



# OHS BULLETIN

34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2

Issue 131 • September 2001

## Good Work Continues in Rydal Bank



The Rydal Bank Community Hall before the project began (Jean Hershey)

### Jean Hershey

The Rydal Bank Historical Society may only have 23 members, but the dedication of these members has done a

great deal to preserve the history of a small northern Ontario community east of Sault Ste. Marie.

The Society is presently in the midst of restoring the Rydal Bank Community Hall, formerly the Orange Lodge Hall, built in 1897.

With the financial assistance of the Trillium Foundation and the generous support of Society members and friends, the Rydal Bank Historical Society has been able to restore the Rydal Bank Community Hall. Phase 1 involved raising the entire hall and putting in a new foundation. This was completed in 2000. Phase 2 is presently underway and has resulted in the rewiring of the hall. Work will begin shortly on the installation of a wheelchair ramp and siding for the building's exterior.

Today Rydal Bank is a small village of about 20 families, but in the early 1900s it was a thriving community that boasted 2 hotels, 3 stores, 2 churches, a school, an Orange Hall, a livery stable, a grist mill and a train platform. As transportation and industry changed, Rydal Bank suffered the fate of many small communities and only the school (now a private residence), a Church, the Community Hall, and a few original residences remain as a testimony to its former importance.

In 2000, the Society was granted \$25,000 by the Ontario

Trillium Foundation to assist with Phase 1 of the project. As well as this initial support, the Society has gone on to raise over \$24,000 in additional funds. Phase 1 cost \$44,000 and Phase 2 is estimated at an additional \$11,000.

The Rydal Bank Community Hall was built in 1897 as the Loyal Orange Lodge 356 Hall. At the time it was a 55 foot by 32 foot building with double front doors that opened into the great hall which featured a pressed tin ceiling, an elaborately framed stage, 5 feet tall stately windows and a geometrically patterned hardwood floor.

Local newspaper accounts trace the history of the events at the hall with the first record stating that it was the site of the 1903 annual Christmas Day Shooting Match. Later accounts record events such as Box Socials, Grand Balls and benefit events for citizens facing financial difficulty. School Christmas Concerts were also held at the hall to accommodate the student's marching and dramatic presentations, and it was the regional centre for the July Orange Day Parades.

The hall has been renovated many times over the course of its life, but the first preservation work was done in 1959 when local membership declined to such an extent that the Toronto Lodge ordered that

See RYDAL BANK page 8

## Mark Your Calendar

The Ontario Historical Society will be hosting an Oyster Supper at 6:00 p.m. on November 7, 2001 at the John Mackenzie House in Willowdale. The menu for the evening is oyster soup, scalloped oysters, crackers, baked ham, scalloped potatoes, roasted harvest vegetables, condiments, a fine selection of homemade pies and beverages. We are sorry but we cannot accommodate special diets at this fund-raising event.

The cost is \$50.00 per person and includes a tax receipt for a portion of the costs, complimentary beverages, corn dollies hand crafted by Jeanne Hughes and a short presentation on the history of Oyster Suppers in Ontario by Dorothy Duncan. There is a limited number of tickets so to reserve your place send your cheque, payable to The Ontario Historical Society to 34 Parkview Avenue Willowdale Ontario M2N 3Y2.

## Last Call for Nominations

Wednesday, October 31, 2001 is the deadline for receiving nominations for the OHS Honours and Awards programme. We need your help to recognize the excellent work being done in heritage preservation, interpretation and publishing in your community and area of interest. Nominations of individuals and organizations are invited for the following categories:

Awards for Individuals  
**Cruikshank Gold Medal**  
**Carnochan Award**  
Awards for Non-Profit Organizations  
**Scadding Award of Excellence**  
**Museum Award of Excellence in Community Programming**  
**The Russell K. Cooper Living History Site Award**  
**Dorothy Duncan Award**

Awards for LACACs  
**B. Napier Simpson Jr. Award of Merit**

Awards for Authors  
**Joseph Brant Award**  
**Fred Landon Award**  
**Alison Prentice Award**  
**J.J. Talman Award**  
**Riddell Award**  
Award for Businesses  
**President's Award**

The awards will be presented at the OHS Annual Meeting on May 4, 2002. If any of the award winners are not able to attend the presentation in Willowdale, the OHS will arrange a suitable presentation in the local area.

For information and nomination forms contact the OHS, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2 (416) 226-9011.

## New Publication from Heritage Toronto

Heritage Toronto has released *Observations on the State of Heritage* with "the hope that this report will generate discussion and spur collective action, particularly in encouraging the Provincial government to address the long

overdue strengthening of the Ontario Heritage Act and the Federal government in directing at least some of its substantial resources for heritage to this City" (Toronto) To obtain a copy call (416) 392-6827.

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The Ontario Historical Society  
34 Parkview Avenue  
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M2N 3Y2

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# President’s Message

Frank Bartoszek

### Tea on the Veranda

On Sunday, August 12 2001, The Ontario Historical Society hosted another popular event: Tea on the Veranda. This event was well attended and the guests who attended enjoyed sandwiches, scones with jam, assorted squares, and of course, pots of tea. A generous donation of fine linen napkins, tablecloths, and similar items, carefully washed, ironed and displayed, were on sale, along with handicrafts and books on crafts.

The dedication of our volunteers to make these events successful is of course, legendary. With tea and sales of linens and craft books, the OHS made over \$1600 for the day.

### Oyster Supper

In November of this year, we are holding an Oyster Supper at our house on Parkview Avenue. Dorothy Duncan will be attending a conference in England this September and her paper there will discuss the traditions of oyster suppers in Ontario. The fund-raising committee thought that our members should be able to learn more about, and experience, an oyster supper. Dorothy has graciously agreed to present part of her paper to the dinner guests, so we can learn more about this Ontario event. (A description of the evening and information on tickets is presented elsewhere in the Bulletin.)

### Volunteers

The Ontario Historical Society hosts many events during the year—all of which depend on

volunteers. The November dinner, for example, will require hours of effort to be spent by volunteers to set up and prepare for the evening. These events underscore the enormous contribution made by our volunteers.

Charitable organizations rely more and more on member participation in events and to make the goals of the organization possible. A recent article in the Globe and Mail stated, unfortunately, that across Canada fewer people are volunteering. The article cites various stresses of life in the 2000’s—longer hours, more demands on time, and the ever-widening gap caused by government cutbacks. However, it is distressing to note that between 1997 and today, the volunteer sector in Canada has lost more than one million individuals. Demographics also play an important role: volunteers tend to be mainly older individuals, who belong to that shrinking group, the middle class. What the article does not state, but seems almost self-evident, is that volunteers also are drawn from that group that has a sense of community and who recognize the importance of being involved in their communities. It is all too easy to forget that it is important to forge and maintain links with our communities. We can all learn from each other, and sharing experiences with each other can enrich our lives. It is regrettable that this seems to be forgotten today.

Volunteer participation in community events and organizations provides positive enrichment for both sides.

A while ago, I was speaking with a friend who has spent many years performing valuable community service and has made significant contributions by working on committees to provide museums, galleries, and university buildings for her community. She explained all her work quite simply: “You cannot keep taking from the community. You must also give something back.” The advice is sound. Imagine the possibilities for your community were there more people with that attitude.

### Award

I am pleased to report that Dorothy Duncan has been named recipient of the Lieutenant Governor’s Award by the Heritage Canada Foundation. Dorothy was cited by the jury “for her illustrious career in the field of heritage resource management and her lasting contribution to the conservation of Ontario’s heritage. From her early days as a school teacher and later as a heritage activist, she has emphasized the importance of education in the conservation of historic places. During her 18-year tenure at the Ontario Historical Society, she has strengthened the network of some 600 affiliated local historical societies in the province.” Presentation of the Lieutenant Governor’s Award will take place at the Heritage Canada Foundation’s annual conference in Toronto on October 12, 2001.

On behalf of The Ontario Historical Society, I congratulate Dorothy on this well-deserved award.

# Executive Director’s Report

Dorothy Duncan

### Tea On the Veranda

After two weeks of soaring temperatures and stifling heat, the weather suddenly changed and our fund-raising event on August 12 was blessed with perfect weather. Red Rose Tea not only provided enough Orange Pekoe tea for all of our guests but also beautiful mugs and samples of tea to take home. Bottle Green Drinks Company donated samples of Pressé, a natural cold beverage now available in many retail stores.

Daniel O’Brien spent countless hours preparing and showcasing a host of linens for sale. Volunteers Frank Bartoszek, Jeanne Hughes, Grace Matthews, Barbara Kane, Colin Agnew, Edith Geduld, Alison Hughes-Rowlands and Daniel as well as Summer Experience students Charlotte, Rachel and Sarah plied the guests with tea and treats and persuaded them to leave behind \$1600 in sales. Thank you donors, volunteers, bakers, and shoppers for your support!

### Oyster Supper

Our next fund-raiser will be held on the evening of Wednesday November 7 when we will recreate an Oyster Supper similar to those that were (and still are in so many cases) so popular in rural Ontario. Look for

details of this event in this issue. As there are only a limited number of tickets available. If you are interested mail your cheque today.

### Farewell

September brings a return to classes for some of our members and here in our office we are saying farewell to Rachel Caballero returning to the University of Toronto, Sarah Vanderwater to York University and Charlotte Wilkinson to Queen’s University. A very special thank you to these three young women who have given us such strong support over these summer months.

### Our Fall Schedule

As I review upcoming events and my own calendar I see that I will be at the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation on Manitoulin Island on September 28, the Centennial Museum in Sheguiandah on September 29, the Sault Ste. Marie Museum on September 30, the Yorkminster-Oriole Outreach Programme on October 10, the Voyageur Heritage Network meeting and workshop in North Bay on October 13 and Etobicoke Historical Society meeting on October 25. I look forward to seeing you at these events.

# We gratefully acknowledge the following donors

Frank Bartoszek and Penny Potter, Fundraising Chairs

Cara Feldman  
Eleanor and Rolph Huband  
Jeanne Hughes  
Regan Hutchison  
Mary Jane Miller

Bottle Green Drinks Company  
Red Rose Tea Company Ltd,  
St. Robert’s Catholic School  
Day Camp  
Whitchurch Stouffville  
Historical Society

### Cemetery Defence Fund

Carmela Andraos  
Kerry Badgley

Anne Baillie  
Gyuszi Berki  
Pamela Bonnycastle  
Elaine Campbell  
Pleasance Crawford  
Mrs O. Edgecomb  
Sheldon Godfrey  
Allan Haldenby  
Maureen Hunt  
Adair Jeffers  
Mary Lemyre  
Catherine McEwan  
Joan Murray  
Janice Paine  
Janet Watt  
Jennifer Wood

Mayor will always follow the advice that they are given: it is the politician’s job to take that advice and weight it along with all the other factors that form the basis of public policy. But we do expect them to consult with their advisors BEFORE they consign a building like the Eaton’s Portage Avenue Store to oblivion.

Somehow we have to make sure that this does not happen again. In the fall, when the smoke has cleared, I will be suggesting to others of the

heritage community that we sit down with the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism and the Mayor to come up with improvements to the legislation. We have to be sure that buildings like the Eaton’s store are objectively assessed on their merits as historical structures in the context of a rational, open and fair decision making process. Anything less is simply not good enough.

*Editor’s Note: Ontario - does this sound familiar?*

# The Process Stunk

Jim Blanchard

*The following is Jim Blanchard’s President’s Message from the August/September 2001 Manitoba Historical Society’s Newsletter, MHS Keywords. It has been reprinted with the permission of the Manitoba Historical Society and Jim Blanchard.*

By the time you read this, the final curtain may have fallen on the Eaton’s store drama. Whether the store is saved or lost, we in the heritage community need now focus on the broader issue of what went wrong and how we can work to avoid a repetition of the nightmare we


have been through in the past few weeks.

The process followed to decide the fate of this large and clearly significant, whether officially designated or not, historic building was a poor one. To put it bluntly, the process stunk. We have had all kinds of alarm bells and warning signs that should have let the politicians know that they had a major problem on their hands. When someone of the stature of Bill Neville feels the only way he can make an impact is to resign from his post as Chair of the Minister’s Heritage Advisory Council, that is a warning sign.

When heritage veterans like Bernie Wolfe, Lily Stearns and Margaret Carter are angry and speaking out publicly, that should be enough of an alarm bell to make people take notice.

What went wrong; why is everyone so upset? I think the crux of the problem is that Manitoba’s mechanism for making decisions about heritage buildings, a system that our Society and many others have worked hard to put in place over the past decades, was bypassed in this case. Oh, the groups designated by our legislation had input. The City’s Historic Buildings Committee, supported by the City public servants assigned to them and the Provincial citizens group, along with the excellent staff of professionals at Historic Resource Branch, all gave their advice. BUT NOT UNTIL AFTER THE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE.

That is why people are so angry. It is as though the review process we have worked so hard to create is irrelevant. No one expects that the Minister or the



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# Across the Province

Dorothy Duncan

**Canada Blooms**, the well known show that lifts all gardener's spirits each spring has moved into the Ashbridge Estate in June.

The **Archives Association of Ontario's** Professional Development Committee has announced the 2001-2002 schedule of new advanced level two-day workshops. Call (416) 533-9592.

*Continental Connoisseur*, the newsletter of the **Lincoln and Continental Owners Club** asks "where is Henry's racing trophy?" A century ago Henry Ford won a cut glass punch bowl with his racer *Sweepstakes*, but unfortunately the bowl was sold after his death. If you have information call (416) 461-6032.

Preparations are already underway to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of French explorers Sieur de Monts and Samuel de Champlain in Canada. **The Ste. Croix 2004 Co-ordinating Committee** has invited the Huguenot Society of Canada to send a representative and Kathryn Hilder of Fredericton, New Brunswick has been selected. Further information: (416) 222-1967.

The **Paris Museum and Historical Society**, founded in 1972 launched the first newsletter *Heritage Paris*, last year. Call (519) 442-1220 to learn more about this active Society and its publications.

Would you like to have your family's story told in the **Stayner Heritage Society's** Newsletter? Send it to Box 290, Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0 or call (705) 428-2917.

The **East Gwillimbury Historical Society** announced the Dorothy Eves Award in honour of their founding member who passed away in 1996. In the intervening years Gillian Morton, Ken Smith, Esther Clark, Janet Russell and Sharon Hamilton have been the recipients. Congratulations.

Cathryn Gregor has been appointed interim Executive Director of the **Textile Museum of Canada** following the resignation of Jennifer Kaye. For information on exhibits and programmes: (416) 599-5321 ext. 2221.

Congratulations to the **Montreal Museum of Archaeology and History** for winning two awards from the **American Association for State and Local History**: the

Award of Merit for the exhibit "1690 - The Siege of Quebec...The Story of a Ship" and the Certificate of Commendation for the conservation of Montreal's first Catholic cemetery (1642-1653). For further information on the American Association for State and Local History: (615) 320-3203.

**Fortress Niagara** is looking for guides to conduct tours of the French Castle this fall and winter. Training will be provided so if you are willing to donate some time call (716) 745-7611.

"Dreaming with Needles," an exploration of the versatility of knitting, opened at the **Mississippi Valley Textile Museum** in Almonte in August and continues until Thanksgiving weekend. For information on this and other programmes and exhibits: (613) 256-3754.

Travelling in the Bowmanville area? Then drop in to the **Bowmanville Museum** and catch up on their recent activities, including the restoration on the Potting Shed, the establishment of the Rose Garden, the purchase of a cast iron fountain and much much more. Call (905) 623-2734 or 1-888-567-2598.

Our sympathy goes out to OHS member Ruth Redelmeier of Richmond Hill and her family on the death of Francis in August, and to Gordon Martin of Burlington on the death of his wife Dorothy, well known historian and geneologist.

The Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation has published Bulletin 11 *Changing Times: Municipal Restructuring and Heritage*. This useful Bulletin and others in the series are available from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Heritage Policy and Program Development Unit, 400 University Avenue, 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9 or call John Carter, Museum Advisor, (416) 314-7151.

Congratulations to **Fort Henry** in Kingston for winning the Attraction of National or International Interest Award for 2001, presented by **Attractions Canada** earlier this year in Halifax.

Applause also for the volunteers at the **North American Black Historical Museum** in Amherstburg

for receiving a **Canadian Museum Association** Award for Outstanding Achievement, presented to Elise Harding-Davis at the CMA's Annual Conference in Ottawa.

*Historic Kingston*, the annual publication of the **Kingston Historical Society** is a rich resource for readers and researchers interested in cemeteries, archaeology, the United Empire Loyalists and much more. Past and present OHS Board members Jane Errington and Brian Osborne are the editors. For information about the Society and its publication programme: Box 54, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4V6.

And speaking of publications, do not miss *Settling the Hills*, written by members of the **Caledon East and District Historical Society** and co-edited by President Donna Davies and Ken Webber. For cost and availability: (905) 584-0352.

On the down side, the **Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage** has announced that it is discontinuing printing *Federation News* as a result of cuts to operating funds. This rich quarterly newsletter will be missed by both the heritage community in Nova Scotia and by all of us across Canada who have benefited from its news and views.

*Woolwich at the Turn of the Century*, published by the **Woolwich Historical Foundation** is a compilation of articles taken from the *Elmira Advertiser* from 1882 to 1902, obituaries found in the *Elmira Advertiser* and the *Elmira Signet* and previously unpublished photos and postcards from the WHF archives. To reserve your copy send \$15.00 plus \$6.00 shipping and handling to: Woolwich Historical Foundation, 65 Arthur Street South, Elmira Ontario N3B 2M6 or call (519) 883-1448.

Are you planning to attend the Bobcaygeon Fall Fair on September 28 and 29? If you are, look for the **Greater Harvey Historical Society** display booth and have a visit. The Society will also be exhibiting at the Nick of Time Show on November 27 and 28.

The **Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group** has been awarded a \$30,500 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to purchase much needed equipment for their headquarters in Pembroke.

The **Town of Bancroft** has commissioned a new book to be published in 2003. The project is to be directed by Orland French and the search is on for Bancroft stories - mining, logging, agriculture, First Nations, geology or whatever. Contact: Orland French, Wallbridge House Publishing, 246 Albert Street, Belleville, K8N 2N9.

## Historic Craigleith Station Saved - Almost

Charles Garrad

The Town of the Blue Mountains (former Collingwood Twp.) has moved to preserve the historic railway station at Craigleith. When rail service was discontinued on the Collingwood-Meaford extension in 1962, the station passed into private hands and became famous as The Depot Restaurant hosted by Kenn and Suyrea Knapman, keen local historians, who dedicated themselves to preserving the building and numerous railway artifacts. Following Kenn Knapman's death in 1999, the station and adjoining properties were purchased by local developers who were willing to accommodate the Craigleith community's desire to see the building preserved. A deal was struck with the Town by which the station will be severed from the adjacent property and sold to the Town, but a part of the purchase price will have to be raised by voluntary donations.

Generations of diners at The Depot knew the building for

its turret, artifact displays, original pot-bellied stove, adjacent beds of lilacs, and its association with the family of Sir Sandford Fleming.

Spearheading the preservation effort is the Craigleith Heritage Committee of the Blue Mountain Watershed Trust, Collingwood, which will embark on a fund-raising programme, initially to complete the purchase, and later for renovations. An architectural assessment confirmed the building is structurally sound but in need of extensive repairs. A new roof is a high priority.

We invite interested OHS members, particularly those who knew The Depot, to contact the Committee so that we can inform you directly as programmes evolve for renovation, occupancy, and funding the building. Please contact Charles Garrad, 103 Anndale Drive, North York, Ontario M2N 2X3 (416) 223-2752 charlesgarrad@sympatico.ca

## Get to know the Archives of Ontario

Are you intimidated by the thought of doing research at the Archives of Ontario? If you are, you are not alone. To help those of you who would like to use the facilities at the Archives, but are a little hesitant to do so, the Friends of the Archives of Ontario will be running a full schedule of classes this fall to demonstrate how to navigate round the many and varied collections housed at the Archives. Two sessions of special interest for local historians will take place on November 24, 2001. The first session is:


**Sources for local history**


Whether you're working on a local history or simply trying to understand your ancestors' place in their community, instructor Jane MacNamara will use a case study approach to look beyond the commonly used sources at the Archives of Ontario. You will explore an assortment of records rich with information about specific communities. These will include municipal records, personal and business collections, Tweedsmuir histories, library resources, surveyors' records, township papers and other Crown Land records.


The second session will be: **Ontarians at home**


Using the Special Collections Reading Room, Christine Bourolias, Special Collections Reference Archivist at the Archives of Ontario will guide you through the many collections featuring architecture and design and social history. You will view some of the thousands of images featuring home and domestic life in Ontario. You will also have an opportunity to view township and subdivision plans, and other maps to study locations. You will view the structures in architectural drawings and see them come to life in photographs of homesteads, neighbourhoods, interiors and domestic activities. You will also explore the impact of retailers like Eatons.


The cost for the day is \$35.00 and there is a limit of 20 people. For more information call 416-325-4930. You can view the entire fall programme on the Friends of the Archives of Ontario web site at [www.archivesontariofriends.com](http://www.archivesontariofriends.com) where you will also find a registration form as well as lots of other information on the Friends of the Archives of Ontario.

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# Upcoming Events

**September 23: Researching/ Restoring Your Heritage House** co-sponsored by Community Heritage Ontario and the Parkwood Foundation at the Parkwood Conference Centre, Oshawa (905) 728-3488 or (416) 291-6510

**September 23: Harvest Festival**, Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Arts Centre, Toronto (416) 396-2819

**September 29: Eastern Woodlands Traditions Fall Lecture Series**, sponsored by The Ontario Archaeological Society at the Elgin West Community Centre, Richmond Hill. Lectures continue October 24, November 21 and December 12 all at 7:00 (905) 787-9851

**September 29: Rural Roots**, a workshop on the heritage of barns, co-sponsored by Community Heritage Ontario and Norwich LACAC at Woodlawn Adult Community Centre, Otterville (905) 728-3488 or (416) 291-6510

**September 29: Schooners and Their Masters Heritage Walk**, the story of John Mulvey, ship owner. Meet at 1:30 at the southwest corner of Bathurst and Queen Streets, Toronto (416) 593-2656

**September 30: Railway Kings of Rosedale, Heritage Walk**, meet at 1:30 at the southeast corner of Avenue Road and Macpherson Avenue, Toronto (416) 593-2656

**October 1: Toronto's Industrial Story Fall Lecture Series**, Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Arts Centre. Lectures continue October 15 and November 5, all at 7:30 (416) 396-2819

**October 6-8: Pumpkins Puddings and Pies**, a celebration of the harvest at the Gibson House Museum, Willowdale, followed by **Bread and Preserves**, an adult cooking workshop on **October 13**, and **Harvest Adventures**, a hearth cooking workshop for children on **October 20** (416) 395-7432

**October 7: Introduction to Artifact Analysis**, a nine-week programme begins, sponsored by The Ontario Archaeological Society (905) 787-9851

**October 7, 8: Fall Harvest Celebration - Root Vegetables**, at Canada's Agriculture Museum, Ottawa (613) 991-3044

**October 11-13: Preservation Pays: The Economics of Heritage Conservation Conference**, sponsored by Heritage Canada Foundation at the Toronto Colony Hotel (613) 237-5987

**October 14, 15: The Hiscock Site: Late Pleistocene and Holocene Paleoecology and Archaeology of Western New York State: Smith Symposium II**, at the Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo, New York (716) 896-5200 ext. 312

**October 17: Official Opening** of the exhibit displaying the archaeological discoveries of Ontario's first parliament buildings. Co-sponsored by St. James' Cathedral, Citizens for the Old Town, and Archaeological Services Inc. (416) 364-7865 ext 232

**October 18-21: On the Road to Calico**, a bus tour to Lowell, Massachusetts to visit restored and reused mill buildings, the American Textile History Museum, the New England Quilt Museum, and the Lowell National Historic Park, sponsored by Community Heritage Ontario (905) 728-3488 or (416) 291-6510

**October 18: Problem Solving**, sponsored by the Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group at the Pembroke Welcome Centre at 7:30 (613) 732-7580

**October 19-20: Crossing the Divides: Voluntary, Business, Labour and Government Sectors**, the second annual National Forum of the Public Policy and Third Sector Initiative at Queen's University, Kingston, sponsored by the School of Policy Studies (613) 533-6072

**October 19-21: Giving the Future a Past**, a national conference on teaching, learning and communicating the history of Canada, sponsored by The Association for Canadian Studies in Winnipeg (514) 987-7784 or (204) 237-1818 ext 632

**October 20: The Peninsula - Toronto Island Heritage Walk**, meet at the entrance to Leslie Street Spit at the foot of Leslie Street at 11:00. Bring your lunch and ferry fare (416) 593-2656

**October 20: Archaeological Workshop Series**, continues on **November 10 & 24**. Learn the techniques of hand built pottery and smoking pipes and also create a floorcloth at these programmes hosted by The Ontario Archaeological Society (905) 787-9851

**October 22: Becoming a Professional Researcher or Hiring One**, with speaker Sharon Murphy at the meeting of the Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society at the North York Central Library Auditorium, Willowdale at 7:30 (416) 733-2608

**October 23, 24: National Historic Sites Alliance for Ontario 2001 Conference**, Kingston City Hall, Kingston, with a pre-conference tour and dinner at Fort Henry. Fax: (613) 938-6363

**October 27: Dinner at the Gibsons'**, teaches the tricks and techniques of 19th century cooking while preparing your own dinner at the Gibson House Museum, Willowdale (416) 395-7432

**October 27: Railway Sesquicentennial Heritage Walk of Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Railroad, 1851-2001**, meet at 1:30 at the southwest corner of King Street East and Jarvis Street (416) 593-2656

**October 27: Power Street Springs, Corktown Historic Walk**, meet at the entrance to St. Paul's Cathedral, Power Street at 1:00 (416) 593-2656

**November 2, 3: Volunteers in the Museum Setting Conference** at the Waterloo Inn and Conference Centre. Sponsored by the Ontario Museum Association (416) 348-8672

**November 15, 16: National Symposium on Holocaust-Era Art**, co-sponsored by the Canadian Museum Association and the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ottawa (613) 567-0099

**November 16-18: The Archaeology of Space and Place in the Great Lakes Region**, The Ontario Archaeological Society's 26th Annual Symposium, Hamilton (905) 787-9851.

**November 17: Christmas and Hogmanay Treats and December 1 Haggis and Scottish Savouries**, workshops at the Gibson House Museum. Country Christmas also begins November 17 and continues to December 23 (416) 395-7432

## Join the OHS at these events

DATE	EVENT	HOST/SPONSOR/ LOCATION
Sept 25	Tombstone Tales <i>- slide show and lecture -</i>	OHS at Halton-Peel Branch, The Ontario Genealogical Society, Chinguacousy Branch Library, Brampton
Sept 28	Presentaion 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! <i>- workshop -</i>	OHS at the Centennial Museum, Sheguiandah, Manitoulin Island
Sept 30	Serve It Forth! Discover Your Community's Food Traditions <i>- workshop -</i>	OHS at the Sault Ste. Marie Museum, Sault Ste. Marie
Oct 1	Tombstone Tales <i>- slide show and lecture -</i>	OHS at Newcastle Village and District Historical Society, Newcastle
Oct 12	Gone but not Forgotten: Cemeteries of Essex County <i>- exhibit opening with OHS slide show and lecture -</i>	Windsor's Community Museum, Windsor
Oct 13	Food Traditions that Tie Us Together <i>- workshop -</i>	OHS at Voyageur Heritage Network's Annual Meeting, North Bay
Oct 15	Tombstone Tales <i>- slide show and lecture -</i>	OHS at Oshawa Historical Society, Oshawa
Oct 25	Dear Diary: Here I am in my new home... <i>- lecture -</i>	OHS at Etobicoke Historical Society, T. Montgomery's Inn, Etobicoke
Nov 7	Oyster Supper <i>- fund-raiser -</i>	OHS at the John McKenzie House, Willowdale
Dec 2	Cookbook Caper <i>- fund-raiser -</i>	OHS at the John McKenzie House, Willowdale

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# Cemetery News

Marjorie Stuart

The Ontario Historical Society has appealed the decision of the new Acting Registrar of Cemeteries to issue an Order to Close a part of **St. Alban's Cemetery**, Palgrave, Town of Caledon. The Anglican Church has sold the property which includes the church and cemetery. The new owner wants to remove the human remains from the part of the cemetery where he wishes to build. The appeal will be heard by The Provincial Licence Appeal Tribunal. The Ontario Historical Society has been notified that the hearing will be held at the Licence Appeal Tribunal's Chambers, 1 St. Clair Avenue West, 12th Floor, Toronto, October 1 to October 4, 2001.

Descendants of those buried in the **Kemsley Family Cemetery** in Sarnia have declined the offer to purchase the cemetery for use as a parking lot. They are now working with Heritage Sarnia to have the cemetery declared a Heritage Site

to ensure that the cemetery is registered on the Official Town Plan and registered with the Cemeteries Regulations Branch, Ministry of Consumer and Business Services.

A group of concerned parishioners, heritage and community groups have formed The Save St. James' Committee. They are opposed to the closure and disinterment of the human remains in **St. James' Cathedral Burial Ground**. This group welcomed the news that the Cathedral has been the recipient of a generous bequest of \$5 million from the estate of Ronald and Marilyn Janes. The funds are to be held by the Corporation of the Cathedral in perpetual trust, with the income to be used for the grounds, building maintenance, construction, or work of a capital nature. The Chair of The Save St. James' Committee, Ian Angus, stated that "this generous bequest could go a long way to preserve a very important piece

of Canadian history. It seems a shame that a church would need to resort to digging up the dead to raise money. Perhaps now, with this unexpected windfall, the Cathedral Corporation will take another look at possible alternatives to redevelopment." We are still waiting for the decision of the Registrar of Cemeteries on the Cathedral's application for closure and removal of the human remains from the cemetery. The present indication is that this may result in a hearing before The Provincial Licence Appeal Tribunal. Descendants of those buried at St. James' are urged to contact Diane Clendenan at dclenden@netover.com or the OHS Office at 416-226-9011 or by FAX at 416-226-2740.

The Cemetery Board of **Albury Cemetery**, Township of Ameliasburg, Prince Edward County, are seeking descendants of those buried in the cemetery on Rednersville Road. They are attempting to update their

records and to identify the early burials. The cemetery was established in 1825. They may be contacted through their Website [www.cyberus.ca/~bowerman/albury/e](http://www.cyberus.ca/~bowerman/albury/e).

Vandals have done extensive damage to **St. Peter's Roman Catholic Cemetery** in Peterborough. Over 100 grave markers were desecrated or destroyed. When extensive damage was done five years ago in Little Lake Cemetery, those responsible were apprehended, charged and sentenced. Hopefully, this will be the case this time.

The exhumation of bodies at **Elmbank Cemetery** at Pearson Airport is nearing completion. More than 400 bodies have been removed. They will be reinterred at **Assumption Cemetery** in Brampton. All artifacts that were located will be reinterred with the remains. The Archdiocese of Toronto plans to have a rededication

Mass. Conservation work on the tombstones is in progress. Many were damaged during Hurricane Hazel.

A tombstone which reads, "Elizabeth Marks, wife of John Marks, died Oct. 2, 1849 aged 36 years" was found a number of years ago. All efforts to locate its original location have so far failed. Anyone with information is asked to contact the OHS office at 416-226-9011 or FAX 416-226-2740.

Ken Turner of The Essex County Historical Cemeteries Preservation Society tells us that research is in progress on three "lost" pioneer cemeteries in Essex: **Fox, Wiper, and Boyle**. Restoration at the **Roach** and **Augustine** cemeteries is underway as well as clean up and beautification in the **McCormick** and **Quick** pioneer cemeteries. This small group would welcome any assistance either monetary or practical. Contact: Ken Turner (519) 733-8123.



*Congratulations to Mary Nelles of the York, Grand River Historical Society. Mary was honoured at the May 15, 2001 meeting for her past accomplishments as a local historian. The Society presented Mary with a crystal vase and a plaque inscribed with the following "York, Grand River Historical Society Appreciation Award." Mary has been a member of the Society since its beginnings in 1966 and served as its Treasurer-Secretary from 1974 to 2001. She has recently scaled back her duties to work on a Nelles family history. Mary (centre) is shown with the Society executive members (left to right) Doug Woodburn (Vice-President), Rae Tomlinson (Secretary) Fred Thompson (Past-President) and Seraphin Da Silva (President).*

## Congratulations

The Heritage Canada Awards Jury unanimously chose Pamela Douglas, a reporter for *The Brampton Guardian*, to receive the first Journalism Prize. Among other assignment areas, she is responsible for civic issues. The Brampton Historical Society, who nominated Douglas, credits her outstanding coverage of heritage issues and for raising awareness and initiating changes in matters concerning heritage preservation in the community. Her articles changed community opinion and gained support for preservation, and in some cases, brought about improved bylaws by the city. The Heritage Canada Journalism Prize will be

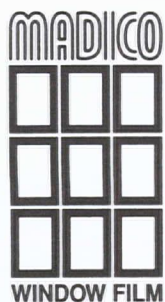
presented at a ceremony to be held at Heritage Canada's annual conference in Toronto on October 12, 2001.

The Heritage Canada Foundation created the Journalism Prize in 2000. It is to be awarded annually to a journalist, working either in the print or electronic media, whose reporting of heritage issues is judged to be outstanding. Through this new Prize the Foundation hopes to encourage and reward greater and better coverage of heritage issues in the media.

For more information on this and other Heritage Canada Prizes contact Heritage Canada at (613) 237-1066



*The Ontario Historical Society hosted Canada's National History Society and judges from across Canada in July when they judged the submissions for the 2001 Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching History. (Dorothy Duncan)*



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# Museum News

## Mohawk Ideals, Victorian Values; Oronhyatekha, M.D.

Grand Chief Larry Sault of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians officially opened the exhibit *Mohawk Ideals, Victorian Values, Oronhyatekha, M.D.* on Sunday July 29 at the Woodland Cultural Centre in Brantford.

*Mohawk Ideals, Victorian Values; Oronhyatekha M.D.* is an exhibit with an extraordinary collection compiled by an extraordinary man, Oronhyatekha, M.D.

"In the 19th century he was a prominent MD and CEO who held sway with cabinet ministers and belonged to secret societies," said Keith Jamieson, the exhibit's curator. "Dr. O was a Mohawk who never lost sight of his identity." The exhibit features unique Mohawk

artifacts and those from Dr. Oronhyatekha's extensive world travels, illuminating the Victorian era.

The exhibit traces his life from a young Mohawk trained as a cobbler at the Mohawk Institute residential school to his appointment to the Supreme Chief Ranger of The Independent Order of Foresters, engineering and refining the IOF to a position of international prominence. The collection demonstrates the significance of Dr. Oronhyatekha in both Mohawk and Victorian worlds.

The exhibit runs until December 24, 2001. For further information contact Tara Froman ext. 230 or Darlene Hill ext. 241 at the Woodland Cultural Centre (519) 759-2650.



*McKinley's Ram, one of the witnesses to the 1901 assassination of the twenty fifth President of the United States William McKinley is on permanent loan to the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte.*

## Get Stuffed - McKinley's Ram

Alan Jones

One of the exhibits at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (MVTM) in Almonte is stuffed. It has been stuffed for over 110 years. It is a Cumberland Ram, on permanent loan to the MVTM from the Canadian Woolgrowers Association. Our Cumberland Ram has two claims to fame.

This specimen is the last of an extinct breed said to have originated in Scotland and was eventually bred out of existence. It is interesting to examine our stuffed friend to see how he differs from sheep we see today.

Our ram's second claim to fame is difficult if not impossible to verify, but it makes an interesting story. It all happened one hundred years ago in September 1901 at the PanAmerican Exposition in Buffalo, New York. The celebrations were on in the City of Light, which had just benefitted from the power dams on the Niagara River. The 25th President of the United States, William McKinley was visiting town with his wife Ida.

McKinley was proving to be a popular President, in his first term of office he had beaten the Spanish in the Spanish-American War and had introduced the Gold Standard and high tariffs to protect the American economy.

A movement that was very strong at the time was the Anarchist Movement, led in America by the famous feminist Emma Goldman, a person way ahead of her time with her beliefs in equality. The Anarchists basically believed that the government should be abolished and the state replaced by a voluntary co-operation of individuals and groups.

On the morning of September 6, 1901, President McKinley was to attend a grand reception at the Temple of Music at the Exposition. Just inside the door was a glass case containing our Cumberland Ram - yes, the same one that we have at the MVTM. The building was hot and humid, and everyone had handkerchiefs or fans out fanning themselves. One young man, Anarchist Leon Czolgosz,

was leaning on the Cumberland Ram case to steady his handkerchief-covered hand - which contained a small pistol. As McKinley approached Czolgosz shot him twice. McKinley died eight days later; Czolgosz was almost beaten to death by police, and was executed two months later in Auburn prison.

McKinley's Ram came to Canada via the Canadian Woolgrowers Association, who obtained it in 1954, first to the Mills in Oxford, Nova Scotia and then to Carleton Place when manger Mr. G.A. O'Brien moved to this part of the world.

Now I have tried to verify the story and have been in touch with the McKinley Museum, who have never heard of the ram. I will continue my research.

In any event the story will be told in a play at the MVTM on September 22, 2001. It will be a murder mystery night - the mystery in this case being "who most influenced the assassin?" It should be fun. Come join us, for tickets call (613) 256-3754.

## Welcome new members

*Alliston:* Judy Gooderham  
*Baden:* Castle Kilbride  
*Burlington:* Muriel Boyd,  
Heritage Burlington LACAC  
*Chatham:* Mary Angela Tucker  
*Cloyne:* Cloyne and District  
Historical Society  
*Fraserville:* Linda Lawrence  
*Hamilton:* Mary E. Pomfret  
*Millbrook:* Mary Sutherland  
*Morrisburg:* The Morrisburg &  
District Historical Society  
*Newmarket:* St. Paul's Church  
*Niagara on the Lake:* J.A.  
Doyle  
*Norwich:* Norwich and District  
Historical Society  
*Oakville:* Judith Hay

*Powassan:* Barry Laver  
*Paris:* Grand River Heritage  
Mines Society  
*Rosseau:* Seguin Township  
Museum Board  
*St. Marys:* West Nissouri  
Historical Society  
*Terra Cotta:* Arthur J. Von  
Zuben  
*Tobermory:* Bernie Roy  
*Toronto:* City of Toronto  
Museum Services, Yves  
Frenette, William MacFarlane,  
Avril Stringer, University of  
Toronto Press  
*Vienna:* Bayham Historical  
Society  
*Weston:* Christina Perfetto

## HERITAGE RESOURCES CONSULTANT

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

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## CMA Bursaries for Museum Workers

The Canadian Museums Association Bursary Programme provides financial support for individuals in the Canadian museum community to undertake professional development in museum studies or in related areas of specialization.

The following grants are available:

*Travel Grants* are intended to assist individuals with their transportation costs only to courses and provincial museum association workshops.

*Canadian Museum Studies Bursaries* provides financial assistance to individuals to attend courses, seminars, workshops or related structured museum studies programmes. Support is also available for professional exchanges to museums in different provinces and regions to work with project teams or observe outstanding practices.

*Bursaries for Advanced Specialized Studies* are provided for advanced level or specialized museum studies at a national or

international level. Financial assistance is also available for specialized courses, seminars, workshops, symposia and for internships and professional exchanges that advance continuous learning at centres of excellence.

For more information contact: Bursary Programme, Canadian Museum Association, 280 Metcalfe St., Suite 400, Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1R7, telephone: (613) 567-0099, website: [www@museums.ca](http://www@museums.ca)



# From the Bookshelf

Chris and Pat Raible

*Please Note:*

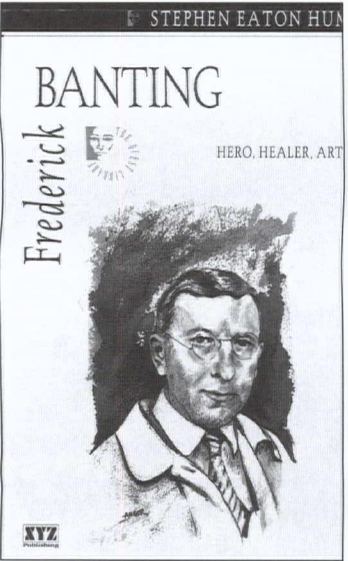
More extensive reviews of a number of books relating to the history of our province are published in each issue of *Ontario History*, a journal also published by The Ontario Historical Society.

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.

### Canadian Shields

**A Canadian Heraldic Primer.** By Kevin Greaves. Heraldry Society of Canada/Dundurn Press. 56 pages. Illustrations. \$14.95 softbound.

A revised, expanded and more attractive edition of a primer published two years ago. As the title suggests, it is a simple guide to the fascinating and confusing world of coats of arms and their symbolism. Here are helpful hints for creating a Canadian shield of your own.



### Achieved Greatness

**Frederick Banting: Hero, Healer, Artist.** By Stephen Eaton Hume. XYZ Publishing. 178 pages. Illustrations. \$15.95 softbound.

Banting's importance to medical and to provincial history needs no introduction, but this volume is a splendid summary of his life and achievements. Born near Alliston (the homesite is now owned by the OHS) to a farming family, Banting was decorated for heroic service in the First World War. A few years later, his discovery of insulin while at the University of Toronto led to a Nobel Prize, a knighthood, and substantial monetary rewards. But, as this volume reveals – with sensitivity and with sympathy – his private life was often troubled and his later public works often disappointing. One of a series of Canadian biographies aimed at both teenagers and adults.

### Women Write

**The Women's Great Lakes Reader.** 2nd ed. Edited by Victoria Brehm. Ladyslipper Press. 389 pages. Illustrations. U.S.\$19.95 softbound.

This is a collection of journal entries, short stories, legends, and poems depicting the life of women (and their families) from the late 18th century to the present. The writers represent communities south as well as north of the Great Lakes, but a number of them are from our area. (Ontario authors include Ann Powell, Jane Johnston Schoolcraft, Anna Jameson, E. Pauline Johnson, and Margaret Atwood.) The selections are grouped according to subject: First Peoples ... Pioneers ... Travellers ... Work, etc., and an introduction to each section puts them in context. All attest to the power and the pluck of Great Lakes women.

### Sanity and Insanity

**The Provincial Asylum in Toronto: Reflections on Social and Architectural History.** Edited by Edna Hudson. Toronto Region Branch, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. 246 pages. Illustrations. \$30 softbound.

A compilation of eleven essays which will delight anyone interested in Toronto's history, especially its architectural heritage. Not only are there many drawings, photos and plans of the Provincial Asylum itself at various stages in its 150-year history, there is a thoughtful study of the whole career of architect John Howard and an fascinating review of an 1858 architectural guidebook to the city. Included also are short biographies of three of the Asylum's superintendents and a discussion of the meaning of the transition from 999 to 1001 Queen Street.

**Committed to the State Asylum: Insanity and Society in Nineteenth-Century Quebec and Ontario.** By James E. Moran. McGill-Queen's University Press. 226 pages. \$60.00 hardbound.

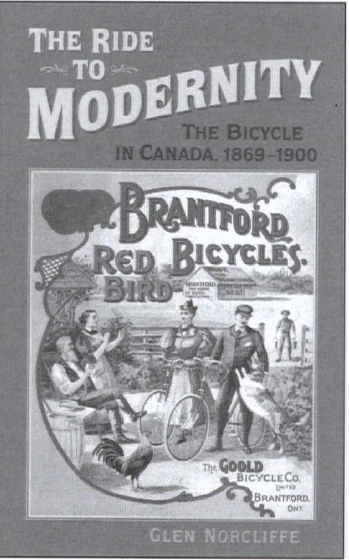
An asylum, by its very name, was supposed to be a safe place, but after reading this insightful study, one might wonder, safe for whom and from what. Relatives wanted the insane safely cared for – somewhere other than at home. Local politicians wanted them safely cared for somewhere else – the costs charged to somebody else's budget. Local doctors wanted them cared for, if medically examined and certified insane – professional charge \$4 each. Provincial politicians wanted to care for as few as they had to – at as little cost as possible. Members of Parliament wanted every constituent case they recommended to be admitted for care immediately – regardless of medical history or available space. Superintendents wanted to care only for those patients there was room for – and only those judged to have some hope

of being cured. Asylum staff wanted them all fully cared for – to assure security, job security. Thus were asylums shaped by the attitudes and assumptions of many different, often conflicting interests.

### Repelling Republicans

**Guns Across the River: The Battle of the Windmill, 1838.** By Donald E. Graves. Robin Brass Studio. 264 pages. Illustrations. \$24.95 softbound.

A windmill on the St. Lawrence River near Prescott was the scene of the next-to-last battle of the "Patriot War," the series of invasions of Lower and Upper Canada from U.S. border states by Canadian exiles and American sympathizers in 1838, the year after the Rebellions. Ontario's most noted military historian, Donald Graves, best known perhaps for his accounts of War of 1812 battles, applies his considerable analytic skills to retelling this story and, by way of providing context, recounting much of the whole sad but fascinating tale of the ill-fated war. Graves, as always, is thorough and fair, though he gives no doubt as to which side he is on – indeed, he has little sympathy for the cause of the Canadian rebels or their "Patriot Hunter" cohorts. The book is the result of efforts of a local historical society, The Friends of Windmill Point, and is splendidly designed and illustrated, as are all Robin Brass books.



### Tooling Along

**The Ride to Modernity: The Bicycle in Canada, 1869-1900.** By Glen Norcliffe. University of Toronto Press. 288 pages. Illustrations. \$24.95 softbound.

A professor of industrial geography at York University, Norcliffe examines the history of the bicycle in Canada during the last decades of the 19th century, an era when bicycles were seen to be more a symbol of modernity and social status than a means of transportation. This was a time, he points out, of dramatic economic, social and technological flux. The bicycle led to a host of innovations which had a wider impact on technology and manufacturing –

and also impacted marketing. (For example, eye-catching advertisements promoted fashionable dress and accessories, which no self-respecting cyclist could be without!) The book is well supplied with splendid photographs and other illustrations. Norcliffe is a respected academic, but he is clearly a cycling enthusiast as well, and the book fairly spins along.

**"Made Up To a Standard": Thomas Alexander Russell and the Russell Motor Car Company.** By Jaroslav Petryshyn. General Store Publishing House. 158 pages. Illustrations. \$24.95 softbound.

Had the wheels of commerce turned differently, the Russell automobile might today be as famous as the Daimler or the Rolls-Royce. In contrast to Ford's Model T cars, Russell's Model A and Model L were designed and crafted for the top of the market, those who demanded (and could afford) the very best. Built in Canada by Canadian workers using Canadian parts – "Made of the Best, by the Best, for the Best" – the cars were marketed from 1905 to 1914 to Canadians and to motor car enthusiasts in Great Britain. Needless to say, in 1911 Russell was adamantly opposed to free trade with the U.S.

Nonetheless, in 1914, he sold out to Willys-Overland, an American company. A splendid book for antique car lovers – and especially well researched.

### Naval Biography

**HMCS Haida: Battle Ensign Flying.** By Barry M. Gough. Vanwell Publishing. 255 pages. Illustrations. \$50.00 hardbound.

Anyone who has visited the destroyer now docked in Toronto's bay, knows something of the *HMCS Haida* and its history, but a full and detailed account has till now never been made. Thanks to the meticulous research of Wilfrid Laurier University historian Barry Gough, all the details are here – her building, her wartime career, the heroism of her crew, and her ultimate decommissioning. But never does the proud story get lost in the minutiae. Sadly, the story of the Canadian navy and this, her finest warship, have almost been forgotten. Gough has written, and Vanwell Publishing has beautifully produced, a book to make any Canadian proud. The *Haida*, the last survivor of her Tribal class destroyers, is today threatened again, unless funds can be raised to save our nation's largest military artifact.. (All proceeds from the sale of this fine volume will go to help save the ship – all the more reason to purchase it!)

### History Noted

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

**Framing Our Past: Constructing Canadian Women's History in the Twentieth Century.** Edited by Sharon Anne Cook, Lorna McLean, and Kate O'Rourke. McGill-Queens' University Press. 680 pages. Illustrations. \$45.00 hardbound. A collection that gives voice to Canadian women's experiences and accomplishments during the twentieth century – lavishly illustrated and written for a broad audience.

**Annual Archaeological Report, Ontario, Volume 10.** Ontario Heritage Foundation Archaeology Publications. \$13.00 softbound. – Learn about the archaeological sites discovered during the field season of 1998.

**Ontario Vital Statistics Microfilm.** Ontario Genealogical Society. No price given. Access is made easier to Historical Vital Statistics (births, marriages, deaths registered in Ontario predominantly from 1869 to 1928) – microfilm reels can now be purchased directly from the OGS.

### Directory of Publishers

**Canadian Scholars' Press,** 180 Bloor Street West, #1202, Toronto, ON M5S 2V6.  
**General Store Publishing House,** 1 Main St, Burnstown, ON K0J 1G0.  
**Heraldry Society of Canada,** Box 8128, Station T, Ottawa, ON K1G 3H9.  
**James Lorimer & Company,** Formac Distributing, 5502 Atlantic Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1G4.  
**Ladyslipper Press,** 15075 County Line Road, Tustin, MI 49688 U.S.A.  
**McGill-Queen's University Press,** 3430 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec H3A 1X9. www.mqup.ca.  
**Ontario Genealogical Society,** 40 Orchard View Boulevard, Suite 102, Toronto, ON M4R 1B9.

**Ontario Heritage Foundation,** 10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, ON M5C 1J3.  
**Robin Brass Studio,** 10 Blantyre Ave., Scarborough, ON M1N 2R4.  
**Toronto Region Branch, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario,** Box 7162, Station A, Toronto, ON M5W 1X8.  
**University of Toronto Press,** 10 St. Mary St., Suite 700, Toronto, ON M4Y 2W8.  
**Vanwell Publishing Limited,** 1 Northrup Crescent, Box 2131, Station B, St. Catharines, ON L2M 6P5.  
**XYZ Publishing,** 1781 St. Hubert St., Montreal, Quebec H2L 3Z1



# Ontario History

## Autumn 2001

Gabriele Scardellato, Editor *Ontario History*

In the Autumn 2001 issue (vol. 93, 2) of *Ontario History* readers will find four articles that range broadly both chronologically and in subject matter. Two articles deal with aspects of women's history in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and the other two focus on aspects of what might be called industrial history.

Lori Chambers, Lakehead University and John Weaver, McMaster University, have co-authored a study titled "'The Story of Her Wrongs': Abuse and Desertion in Hamilton, 1859-1892." Working closely with information derived from a set of 100 protection orders granted in the Hamilton-Wentworth region between 1860 and 1892, the authors set out to explore the tangible benefits of the married women's property acts (1859, 1872, 1873, 1884) for abused and deserted women. In doing so, the authors attempt to illustrate how the married women's property acts were instrumental for the development of other legal reforms that eventually benefited all women. In a different aspect of women's history, Parks Canada Historian Dianne Dodd presents an article that focuses on a particular movement in the career of Dr. Helen MacMurchy. The latter was one of the women to become senior civil servants in a growing public-health, social-welfare and educational bureaucracy who enjoyed successful careers in the early decades of the last century. Rather than look at the career in general, Dodd chooses to analyse MacMurchy's role as Medical Inspector for Girls in the Toronto Board of Education's new Medical Inspection programme in 1910-11, a tenure that proved to be a disastrous moment in an otherwise brilliant career. Dodd uses this episode in MacMurchy's career to highlight the constraints under which maternalistic professional women of her era operated.

At about the same time, but in a world very far removed from that of women in the health

professions, a very different pioneering activity was being developed. This is explored by graduate student Mark Kulhberg (York University) in an article on the forestry practices of the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Mills and of its chief forester, B.F. Avery. Kulhberg describes, in detail, what can only be described as remarkably enlightened attitudes towards forestry conservation and regeneration that Avery espoused. Through his example he is able to counter the accepted notion that pulp and paper mill operators in Ontario in the inter-war period summarily rejected conservation because it "involved increased costs." Also in the first decades of the last century, but far to the south of the Spanish River operations, another and larger industrial entity was emerging. The Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario is the subject of the study by James Hull of the University of Toronto titled "A Gigantic Engineering Organization: Ontario Hydro and Technical Standards for Canadian Industry, 1917-1958." He begins his article with the enormous hydroelectric project at Niagara Falls that Ontario Hydro began in 1917 and that generated its first power in 1921. Hull is less concerned with the engineering marvels realized by this "gigantic engineering concern" than with the extremely important role it played in setting technical standards for a broad range of construction and other undertakings; from specifications for the type of concrete to be used in the construction of dams, to the design of relatively intricate electrical or mechanical machine components.

Together these four articles provide our readers with a diverse range of topics. As with previous issues, we have tried to incorporate a range of illustrations to accompany the articles and we are also pleased to present a number of book reviews to further entice those interested in the history of the province.

## Executive Director

The Ontario Historical Society promotes the appreciation and preservation of Ontario's history. Consisting of approximately 4000 members, The Ontario Historical Society includes libraries, museums, historical societies, and interested individuals of all ages and cultural backgrounds.

The ideal Executive Director will bring extensive experience in managing the affairs of a non-profit organization: a strong commitment to the heritage community throughout Ontario, superior interpersonal communications, financial, administrative, organizational and strategic skills; and an ability to work effectively with a Board of Directors, staff and volunteers.

Send resume and references, in confidence, by October 19, 2001 to : The Search Committee, The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2. Further details available upon request.



OHS member Dorothy Edleston of Ottawa stands in front of the display of nurse's caps at the Museum Of Civilization in Hull, Quebec. Dorothy's cap (top row, second from right) is part of a collection of nurse's caps permanently housed in the Museum of Civilization . The black band on the caps is thought to be in memory of Florence Nightingale and her part in the Crimean War.

Rydal Bank con't from page 1

it be burned. The community protested and new members were signed up to preserve the building.

Renovations over the years have included: the addition of a front room for small gatherings, a kitchen, and a front porch. Throughout all renovation projects the interior of the hall was maintained as closely as possible to the original.

Today the hall is the site of many heritage events presented by the Historical Society as members attempt to continue some of the traditions of the 1900s. Each Fall the Society holds its Annual Shooting Match and Hunters' Ball, and young and old alike take part in the annual Christmas Concert. October marks the Society's major fund-raising event, the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Dinner, with over 300 people attending. Artifacts and local historical records are also on display in the hall. In addition, the Rydal Bank Historical Society was the winner of the 1999 Dorothy Duncan Award.

Quite an achievement for an Historical Society with only 23 members.

## Back Issues of Ontario History

As well as many individual back issues, the OHS has broken sets of the journal for sale. A broken set could contain up to 40 back issues, and sells for \$100.00 plus postage. These sets are a valuable gift for your own library or for that historian or history buff on your list. Call (416) 226-9011 to discuss availability.

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.

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