins with Paul and Doug Mackey. Past Forward Heritage Ltd., 2001. \$12.95 softbound.

The publishers of an OHS award winning book on lumbering and the railroad have produced a new volume: the true story of what it was like to grow up along the line. Written for younger readers, the book is also attractively designed and wonderfully illustrated with archival photos.

The One-Room School in Canada. By Jean Cochrane. Fifth House, 2001. 168 pages. Illustrations. \$16.95 softbound.

It has been a third of a century since the one-room schools all closed, but they linger in the memories of many who attended them. This is a reprint of a loving reflection on such schools all across Canada – many of them here in Ontario.

Where's the Beef?

Ontario's Cattle Kingdom: Purebred Breeders and Their World 1870-1920. By Margaret Derry. University of Toronto Press. 221 pages. Illustrations. \$50.00 hardbound.

A biography, in a sense, of herds of cattle – a chronicle of their owners, but even more of the cattle themselves. Detailed and rather technical it may be, nevertheless this study serves as a reminder of the importance of agriculture, and more particularly livestock, in the history of our province.

Directory of Publishers

Boston Mills Press, 132 Main Street, Erin, ON N0B 1T0.
Dunnville District Heritage Association, Box 41, Dunnville, ON N1A 2X1.
eastendbooks, 45 Fernwood Park Ave., Toronto, ON M4E 3E9.
Fifth House Press, Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 195 Allstate Parkway, Markham, ON L3R 4T8.
Glenaden Press, Box 443, Vineland, ON L0R 2C0.
Highway Book Shop, Highway 11, Cobalt, ON P0J 1C0.

McGill-Queen's University Press, 3430 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec H3A 1X9.
Natural Heritage Books, Box 95, Station O, Toronto, ON M4A 2M8.
Ontario Genealogical Society, Oxford County Branch, Box 1092, Woodstock, ON N4S 8P6.
Past Forward Heritage Ltd., 330 Sumach Street #41, Toronto, ON M5A 3K7.
University of Toronto Press, 10 St. Mary St., Suite 700, Toronto, ON M4Y 2W8.
Wilberforce Heritage Guild, Box 250, Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0.

A New Historical Society for the Village of Morrisburg!

Shaun Wallace

On March 19th, 2001 local history was made in the village of Morrisburg when the Morrisburg and District Historical Society was formed. The executive members are Shaun Wallace, President; Reverend Don Smith, Vice-President; Janet Allingham, Recording Secretary; and Suzanne Edge, Treasurer. The aims and objectives of the Society are to record, collect and preserve local artifacts in order to tell the local history of the village of Morrisburg and the surrounding district. Collecting and documenting oral histories will also be a major component of the new society's mandate. The newly formed society has received full support from other well-established societies in eastern Ontario, mainly The Lost Villages Historical Society, The Cornwall Township Historical Society, The Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Historical Society, The Friends of Crysler's Farm Battlefield, Upper Canada Village and the newly formed Township of South Dundas. The society received affiliated status with The Ontario Historical Society at the June meeting of the OHS' Board of Directors and is now incorporated as a non-profit corporation.

Only weeks after the founding meeting the Society spearheaded a joint celebration with Canada Post Corporation in Morrisburg on April 23rd, 2001. This year marks the celebration of three sesquicentennials (150 years); two are of national importance and the third is of great local pride for the residents of Morrisburg.

1. Canada's First Postmaster General, Sir James Morris, February 22nd, 1851.
2. The naming of Morrisburg. West Williamsburg, Canada West, adopted the name Morrisburg on August 6th, 1851 in honour of Sir James Morris.
3. Canada's first adhesive postal stamp, the three pence Beaver, designed by Sir Sanford Fleming first went on sale on April 23rd, 1851.

The Morrisburg and District Historical Society presented a display depicting images of early Morrisburg Post Offices, a list of Village Postmasters from 1832 to the present, and a detailed biography of Sir James Morris. This very informative display was a great success with all those who attended. At the reception, the Morrisburg and District Historical Society was the recipient of an engraved plaque from Canada Post Corporation which accompanied a framed replica of the original three pence

Beaver stamp. The village Postmaster, Liz Dillabourgh, presented the Society with the last mail drop box that was used in the village. This box, circa 1930, was located at the corner of Augusta Street and Highway 2. The box was fully restored to the original brilliant red, royal blue and gold colours for the presentation.

Sir James Morris was the "Reform" member from Leeds County who pressed for the construction of the canals on the St. Lawrence River. For his efforts, he was made a commissioner of the newly formed Commission that was established to look into improving navigation on the St. Lawrence River in 1838. The canal construction began in 1843 and was completed by 1847. Sir James was responsible for financing the construction of the canals, a post he did not relinquish until the canals were finished. Prior to the canal construction, the hamlet of West Williamsburg was a 'have not' community. The lay of the land meant that the "Rapid Plate" lock was to become Morrisburg's water front. The presence of this lock and the harnessed water power established the conditions necessary for the growth of an economically important village on the front of Dundas County.

In 1851, Great Britain transferred control of postal affairs to the united Province of Canada. That same year, Sir James Morris was appointed Canada's first Postmaster General. Under the new Canadian Post Office Act, postal services were expanded to many villages. Under this newly expanded service, West Williamsburg was granted a new post office. To show their respect to the man who made the growth of their village possible the residents of West Williamsburg renamed the town "Morrisburgh". The new Morrisburgh post office opened on August 6th, 1851.

The Morrisburg and District Historical Society has a very busy calendar for this summer. In June, the Society took part in the 40th anniversary celebrations at Upper Canada Village. In July, the Society assisted the Friends of Crysler's Farm Battlefield during the battle re-enactment at the Battlefield Memorial, and the following weekend the Society hosted a display at the South Dundas Heritage Fair in Morrisburg. On the August 6th long weekend, the society will be helping to celebrate Morrisburg's 150th birthday.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors

Frank Bartoszek and Penny Potter, Fundraising Chairs

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New Prize Announced for Undergraduate History Papers

The Simcoe County Historical Association has announced the Andrew Hunter Prize for the best essay on the history of Simcoe County written by an undergraduate enrolled in an Ontario college or university.

Entries must be undergraduate essays between 3000 and 5000 words in length on any aspect of Simcoe County's history. The author must be a student, either full-time or part-time, enrolled in an accredited college or university. The essay must have been written as part of the requirements of an undergraduate course during the 2001-2002 academic year. The deadline for submissions is no later than March 1st, 2002. Essays must be typed in Times New Roman 12 point font, double spaced, and should not bear

instructor's comments or grade. Two copies must be provided. A cover sheet must list the author's name, address, phone number, status, school affiliation and department, and the name of the instructor for whom the paper was written. Entries should be sent to: The Correspondence Secretary, Simcoe County Historical Association, Box 144, Barrie, ON, L4M 4S9.

All entries will be judged by a panel appointed by the Simcoe County Historical Association. The winners will be announced in early May and the prizes will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

Two prizes will be awarded, one for \$750 and one for \$250. The Simcoe County Historical Association may edit the winning entries for the purpose of publication.

OHS Awards Winners

(continued from page 1)

Linda Sabathy-Judd for *Moravians in Upper Canada: The Diary of the Indian Mission of Fairfield on the Thames, 1792-1813*, published by the Champlain Society.

J.J. Talman Award for the best book on Ontario's social, economic, political or cultural history published in the past three years: **Wendy Cameron** and **Mary McDougall Maude** for *Assisting Emigration to Upper Canada: The Petworth Project, 1832-1837*, published by McGill-Queen's University Press.

Dorothy Duncan Award: Ojibwe Cultural Foundation, Manitoulin Island for its outstanding service to the First Nations communities of Manitoulin Island, the Province of Ontario and all its citizens. This award will be presented on Friday, September 28 at the Ojibwe Cultural Centre, West Bay, Manitoulin Island.

The next deadline for submissions for Honours and Awards is October 31st, 2001. For further information call: (416) 226-9011.

Welcome

With support from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation's Summer Experience Programme, the OHS has welcomed Sarah Vandewater and Charlotte Wilkinson to our staff for the next few weeks. We expect Rachel Caballero to join

us later this month, and Colin Agnew has returned for a few weeks as well.

We welcome this extra support as our work load increases and our resources are stretched on a daily basis to serve our very large membership.

ISSN 0714-6736

The *OHS Bulletin*, the newsletter of The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2 (416) 226-9011, fax (416) 226-2740 will be published five times in 2001; March, May, July, September and December.

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 Tourism, Culture and Recreation.

The several classes of membership in the Society are: Individual/Institution/Organisation \$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*, Gabriele Scardellato, editor, 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.

Editors: Colin Agnew & Payal Lall
Cemetery News Editor: Marjorie Stuart
From the Bookshelf Editors: Pat and Chris Raible
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