



# OHS BULLETIN

34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2

ISSUE 121 • SEPTEMBER 1999

## Send in your nominations

Friday, October 29, 1999 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:** presented on rare occasions to individuals who have performed with distinction on behalf of the OHS.

**Carnochan Award:** to an individual who has contributed many years of service to the heritage community.

### Awards for Non-Profit Organizations

**Scadding Award of Excellence:** to a historical society or heritage group that has made an outstanding contribution to the field of history.

**Museum Award of Excellence in Community Programming:** to a non-profit public museum in Ontario showing excellence in community programming and involvement. Employees, paid or non-paid, may not nominate their own institution.

**Dorothy Duncan Award:** to a non-profit organization which must be nominated by a First Nations' Band Council or a Municipal Council for outstanding service to its region. A cash award accompanies the certificate.

### Award for LACACs

**B. Napier Simpson Jr. Award of Merit:** to a Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) in Ontario for special contributions to heritage conservation in its municipality in the recent past.

### Awards for Authors

**Joseph Brant Award:** for the best book on multicultural history in Ontario published in the past three years. (1997 through 1999)

**Fred Landon Award:** for the best book on regional history in Ontario published in the past three years. (1997 through 1999)

**Alison Prentice Award:** honouring the best book on women's history in the past three years. (1997 through 1999)

**J. J. Talman Award:** for the best book on Ontario's social, economic, political or cultural history published in the past three years. (1997 through 1999)

**Riddell Award:** for the best article on Ontario's history published during the Award year.

### Award for Businesses

**President's Award:** to a corporation or business that has contributed to heritage conservation in the recent past.

The awards will be presented at the OHS Annual Meeting on May 6, 2000. For information and nomination forms contact the OHS, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2 (416) 226-9011, Fax (416) 226-2740.



The Ojibwe Cultural Foundation at West Bay on Manitoulin Island held the official Grand Opening of the new facility "Enammjige Yaang—Our Vision" on Friday, September 3. Fund raising for the new Cultural Centre began several years ago, headed by the then Director, Mary Lou Fox with the ground breaking ceremony held on August 6, 1997 with OHS representatives, Dorothy Duncan, Robert Leverty, and Dennis Pollock in attendance. Judith McGonigal of Sault Ste. Marie, Past President of the OHS and Dorothy Duncan, who served on the fund raising committee, presented the Cruikshank Gold Medal, inscribed to Mary Lou Fox to her husband, Steve Radulovich, and son, Steve, and a framed tribute to the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation at the opening ceremonies.

## Buon appetito! A Symposium on Italian Foodways in Ontario

Gabriele Scardellato, Symposium Co-ordinator

Italian cuisine has become enormously popular in Ontario in the last few years. Christopher Hume, well-known Toronto cultural critic recognized this fact in *The Toronto Star*, on August 15, 1999, "How long has it been since pasta was Italian? Or pizza? or espresso? Caffe latte? ..." Hume suggests that the Italian influence on Ontario cuisine is so widespread as to be almost invisible. This phenomenon will be the focus of **Buon Appetito! A Symposium on Italian Foodways in Ontario**, presented by The Ontario Historical Society on Saturday, November 6, 1999 in Toronto.

Restaurateurs, cook book authors, teachers of Italian cuisine, students of Italian-Canadian immigrant history, and everyone who loves Italian cooking will enjoy a range of activities designed to improve their understanding of the Italian and Italian-Canadian version of Mediterranean cooking. Italian foodways will be explored through presentations, demonstrations of recipes, lectures and wine tasting. Topics include: Foodways and Italian-Canadian Identity; Regional Cuisines in Italy; Bread, Wine and Fantasy: The Staples of Italian Cuisine; Special Days: Special Dishes; Italian Foods in Ontario: Where Do You Buy

Your Olive Oil? Influences of Italian Cuisine in Canada; Food and Religious Identity in an Italian Canadian Festa; From Garden to Table; Grow! Prepare! Preserve!; Kitchen Utensils from Old World to New; and A Columbus Menu: Italian Food Over Five Centuries. The event will include books for sale as well as door prizes.

Participants are invited to contribute their favourite Italian dish to share at lunch, enough to feed 6-8 people along with its recipe. By sharing a dish in this way participants will save \$10.00 on the

registration fee and their recipes and the proceedings will be published by the OHS at a later date.

The day-long symposium will be held in Memorial Hall at North York City Centre, 5100 Yonge Street, North York and at the nearby historic headquarters of the OHS, the John McKenzie House located at 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale.

Mark your calendars! There is an early-bird registration fee (before October 15, 1999) so, if you have not received detailed information, or would like registration forms, contact the OHS.

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## Cook Book Caper

Mark Sunday, November 21 on your calendar and plan to attend the popular Cook Book Caper at the historic headquarters of the OHS, the John McKenzie House at 34 Parkview Avenue in Willowdale from 1:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

There will be an impressive selection of old, new, modern and historic cook books for sale. Several cook book authors will be in attendance to autograph their books and to answer your food related questions.

You will also have the opportunity to browse and buy a selection of unique gift items both new and antique, related to food and dining traditions in Canada. For details contact the OHS.

The Ontario Historical Society  
34 Parkview Avenue  
Willowdale, Ontario  
M2N 3Y2



## President's Message

Jeanne Hughes

Five or six times a year the Board of the OHS meets to consider the business of the Society; it receives reports on achievements and endeavours that have been made, and deliberates and makes decisions on future actions, while confirming and supporting the work undertaken by the Executive Director, Dorothy Duncan and her staff. In addition, the Administration and Finance Committee (comprised of the Officers of the Society) meets the day before each Board meeting and at other times as necessary.

In addition, individual Board members chair and participate in various committees: Museums, Preservation, Fundraising, Membership, Honours and Awards, Local Societies and Nominations, as well as ad hoc committees such as one recently formed for a proposed publication. It can readily be seen that our Board is not just a token panel, but a group of people who readily give their efforts and expertise to the OHS.

As with previous Boards, individual members bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and proficiency to the OHS table. It might be of interest to all members to find out a little about the people who are entrusted with the responsibility of the Society of approximately 3,000 members across the Province. So dear member, allow me to introduce to you some of the people who work on your behalf to further the work of the OHS.

Bruce Richard, Past President and Nominations Chair, works for the Curriculum and Instructional Services Department of York Region as Manager of Learning Resources. He co-ordinates the acquisition, development and implementation of multimedia learning resources for one of the largest school districts in Canada.

Bruce holds a Graduate degree in History, academic training in education, and has over 15 years of practical experience in the museums and educational environment, including curriculum development at provincial and regional levels. Other work includes extensive training and workshop leadership in using alternative resources for curriculum and educational programme development and the implementation of new curriculum guidelines. Bruce also served as Curator of the Heritage Schoolhouse, a restored 19th century one room schoolhouse used for educational and community programmes.

Lydia Ross Alexander, Secretary of the Board of Directors did her undergraduate work in fine arts and her masters in Archaeology at the University of London, Institute of Archaeology. As she puts it "then I really began to work." First at the Peel County Museum, then at the Timmins Museum: National Exhibition Centre and lastly at the Museum of Northern History at the Sir Harry Oakes Chateau in Kirkland Lake.

During the past 14 years she has taught courses "in spare moments" in drawing and painting and art history at Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology. She believes that art and history are two parallel strands that weave through her life and keep things interesting.

Lydia says, "the OHS connects with the small and middle size museums in a way that no other organization does. In a time of deteriorating government support to the small museum the OHS has stepped into the breach with training, practical knowhow and general all-round support. I believe wholeheartedly that one derives from a community what one puts into it and that applies to the OHS. I delight in my service to the OHS and have reaped rewards far beyond any service rendered."

Carl Benn, Preservation Chair, has worked in the museum field for twenty-five years and currently is a curator with Heritage Toronto. He also teaches on a part-time basis in the Department of History at the University of Toronto. He has curated numerous museum exhibits, and his publications include *Historic Fort York and The Iroquois in the War of 1812*. Currently he is writing a new book, *Memoirs of a Mohawk War Chief: John Norton Teyoninhokarawen, 1812-14*.

Although Susan Hughes is a new member of the Board, she already has a good grasp of the OHS operation as, some years ago she worked as an intern in the office. She has worked in the community museum field in Ontario since 1985.

At present she works for the City of Toronto and has been the Curator/Administrator of the Todmorden Mills Museum for 8 years. She holds an undergraduate degree in Archaeology and a Masters in Museum Studies from the University of Leicester, England.

Susan has served as a Councilor for the Ontario Museum

Association and on numerous advocacy and museum committees for both the OMA and the OHS. Last year she served as a member of the OHS Museums Committee and this year continues her involvement with that committee as Chair. Susan says, "I am interested in promoting the work of Ontario's community museums and feel we should have continual dialogue with all levels of government as well as our "communities" if we are to be relevant and truly serve our varied publics."

Newly appointed to the Board of the OHS, Janet Trimble teaches Oral History at the University of Western Ontario, where she is also the university's Oral Historian. She is the Intern Co-ordinator for the Public History Program. Her interest in her community is shown by the fact that she is a Past Chair of London's Advisory Committee on Heritage and a former Board member of Fanshawe Pioneer Village. Currently, Janet is Chair of London's Museums' Round Table.

Also a newcomer to the OHS Board, Jo Marie Powers is now retired, but has been appointed Adjunct Professor in the School of Hotel and Food Administration, University of Guelph because of the projects that she has undertaken that involve the university. One of these is the Canadian Cook book collection. Jo Marie says, "Canadian cook books from the past tell us much more about our food and culture. They were often the only daily output for women writers, and give us insights into the daily lives of families in the past."

Her first serious research was about the Order of Good Cheer, a culinary society founded by Samuel de Champlain and she presented a paper on it in England at the "Oxford Symposium on Food and Cookery." This was where she, no doubt met Dorothy Duncan, and was introduced to the work of the OHS. Since then she has participated in many of the Society's events including both *Consuming Passions I and II*, and *From Cathay to Canada: Chinese Cuisine in Transition*. She has authored or co-authored four books on food and management and, a few years ago she helped found Cuisine Canada. To quote Jo Marie, "I hope that I can help benefit the members of the OHS and will work hard to do so. I'm interested in all programmes that will attract all age groups and, in particular, young people. I think the OHS is an exiting organization..."

As one can see from the above, there is a wealth and diversity of knowledge and experience in the Board from which the Society can, and does, draw. Our Board of Directors works willingly and well for you, the members. Watch for further fascinating facts about the other members of the Board in the December issue.

## Executive Director's Report

Dorothy Duncan

### Summer Programmes

With the help of our volunteers, we presented five successful Young Ontario Programmes at: Amesbury Summer Fun Centre (2), Gosford Elementary School, Oakdale Community Centre and Stanley Park Community Centre with over 200 young people and their leaders attending.

We took *Cook Book Caper* to the Muskoka Pioneer Village in Huntsville and made some new friends, renewed many old acquaintances and raised \$\$\$ to help support the Business Study for the Commanda General Store Museum in Commanda.

We hosted two very successful events at our headquarters in Willowdale: the **Canada Day Street Sale** on Parkview Avenue and the ever-popular **Tea on the Verandah and History Book Sale** on August 8. The Archives Association of Ontario, Head-of-the-Lake Re-enactment Society, Ontario Museum Association, and the Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society were partners in this event. We were blessed with fine weather and a steady flow of tea drinkers and bookaholics. None of these events would have been possible without our faithful volunteers: Sandra Archer, Frank Bartoszek, Glenn Bonnetta, Jean Burnet, Russell Cooper, Barbara Efrat, Edith and Geoff Geduld, Bev Hykel, Jeanne Hughes, Barbara Kane, Hazel Kitto, Joyce Lewis, Grace Matthews, Bob McGregor, Daniel O'Brien, Penny Potter, Stephanie Scardellato, Claudette Shaw, Mary Simonds, Adam and Glenn Truax, and our Experience'99 students, Carlos Faria and Heidi Tan, staff and donors. Thank you all!

### The Hell's Angels Came Too!

I had the pleasure of attending the gala 30th anniversary of the Scugog Shores Historical Museum and Historical Society celebrations on July 11 and found Port Perry overflowing that particular Sunday afternoon with over 100 visitors from the Hell's

Angels Motorcycle Club looking for a new headquarters. That's what's known as perfect timing when you plan an event!

### Official Grand Opening

On Friday morning, September 3, Judith McGonigal of Sault Ste. Marie, Past President of the OHS, and myself had the honour of attending the official Grand Opening of the new facility "Enammjige Yaang" hosted by the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation in West Bay, Manitoulin Island. We presented the Cruikshank Gold Medal engraved to the late Mary Lou Fox, to her husband Steve Radulovich, and son, Steve, and a framed certificate to the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation in recognition of Mary Lou's many contributions to the OHS and the preservation of the history and heritage of Ontario.

### On My Calendar

I am looking forward to seeing members, friends and colleagues at the upcoming *Money Matters!* workshops in Tweed, September 29, Renfrew, September 30, and in Fort Erie, October 6; to attending the Simcoe County Historical Society meeting October 19; the Oriole-York Mills Outreach Programme November 3; presenting "Preparing for A Victorian Christmas and New Year and Celebrating Hogmanay" with sample treats and recipes, with the Culinary Historians at the Stratford-Perth Museum on November 17 (call (519) 271-5311 at the Museum to reserve); and the Manvers Historical Society on November 28.

### Join Us!

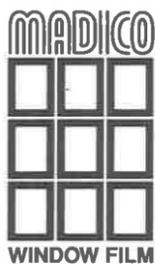
We hope that you will join us for these events as well as two other events that reflect preparations for the holiday season: **Preparing for a Victorian Christmas and New Year and the Celebration of Hogmanay** in Napanee on November 13; and the ever-popular **Cook Book Caper** at our headquarters Sunday, November 21.



  
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# Across the Province

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

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Cora Urbel, an active leader of the **Concerned Citizens for Civic Affairs in North York, Inc.** and the **Don Mills Residents Inc.** who passed away earlier this year. Cora brought Irish good humour and forthrightness to the many challenges, discussions and lobbying for adequate planning in North York. These included excessive development along the Yonge Street corridor through Willowdale, insufficient parks, failure to balance residential and commercial development, plans to destroy the Rose Garden at Yonge Street and Park Home Avenue, and inadequate streets and roads for all the proposed development. For information on Concerned Citizens for Civic Affairs call (416) 445-3378.

**Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society** meetings: September 27, Marie Smibert presents "Huguenots—Infiltration—How France Shot Herself in the Foot;" and on October 25, Louise St. Denis, discloses the secrets of "Making the Mountain of Paper Disappear." Meetings at 7:30 p.m. at 155 College Street, Toronto. Information: (416) 733-2608.

The **Peterborough Historical Society** invites you to design a distinctive logo for the Society and mail it to 270 Brock Street, Peterborough, Ontario K9H 2P9. Questions? (705) 740-2600.

Ever wondered what it was like to travel steerage in an immigrant ship to Canada? Plan to attend the November 3 meeting of the **Norfolk Genealogists'** "Over the Ocean" and be a part of the theatrical experience. Call (519) 426-1583 for details.

Congratulations to the **York Pioneer and Historical Society** for publishing *Roll of Members, York Pioneers Association, Instituted 1869, A Transcription*. For details and availability: York Pioneer and Historical Society, Box 45026, 2482 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4P 3E3.

Sunday, July 11 was a gala day at the **Scugog Shores Museum** in Port Perry as the Historical Society celebrated thirty years of preserving and presenting local history. Music, reminiscences, a garden party, a memorial walk around the grounds to focus on special dates and events and a visit to the newly developed **Ojibway Heritage Interpretive Lands** adjoining the museum where a Ground Blessing ceremony

was held in May were all part of the festivities.

Our best wishes for continued success to the **Canadian Museum of Civilization** on its 10th anniversary; **Scarborough Writers' Association** celebrating 10 years; the **Scarborough Arts Council** celebrating 20 years; and to Esther Clark, winner of the Dorothy Eves Award, presented annually to a member of the **East Gwillimbury Historical Society** in recognition of outstanding service and support.

Dorothy Wallace of Goderich will be sorely missed by members of the **Huron County Historical Society**, the **Goderich LACAC**, the **Maitland Valley Conservation Authority** and the **Goderich Communities in Bloom Committee**.

Do you have a copy of the **Firearms Act**, December 1, 1998? This new Act could mean changes for many Canadians and visitors taking part in living history re-enactments. Call 1-800-731-4000 for more information or to order a copy.

The **Temagami Station Restoration Trust** was formed to "maintain the historical heritage of the Lake Temagami District by restoring, maintaining and preserving the Temagami railway station and adjacent lands and providing viewing and education for the public." For information about this new organization: (705) 569-2525.

We were sorry to learn that the 1999 **Latchford Heritage Logging Days** event was cancelled, a casualty of a small town with its volunteers stretched beyond their limits. Yes, we know all about that in big towns too! Never fear, this popular annual event returns in 2000. Watch for details!

The **Governor Simcoe Branch, United Empire Loyalists** has announced a fascinating schedule of meetings, speakers and events from now until April, 2000. Don't miss the fun! Call (416) 767-8074 for details.

Good news for all those interested in historic recipes, cook books and foodways programmes. The **Culinary Historians of Ontario** are planning to reprint *The Frugal Housewife's Manual*, written by A.B. of Grimsby and originally published by the *Christian Guardian* in 1840. Mary Williamson, retired fine arts bibliographer and senior librarian at **York University** is searching for A.B.'s identity.

Do you have any information? Call (416) 481-3895.

Discover "Niagara's World of Words" October 14-17 when individuals, organizations, institutions and businesses come together who are committed to the cultural and literary development of the Niagara Peninsula. Contact Christel Haeck, **Niagara Heritage Network**, (905) 682-6053.

The **Archives Reading Room** at Toronto City Hall closed in July and the archival records and staff moved to 255 Spadina Road: (416) 397-0778.

Kenora, Keewatin and Jaffray Melick have been named the *Forest Capital of Canada for 1999*. **Abitibi-Consolidated** has agreed to donate a large piece of land on Tunnel Island for recreational purposes. Paddy Reid, former regional archaeologist with the **Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation** has identified a number of significant archaeological sites on the Island, and completed a study of the peoples who have lived there over the last 8,000 years. An edited version of his study appeared in the Spring Newsletter of the **Lake of the Woods Historical Society**, (807) 547-2870.

The **Historical Society of Ottawa** began the year with a new Director of the **Bytown Museum**, Elmer Pilon, well-known founding Director of the **Cumberland Museum** complex. Elmer's introduction to his new location has been complicated by two years of continuing construction in Confederation Square above the Museum. This has deterred access and caused a drastic fall in attendance and revenues. However, all should be well for the millennium year in the Nation's Capital, when large crowds are expected. Ottawa's founder (as Bytown), and the builder of the Rideau Canal, Lieutenant Colonel John By of the Royal Engineers, would have appreciated the uncovering of some of the footings of the Sappers' Bridge he completed in 1827. These, and his pre-1827 smithy, will be visible to visitors after the opening of the redesigned Plaza Bridge next year.

On October 27-28, the **National Historic Sites Alliance** for Ontario holds its second annual conference at Victoria Hall/Cobourg Town Hall National Historic Site exploring "Marketing and National Historic Sites." The cost is \$85 and pre-registration is required. For information contact (416) 392-6827 ext. 261, or (905) 546-2872 ext. 21.

Mark your calendar for "Migration Mosaic: Those who came; Those who stayed; Those who left," the **Ontario Genealogical Society's Seminar 2000**, taking place May 12-14 in Ottawa, featuring a series of 45 lectures in 5 concurrent streams: migration, resources, beginners, in-



Ian Wilson, former Archivist of Ontario and a Past President of the OHS presented the J.J. Talman Award to Peter Oliver at the 20th Anniversary Annual Meeting of the Osgoode Society in June. Ian has now taken up his new position as National Archivist of Canada in Ottawa. (Dorothy Duncan)

intermediate/advanced, and tools. Contact Ottawa Branch, OGS, P.O. Box 8346, Station T, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3H8.

Niagara-on-the-Lake hosts the annual Publisher's Conference October 21-22. One highlight is a visit to the nearby **Mackenzie Heritage Printery Museum** in Queenston, which all year long has been celebrating the 175th anniversary of William Lyon Mackenzie's newspaper *The Colonial Advocate*. The first edition was published in this restored home and shop. For information on the special celebrations, contact (905) 682-7203.

The fall schedule of the **Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society** in Hamilton, includes a presentation and tour of the rare books and local history records at the **Hamilton Public Library, Central Branch** on October 8 called "Twenty-five Years of Special Collections." On November 12, Robert Hamilton, of the Hamilton chapter, **Architectural Conservancy of Ontario** will present an illustrated lecture titled "Architectural Hamilton." Information: (905) 521-3060.

The **Archives Association of Ontario** welcomes their first Executive Director, Heather McMillan. Also, their pictorially rich "Milestones in Information and Communication Technology" Millennium Calendar is available. The calendar initiative is part of Archeion, Ontario's Archival Information Network, which was announced during Archives Awareness Day on April 6. Archeion will inform on custody of records, educate users on methods of records access, and deliver search results in electronic format via the Web. To order your calendar, contact (416) 934-3400, ext. 506.

A call for papers has been issued for, "Urban Stews: Food, Food Systems, Fusion, and the Global City in the New Millennium," for the Joint Annual Meetings of **The Association for the Study of Food and Society** and **The Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society**, June 1-

3, 2000 at New York University in New York. The conference explores contemporary and historical issues related to the role of food and agriculture in society. The deadline for submissions in February 1, 2000, and should be addressed to Trish Lobenfeld, Department of Nutrition and Food Studies, New York University, 35 West 4th Street, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10012-1172. Many OHS members attended the 1999 Conference in Toronto in April.

**Pickering Museum Village Foundation** brings the hit play "The Bush-Ladies" to Pickering for five performances, October 22-24. This is the story, in their own words, of four women who immigrated to Canada in the 1830s, Anna Jameson, Susanna Moodie, Catharine Parr Trail and Anne Langton, and their story is shared by women of every class and time. To attend the play, being held at Dunbarton High School Theatre on 655 Sheppard Avenue in Pickering (401 and Whites Road) call the Pickering Museum Village (905) 683-8401. Tickets are \$18.00 and you must book early.

**Cultural Explorations** is offering a trip to Havana departing the last week of February 2000 focussing on the history, urban evolution and architecture of Havana and Cuba. For details on this exciting and educational cultural getaway, contact Mitzi D'Souza at (416) 461-9919

**Heritage Mount Pleasant** has produced a wonderful poster featuring some of the architectural gems in the community. For information about cost and availability: (905) 484-2795.

The **Vankleek Hill & District Historical Society/La Société Historique Régionale de Vankleek Hill** would like to introduce you to their organization. They have recently established the Vankleek Hill Museum, Archives & Visitor Centre, have been developing walking, biking and driving tours, and are soon to launch their web site. For information: (613) 678-2074.



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# Upcoming Events

**September–October 10:** Contemporary wall hangings and vestments, crafted by Canadian fibre artists and designed for places of worship, are displayed throughout Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road at Russell Hill Road in Toronto during **A Festival of Flowers and Fabric**. From **September 30 to October 3**, the church will be filled with the floral artistry of the Garden Club of Toronto in creative combinations of flowers and foliage accentuating the colours and textures of the fabric art. Contact (416) 733-4900 to arrange a visit.

**September–November 14:** Heritage House Museum presents the **Margaret Ruhland Collection of Heirloom Lace**, an exhibition of antique lace spanning four centuries. Margaret Ruhland, an antique dealer and collector specializing in textiles and lace recently mounted more than 30 hand and machine made pieces, along with examples of lace making tools. The Museum is located on Old Slys Road in Smiths Falls (613) 283-8560.

**September 23–November 4:** Each Thursday over the noon hour at their headquarters at 205 Yonge Street, Heritage Toronto hosts a lecture exploring several fascinating **Women Who Made This City Great**. Topics include: "Toronto Women Making History: An Overview," "Clara Brett Martin: Paragon or Pariah," "Agnes Macphail and the Politics of Equality," "Jean I. Gunn: Nursing Leader—Even The Doctors Wouldn't Step On Her Toes," "The Enormous Achievement of Bobby Rosenfeld," "Mary Ann Shadd: Fighting Inequalities with Her Words," and "True Davidson: Queen Bee of East York." For details on these programmes, and those at the sites managed by Heritage Toronto, contact (416) 392-6827 ext. 265.

**September 25:** Bowmanville Museum's **Fall Bus Trip and Cruise** includes lunch on the Segwun, the Norman Bethune House Museum and the Beaverton Antique Mall. To reserve your space, contact (905) 623-2734 or 1-888-567-2598.

**until September 26:** Plan to visit the Ridge House Museum and see the **Quilt Show** featuring dozens of hand-made quilts on display daily. The Museum is lo-

cated at the corner of Erie Street South and Oak Street in Ridgetown. (519) 674-2223.

**September 26:** Join the Toronto Field Naturalists and the Ontario Society for Industrial Archaeology for the **CP Viaducts Walk**, visiting numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 on the East and West Don Rivers and Tributaries (CPR Belleville Sub) as you walk to Leaside Junction. Learn about construction history, natural heritage and topography. Meet at the entrance to Summerhill subway station at 1:30 p.m. On **October 9** visit industrial and natural heritage sites in the Queen/Spadina and King/Niagara neighbourhoods during the **Anvil, Lash and Loom** walk, visiting garment, fashion, textile and heavy industrial sites. Meet at the southeast corner of Queen Street West and Spadina Avenue at 1:30 p.m. On **October 30** join in the **Asylum Walk** exploring bounds and grounds of the Toronto Lunatic Asylum, a unique cultural and institutional landmark celebrating 150 years in January 2000. Meet at Queen Street West and Strachan Avenue (entrance to Trinity-Bellwoods Park), north side at 1:30 p.m. On **November 14** explore **Toronto in the Great War** at six military heritage sites: drill and training grounds, militia barracks, military hospital, horse corrals, munitions depot, and Royal Flying Corps airfield. Meet at the southwest corner of Dundas Street West and Keele Street at 1:00 p.m. For details contact the Toronto Field Naturalists (416) 968-6255.

**September 26:** Todmorden Mills Museum presents its annual **Harvest Festival** from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m. Enjoy old time fiddling, the science of phrenology, and visit historic homes busy preserving the fresh harvest for winter. Explore demonstrations of traditional trades at the exhibit on early 19th century beer and brewing in Toronto. The Museum is located on Pottery Road, just west of Broadview in Toronto: (416) 396-2819.

**October 2:** Relish the aroma of fresh baked bread straight from the wood-fired hearth oven, and learn the techniques of baking over the open hearth as you practise recipes from the past in the 1851 kitchen at **Bread and Preserves**, a workshop at the Gibson House. The \$25 registration fee

includes all supplies, a tour of the House, modern adaptations of original recipes, and a comprehensive bibliography. The busy fall season also includes workshops on **Pumpkins, Puddings and Pies** and **Dinner at the Gibsons Featuring Scottish Cookery**. The Gibson House is located at 5172 Yonge Street in North York, (416) 395-7432.

**October 2:** The Canadian Region of the Association for Living History, Farms and Agricultural Museums presents its Annual Regional Meeting at Dundurn Castle on the theme **The Kitchen Garden: from Seeds to Cookstove**. Topics include: "Incorporating Site Messages into Public Programming," "Educational Programming Using Fruit and Vegetables," "Educational Programming in the Period Garden," and "Heritage Apple Tasting." Dundurn Castle is located at 610 York Boulevard in Hamilton (905) 546-2872.

**October 3, December 12:** Two special events, **Thanksgiving Harvest** and **Heritage Christmas** are take place at Lang Pioneer Village in Keene, a living history museum. For details contact (705) 295-6694.

**October 6:** The Erland Lee Museum Home and Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead present the **Fall Colour Tour**, a full day adventure with guided tours of the two sites, and lunch on the Grand River while following scenic tour routes and seeing beautiful autumn leaves. For tickets (905) 662-2691 in Stoney Creek, or (519) 448-1130 in St. George.

**October 16–17:** The extensive grounds and facilities of the Farm Museum in Milton provides a unique location for the first annual **Global Family History Fair '99**. Experience rural life as featured in exhibits and demonstrations. In addition, choose from more than 30 family history workshops to help you with your family history quest, and visit the many vendors with a huge assortment of genealogical books, booklets, software, data CDs, preservation supplies, maps, cemetery transcriptions, marriage registers and much more. For information 1-800-361-5168.

**October 16-17:** The Americans are invading Tottenham Conservation Area as part of an American Revolutionary War re-enactment, and you are invited to participate. Interrogate prisoners, barter with sutlers, and tour the encampment. The event is sponsored by the South Simcoe Pioneer Museum as a gift to its members and visitors. Call (705) 435-0167 and ask for Terry.

**October 22–24, 29–31:** Fort George in Niagara-on-the-Lake may be the most haunted place in the most haunted town in

Canada. The summer ghost tours have been resurrected and guests can revisit the ghostly history of this War of 1812 British fort, hearing accounts of real-life experiences with ghostly apparitions. Take care, you may have an experience of your own! Space is limited, so book early. If, however, you are unable to venture outdoors for this experience, the official book of the ghost tours, *Niagara's Ghosts at Fort George* is available for purchase. Fort George is located on the Niagara Parkway at the south end of town. Contact (905) 468-6621.

**October 26–29:** Campbell House hosts an eerie evening to celebrate the 'eve of all hallows' during **A Ghostly Hallowe'en**. Explore one of the oldest homes in Toronto and you may discover a ghost or two as you tour from candlelit room to room and listen to the stories, all the while learning about life in the early days of a town called York. Afterwards, if you dare, enjoy Hallowe'en refreshments in the library. Call (416) 597-0227 to reserve your night of scary fun. Campbell House is located at 160 Queen Street West at the corner of University, steps from the Osgoode subway station in Toronto.

**October 31:** Be sure to join Benares for **Tricks or Treats: Historic Hallowe'en Fun**. Plan to return once again and enjoy **Simply Friends Christmas Craft Show & Sale on November 13 and 14**. Benares is the restored home, open as a museum, operated by the City of Mississauga and located at 1507

Clarkson Road. Contact (905) 822-2347.

**November 19–December 31:** In honour of East London's incorporation 125 years ago, the London Regional Art and Historical Museums, located at 421 Ridout Street North in London hosts the photographic exhibit **East London: Patterns from the Past**. The open areas of East London housed oil refineries in the 1860s, railway car shops and street car horse barns from the 1870s, and the Western Fair after 1887, among other facilities. As a related event, the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, London Branch and the London Society of Architects present the **East London Walking Tour on October 17** from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Meet at Banting House National Historic Site at 442 Adelaide Street North at Queens Avenue. Call (519) 672-4580 for information on either event.

**November 26, December 10:** Take tea in the legislature. Begin with a guided tour, then retire to the "parlour" and enjoy the tradition of a **Victorian Tea** and musical recital. The Legislative Assembly of Ontario has recently expanded its educational programmes to include **Evening Citizenship Programmes** for youth and other groups including scouts and guides; **An evening of Art and Architecture**; and **The Discovery Tour** (specifically developed for grades 4 to 6). Contact Interparliamentary and Public Relations at the Legislature, Queen's Park for costs and details (416) 325-7500.

## Upcoming OHS Events

DATE	PROGRAMME	LOCATION
Sept. 29	<i>Money Matters!</i>	Tweed
Sept. 30	<i>Money Matters!</i>	Renfrew
October 2	Presentation of the Alison Prentice Award	Sudbury
October 5	Presentation of the Scadding Award of Excellence	Guelph
October 6	<i>Money Matters!</i>	Fort Erie
October 20	Harvest Supper	Willowdale
Nov. 6	Buon Appetito! A Symposium on Italian Foodways in Ontario	Toronto
Nov. 13	Preparing for a Victorian Christmas, New Year, and the Celebration of Hogmanay	Napanee
Nov. 21	Cook Book Caper	Willowdale

For information on these events and others in the planning stages, please contact the OHS, (416) 226-9011.

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# Cemetery News

Marjorie Stuart, Editor

**Eden United Church** in Meadowvale celebrated its 175th anniversary in June. The church is the successor to **Switzer's Methodist Church** established about 1840. The church has been moved but the cemetery remains on Derry Road and is well-maintained by the Mississauga Parks and Recreation Department.

The Leeds & Grenville Branch OGS report that a gravestone was found in a building which was demolished in Gananoque. The inscription reads "Gordon Harold, Matt & Netta, WRIGHT, Died July 18??, aged 10 years". Editor's note: Gordon could possibly be the son of Matt & Netta. Anyone with information is asked to contact Ron Fenlong, #33 La Rue Mills Road, Mallorytown, Ontario K0E 1R0

Sir John A. Macdonald's burial site was the first to receive historical designation by the federal Department of Parks. The special dedication ceremony was a part of the Kingston Historical Society's annual commemorative service at **Catarauqui Cemetery**. The programme to designate the gravesites of Canada's Prime Ministers was proposed by MP Roger Gallaway. Similar ceremonies have taken place at Arthur Meighen's gravesite in St. Mary's and that of Alexander Mackenzie in Sarnia.

The **Canadian Vietnam Memorial** in Windsor was vandalized recently. This senseless destruction has caused much distress to Vietnam veterans.

The Trustees of **St George's Anglican Church Cemetery**, Trenton are greatly concerned

that the integrity and quiet park-like setting of the cemetery are threatened by proposed development of adjacent lands. The cemetery is over a hundred years old and many of the RCAF and allied flyers from Trenton Air Force Base killed during World War II are buried there.

A graveside consecration service was held on July 17 aboard the U.S. Coast Guard cutter "Mackinaw." Relatives of the 29 crew members who died when the "Edmund Fitzgerald" sank on November 10, 1975 were transported to the site of the ship's wreckage 27 km northwest of Whitefish Point, Michigan. The wreck lies in Canadian waters.

The Harrison family has been alerted to a possible notice of closure of their ancestor's burial site in the Regional Municipality of Peel. Under the Cemeteries Act *Closure means Removal*. This case is very similar to the **Clendennen Cemetery** in Markham. The Consumer and Commercial Relations Appeal Tribunal ruled that it was not in the public interest to close and move **Clendennen Cemetery**.

During work on the cairn in **Huronville Cemetery**, Tucker-Smith Township, the three marble tablets listing burials were found to have been recycled; there were inscriptions on the back! The cairn was erected about 1931 so the three stones have been missing from their original location prior to that time. The only clues to those commemorated on these stones are that they are possibly a husband and wife. Mary—erected

one of the stones in memory of her husband Daniel—who died June 23, 1866 and another reads, Mary Jane, wife of the late Daniel—who died Sep 10, 1870. The epitaph—"a kind parent lieth here"—indicates that there was at least one child. Anyone who can shed any light on this puzzle is asked to contact Reg Thompson, P.O. Box 74, Clinton, Ontario N0M 1L0.

The **Grey Sauble Conservation Foundation** has launched a memorial forest programme. The Foundation accepts memorial donations for tree plantings at their three memorial forest sites; the **Pottawatomi Conservation Area** near Owen Sound, **Big Mud Lake Management Area** near Wairton and **Griersville Management Area** south of Meaford. Trees are planted in the spring and a dedication service is held for donors and next of kin.

Restoration work is now in progress at **Lloydton Pioneer Cemetery**. About half of the required funding has been raised by the King Township Historical Society. The mayor of King Township, Margaret Black, is hosting a fundraising banquet on October 29 at the Cardinal Golf Club, with Pierre Berton the guest speaker. For information: (905) 727-6322 or (416) 483-3784.

Robert Leverty and I will speak on the "Heritage of Ontario Cemeteries" at the **North York Historical Society's** meeting on Wednesday, October 13, 1999. For information, please contact Edith Geduld at (416) 222-3485.

# Ontario History

Gabriele Scardellato, Editor

With another season of summer holidays consigned to photographs, videos, or maybe just memories, the Autumn 1999 issue (volume 91, no. 2) of *Ontario History* includes two articles which focus on leisure activities in Ontario's past.

The issue opens with an essay by Mark Chochla titled "Victorian Fly Fishers on the Nipigon." Through a discussion of the origins and development of this sports fishery on the north shore of Lake Superior, the author is able to provide some interesting background for the formative period for tourism in northern Ontario. In particular, Chochla provides a good overview of the fishing experience in general and the social, cultural, and technological forces which drew sports fishers to the impressive natural setting of the Nipigon River in the Victorian period. The need for leisure in nineteenth and early twentieth-century Ontario was also accommodated in more urban environments. This is the subject matter of a study by David Bain who has compiled a history of Toronto's so-called pleasure grounds or amusement parks called, "The Early Pleasure Grounds of Toronto." These were commercial entertainment facilities in the city which preceded the development of a system of public parks and similar spaces. The pleasure grounds attempted to cater to the leisure needs of a broad cross section of Torontonians in the second half of the nineteenth century. Readers will be particularly interested to learn about the development of well-known locales in the city.

The two other studies in this issue are also linked thematically and in this case the unifying subject matter is immigration. Chronologically, the first of the two is by English historian Terry McDonald and is titled, "English Emigrants to Upper Canada and Their Letters Home: A Caution-

ary Tale." Dr. McDonald analyses a series of letters home from individuals who had emigrated to Upper Canada from two West-of-England communities in the 1830s. The immigrants settled in various locations in what is now southwestern Ontario, on or near the shores of Lake Erie and in the townships of Southwold and Yarmouth. Their letters home eventually were published apparently in an effort to encourage further emigration. The article attempts to establish the identity of the letter writers as well as those of the individuals who published their letters and the reasons they might have had for doing so.

Immigrant identity, albeit in a very different sense, is also the concern of Dr. Geoffrey Hayes' article in this issue titled "From Berlin to the Trek of the Conestoga: A Revisionist Approach to Waterloo County's German Identity." The focus again is southern Ontario, and Waterloo County in particular, but in this case the time period covered is the first thirty years or so of this century. According to Hayes, there was a deliberate (and successful) attempt made to re-define the identity of the German-Canadian population of Waterloo County in the post-World War I period. The central event of this article, the renaming of Berlin in Waterloo County, to Kitchener, is relatively well-known and Hayes' study is a very useful analysis of the circumstances in which the renaming occurred and most importantly, of the role of various individuals who were concerned by this decision. Readers of *Ontario History* might be interested to learn that one of the key players in these events was William Breithaupt who not only published several articles in the journal's predecessor, *Papers and Records*, but who also served as president of The Ontario Historical Society in the early 1920s.

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## Welcome new members

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## Museum News

### Historic auction sale in Markham

George Duncan, Richmond Hill LACAC

Almost everyone involved in the preservation of local history in York Region knows the name of the late John Lunau, a descendant of one of the original Berczy families of old Markham. Mr. Lunau is best remembered for his work in the founding of the Markham Museum at Mount Joy, and his role in the community as a local historian and collector of historical artifacts. He passed away in 1993, but sadly, had not made a plan for what was to become of his immense collection of documents and artifacts, many of which were housed in a private museum at the Lunau residence.

On Saturday, August 21, an auction sale of the Lunau household was held at the family home on 16th Avenue, just west of Highway #48, only a stone's throw from the museum he was so intimately connected with for so many years. This auction was an antique collector's dream—and an historian's nightmare—as a huge assortment of Markham and York County treasures went up for sale to the highest bidder. The preview was held between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., and the sale began under a large tent at 10 o'clock. The hammer came down

for the last time at 11:45 p.m., which is an indication of the volume of items sold that day. Over 300 people attended.

Among the items at the sale were a number of pieces of Canadiana furniture from area homes, some of it made by local cabinetmakers. The most important pieces were a stencilled desk made by James Speight of Markham Village, a set of stencilled chairs made at Hagerman's Corners, a bird's eye maple chest from the Robinson family home and a grain painted chest of drawers attributed to the Barkey family of cabinetmakers. Prices paid for items were moderate to high due to the great interest of this sale. Here is a sampling: ladder back rocker (\$425), Speight desk (\$5,500), bird's eye maple chest (\$3,500), muzzle-loading gun with curly maple stock (\$425), Germanic cherry wardrobe (\$2,250), wrought iron boot scraper (\$250).

Also for sale was a large collection of tools, china, pictures, crocks, textiles and all types of household furnishings too numerous to list here. A sizeable collection of books, some quite rare—on local history and related subjects—was also sold. Fortu-

nately, many of the items were purchased by local people, and will remain in the Markham area. The Town of Markham was also represented at the auction, with items purchased for the Markham Museum and Heritage Markham. Most of this material consisted of maps, papers, diaries and photographs gathered by Mr. Lunau during his many years of research.

On the other side of the coin, many local artifacts were sold to dealers and collectors from outside the area, and regrettably, these pieces are unlikely to be returned. Lorne Smith, Markham's official historian, did most of the buying for the Town, and later commented how sad it was that the collection that John Lunau spent a lifetime accumulating was gone in a day.

For anyone who has collected historical artifacts, this may serve as a lesson that one should give careful consideration to what will eventually become of treasured items, should the family not continue with this type of interest: sold to the highest bidder and dispersed forever, or donated to a museum for the benefit of future generations in the (local) community.



At the far end of the long fountain is the Parkwood Teahouse and the Formal Garden. The reflecting pool measures 222 feet long and includes 6 fountains.

### Grand news for a grand estate

Brian Malcolm, Parkwood

Recently, \$1 million in federal funding, through the National Cost-Sharing Programme was announced for landscape conservation and presentation at Parkwood, the home of the late R.S. 'Colonel Sam' McLaughlin, founder of General Motors of Canada, and a National Historic Site in Oshawa. The Parkwood Foundation will fund the other \$1 million over a five-year period.

In 1989, Parkwood was formally recognized with designation by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board and praised as "a rare surviving example of the type of estate developed in Canada during the 'inter-war' years, and is rarer still by its essentially intact condition, furnished and presented to illustrate life as it was lived within."

At the time of Parkwood's inception, the McLaughlin Motor Car Company—a family enterprise first begun by Robert McLaughlin Sr., was the largest producer of vehicles in the Empire, producing McLaughlin-Buicks and Chevrolets for some time when it was sold in 1918 to General Motors of Canada with R.S. McLaughlin as President.

In 1915, the McLaughlins had selected the former 'Prospect Park' as the site for a grand new estate. Architects Darling & Pearson designed the fifty-five room mansion, many of the out-buildings, and many of the alterations which followed in the 1920s and 1930s. The house contained many modern conveniences, rare to the period, and the family added lavish furnishings and artwork.

Shortly after 1917, landscape designers Harries & Hall refined the setting, drawing on English garden traditions so the landscape would beckon from every main room of the house to a terrace or garden area just outdoors.

During the 1920s the team of H.B. and L.A. Dunnington-Grubb added the Italian Garden, the Sundial Garden, Summer House, and the Sunken Garden. They

refined the South Terrace and designed intricate lattice fencing for the tennis court and Italian Garden.

The Formal "New Garden" was added in 1935-36 and immediately hailed as an achievement of significance in Canada. Architect John Lyle was awarded a bronze medal from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada for the design. Lyle was also responsible for Parkwood's modern interiors, the art gallery and bedroom suite, which were completed in 1941.

Among the many gifts to Oshawa by the McLaughlins was the bequest to the former Oshawa General Hospital of his beloved home, Parkwood. The Parkwood Foundation was established to operate and care for the site.

Over the past several years Parkwood Foundation has worked with Parks Canada and other organizations to articulate the site's significant features. Because of the scope and size of the built features of the gardens, the landscape restoration and conservation plans include extensive repairs to stonework and masonry, underground piping and filtration for pools and fountains, restoration of electrical elements and period lighting, repairs to pavilions, trellises, gates, ornamental fencing and the replacement of aged trees and other plant materials.

Since the McLaughlins collaborated with some of the most important artists, architects and landscape designers of their day, Parkwood represents the finest or only surviving examples of much of their work.

Today, the estate is open to the public for tours, special events, business and social functions. Guided tours are available year round, with garden tours available through the summer. Parkwood is located at 270 Simcoe Street North in Oshawa and can be contacted at (905) 433-4311.

### Do you want to hear the mermaid sing?

Ontario's museums and historic sites have always offered a unique combination of local history and memorable experiences for both local residents and visitors. As our awareness of Ontario's rich cultural heritage has grown, so have the opportunities and initiatives for expanding the scope of heritage interpretation. Several opportunities present themselves this fall; choose one or all, and you too can hear the mermaid sing!

"Adventures in Time" is a new concept in vacation packages, based on the cultural heritage of the Ottawa Valley. Three tourism operators: Bonnechere Caves, Anishinabe Experience, and Canadian Voyageur Adventures, in conjunction with Algonquin and Bonnechere Provincial Parks have joined forces to offer vaca-

tion packages transporting travellers on single day, or many day adventure trips. "Adventures in Time" can be reached at (613) 732-7068, and will provide the post conference field trip for one of two cultural heritage tourism conferences in Ontario this October.

"Cultural Heritage Tourism in Ontario—Partnering for New Business Opportunities" will be held in Pembroke October 18–21. Topics include: "Heritage as an Economic Engine for Your Community," "Expeditions into the Unknown—Trying Something New," "Don't Just Sit on Your Cultural Heritage Assets," and "Strategies for Cultural Heritage Development." For details contact (613) 732-7068.

One of the attractions at this conference will be presented by

Melotrope Limited featuring Kristina Marie Guiguet performing Mermaid Songs. When exquisitely gowned in full Victorian evening dress and accompanied by a pianist, Kristina sings classical art songs that illuminate the emotions of the stories of people who lived in Canada years ago. Art songs, or as they were once known, Mermaid Songs, carry the audience back in time with their unique interpretation. Why a Mermaid? The long, beautiful and cumbersome trains of the period gowns were often referred to as 'mermaid tails.' After the performance, as would have happened in the intimate formality of the salons of the time, the performers mingle with the guests. This versatile programme can be adapted to tell the tales of a particular site, or celebrate seasonal themes. To learn more about this endearing and fascinating presentation for your special event or historic site, call (416) 588-7354.

The Ontario Museum Association and Attractions Ontario present their first joint conference "Museums + Culture = Attractions + Tourism" on October 22 and 23 at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington. In order to be a part of this equation, contact (416) 348-8672.



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# From the Bookshelf

Pat and Chris Raible, Editors

## History in Print

**Early Canadian Printing: A Supplement to Marie Tremain's A Bibliography of Canadian Imprints.** By Patricia Lockhart Fleming & Sandra Alston. University of Toronto Press. 629 pages. Illustrations. \$125.00 hardbound.

In 1952 Tremain published her extraordinary work (now reprinted as a companion volume) listing every known work printed in Canada before 1800. Fleming & Alston have drawn on the discoveries and scholarship since Tremain to compile this detailed listing of hundreds more, complete with fascinating historical research notes. Although comparatively few works were printed in Upper Canada in the 18th century, they are all here—among the earliest (1793) is a licence “to utter and sell Wine, Brandy, Rum, or any other Spirituous Liquors, by Retail, to be drank out of the House.” Despite the cost, these volumes are essential for any serious research library.

## More to Explore

**Hidden Ontario: Secrets from Ontario's Past.** By Terry Boyle. Polar Bear Press. 224 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.

Quick sketches of 37 communities around our province—from Acton to Whitby—complete with stories of some of their most interesting characters. Some might call this “history lite,” nonetheless the stories have a pleasant charm.

**Ghost Towns of Ontario Volume 2: a field guide.** By Ron Brown. Polar Bear Press. 223 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.

Brown adds another volume to a growing library of books by him which explores all-but-forgotten remnants of our provincial past. Not only does he tell something of the story of each of these sixty or more now vanished villages, those who wish to visit them are provided with helpful directions.

## Polyninthic Man

**Thinking with Both Hands: Sir Daniel Wilson in the Old World and the New.** By Marinell Ash and Colleagues. Edited by Elizabeth Hulse. University of Toronto Press. 352 pages. Illustrations. \$50.00 hardbound.

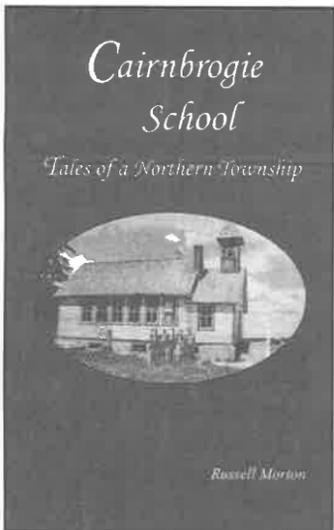
This collection of essays celebrates Sir Daniel Wilson: man of the 19th century, born in Edinburgh in 1816, died in Toronto in 1892. Emigrating to Canada in 1853, Wilson was the first teacher of history and English literature at the University of Toronto, eventually becoming president of both University College and the University of Toronto. Educator, administrator, artist, anthropologist, ethnologist, man of letters, and antiquarian, Wilson is a prime example of the last century's well-rounded scholar. The book's title also reflects Wilson's

ambidexterity—writing with his right hand, and drawing with his left—and his belief that this skill could develop both hemispheres of the brain more fully. As well as an appreciation of the life of an influential and accomplished individual, the book also provides a view of Victorian culture and science through the prism of Wilson's career.

## Historic Structures

**Merchants of Old Port Perry.** By Paul Arculus. *Port Perry Star*. 217 pages. Illustrations. \$29.95 hardbound.

Those of us who have been charmed by the restored Victorian commercial area (Queen Street) of Port Perry can here learn much more about this now thriving town. This abundantly illustrated volume tells the stories of each of its stores, building by building, block by block. Other chapters sketch the town's history, describe its fires, tell of its most prominent citizens. Sprinkled through the text are also clippings—ads from the *Port Perry Star*—which add to the value of the volume.



**Cairnbrogie School: Tales of a Northern Township.** By Russell Morton. Northpine Publishing. 174 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.

A combination of local history of Wainwright Township (near Dryden) and the memories of those who were students and teachers in its school. It even includes a list of all those ever enrolled and (helpful to genealogists and others) the book is fully indexed.

**A Mansion on the Detroit Frontier.** By Elizabeth Burrell & Evelyn G. McLean. Les Amis Duff-Baby. 65 pages. Illustrations. \$8.00.

The story of this historic house (now a well-kept museum) is the story of the earliest years of our province. Among the first European settlers of Sandwich (now Windsor) were Alexander Duff and Jacques (James) Baby, one of Scottish heritage, the other French. The Babys went on to be counted as one of the most prominent families in Upper Canada, members of the Family Compact although they were neither Angli- can nor British.

## Dry Land

**The Big Scheme: The Draining of the Holland Marsh.** By George Jackson. 129 pages. Illustrations. \$20.00 softbound.

First fully conceived in 1909, the “reclaiming” for farmland of the area known as the Holland Marsh was a major project. Nearly a million cubic yards of muck and clay were moved, seventeen and a half miles of canal were dug and embanked, 180 acres of bush were cleared, three dams were built, and a pumping station capable of moving 40,000 gallons of water a minute was put in place. Here are the details of the scheme and the men who made it all happen. One wonders, with today's environmental concerns, whether such a major project would be politically possible in our time.

## Personal History

**Letters to Muriel: A search for Kin.** By Helen Deachman. 135 pages. \$19.00 softbound.

Adopted as an infant, the author never knew who her birth parents were. As a mother of grown children herself, she finally started the painstaking—and ultimately rewarding—search for her roots. Deachman details this search in a series of letters to a long-time friend. She records the successes and trials of her five-year journey of discovery from Port Arthur to Winnipeg, to Scotland and back.

## Toronto the Written About

**Toronto: A Literary Guide.** By Greg Gatenby. McArthur & Company. 622 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.

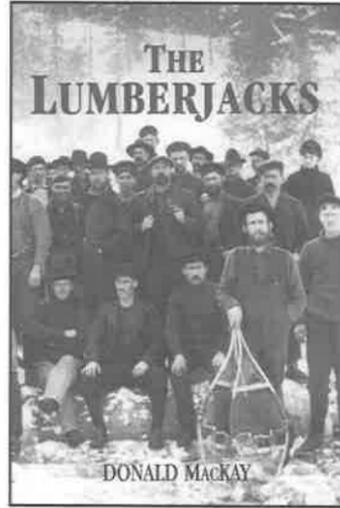
In a splendid series of neighborhood walks, Greg Gatenby (Artistic Director of the International Festival of Authors) draws on his exhaustive knowledge of the hundreds of authors who have lived in or visited Toronto over the past 150 years. Filled with anecdotal material about the famous and not-so-famous, the book is also illustrated with photographs, clippings, and advertisements of author appearances. Organized by neighbourhood, each walking tour is prefaced with a street map and a suggested starting point. The first tour, appropriately enough, is titled “Muddy York.” This section is 22 pages in length—most are shorter—so it's probably a good idea to have read your chosen section before starting out. Rich in detail and literary lore, Gatenby's is good material for the “armchair traveller” as well as those who actually walk the streets.

## Locating the Local

**Local Histories of Ontario Municipalities 1987–1997: A Bibliography.** By Barbara B. Aitken. Ontario Genealogical Society. 94 pages. \$15.00 softbound.

A welcome third volume (volume one covers 1951–1977, vol-

ume two 1977–1987) listing all the (known) histories of our provincial communities which have been published. Essential for any resource library.



## The Axeman Cometh

**The Lumberjacks.** By Donald MacKay. Natural Heritage/Natural History. Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.

Red-coated Mounties, Niagara Falls, and the axe-swinging lumberjack, these are the abiding images of Canada throughout the world. Mounties and Niagara Falls remain, but the old-time lumberjack has been replaced by a hard-hatted “woods technician, snug in a weatherproof cabin atop a big, red mechanical tree harvester,” says MacKay. This book is a tribute to the old-timers: axemen, sawyers, teamsters, river drivers, and west-coast rigging sluggers, men who cut and hauled square timber, saw logs, and pulpwood, from the birth of the industry to the 1950s. It is also about the foresters and timber cruisers who found the choice stands to harvest, and the camp cooks who fueled the men with gargantuan meals. Splendidly illustrated with archival photographs, this is an updated version of the text previously published in 1978.

## History Noted

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

**Encyclopedia of Canada's Peoples.** Edited by Paul Robert Magocsi. University of Toronto Press. 1380 pages. \$300 hardbound. A comprehensive volume documenting the immigration and settlement patterns of some 119 groups of people.

**Taking the Waters: A history of the Spas of St. Catharines.** By Sheila M. Wilson. St. Catharines Historical Society. \$15.00. A detailed history of the spa-hotels which exploited the natural mineral springs of the city to provide medicinal waters to thousands of visitors between 1855 and the end of the century.

**Sandy Ridge and Halstead Paleo-Indian Sites: Unifacial Tool Use and**

**Gainey Phase Definition in South-Central Ontario.** By Lawrence J. Jackson. Museum of Anthropology Publications. 192 pages. US\$26.00. A study which fills in some missing links in the Michigan-Ontario Paleo-Indian record.

**Directory of Historic House Museums in the United States.** By Patricia Chambers Walker and Thomas Graham. AltaMira Press. 500 pages. US\$79.95 paperbound. Provides information about interpretive themes, historical and architectural significance, collections, and cultural and social importance, along with programming events and facility information.

## Directory of Publishers

**AltaMira Press**, 2455 Teller Road, Thousand Oaks, California 91320, U.S.A. order@sagepub.com

**George Jackson**, 71 Fletcher Street, Bradford, Ontario L3Z 1M1.

**Helen Deachman**, 479 Cole Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 2B1.

**Les Amis Duff-Baby**, Box 7424, Windsor (Sandwich), Ontario N9C 4G1.

**McArthur & Company**, 322 King Street West, Suite 402, Toronto, Ontario M5V 1J2.

**Museum of Anthropology Publications**, 4009P Museums Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1079, U.S.A.

**Natural Heritage/Natural History**

**Inc.**, Box 95, Station 0, Toronto, Ontario M4A 2M8.

**Northpine Publishing**, 131 Blackmore Avenue, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 2B1.

**Ontario Genealogical Society, Hamilton Branch**, Box 904 LCD 1, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3P6.

**Polar Bear Press**, 35 Prince Andrew Place, Toronto, Ontario M3C 2H2.

**Port Perry Star**, 188 Mary Street, Port Perry, Ontario L9L 1B7.

**St. Catharines Historical Society**, Box 23104, 124 Welland Avenue, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7P6.

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

**Heritage Books of Haldimand-Norfolk**

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# The story of the Toburn Mine: an epic tale

Lydia Ross Alexander, Kirkland Lake

Headframes are the most striking feature of mining camps anywhere in the world, erupting from the landscape in an apparently haphazard fashion. Rather like icebergs they are the above surface manifestation of the complex infrastructure of underground mining.

The towers are built above the shaft like the upper casing of a large elevator. The design is strictly functional—a giant pulley that hoists men and ore out of the depths. In the early days of mining each headframe had its own torque design and in the process became metaphors for an industry and a culture. Today headframes are pre-fabricated and designed to be dismantled and recycled when the mine's life ends.

At one time there were seven producing mines in Kirkland Lake: the Lake Shore, the Macassa, the Wright Hargreaves, the Sylvanite, the Teck Hughes, the Kirkland Lake Gold Mine and the Toburn. In mining circles each mine strikes a resonant chord of memory. The only remaining original external structure of the Kirkland Lake mining camp is the Toburn.



The Toburn was also the first producing mine in Kirkland Lake. It's story is interwoven with the story of the labour movement in Canada.

In the 1941 labour strike called by the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Toburn Mine was the first to close on November 18, reopening in February 1942. Four thousand men in Kirkland Lake mines walked out. Sub-zero temperatures and one hundred and eighty OPP officers led to a quick end of the strike. The strike caused grief locally due to layoffs, but on a national scale, the strike is considered by many labour historians as a pivotal moment in Canadian industrial relations, leading to the emergence of collective bargaining and the formation of the CCF (NDP) in Ontario.

The story of the Toburn is the story of mining; an epic tale with heroes and antiheroes of mythic proportion. Fabulous wealth, heart wrenching labour, tragedy, comedy, international intrigue, murder, all have their entrances and exits. It is a uniquely Canadian tale.

The Toburn had important economic impact on Canada as well as Kirkland Lake, initiating all

further mine development in the north. Myths and legends surround the original discovery of the Toburn.

The story goes that claims in the area were free for staking. On January 8, 1912, the weather was 56 degrees below zero and there was a snowstorm. In the middle of the night Harry Oakes with his partners the Tough brothers, hiked through the bush from Swastika, a distance of some eight kilometres, with only a candle stuck in a tin can for light.

The men snow-shoed out and about laying their claims. By morning they were exhausted. Going for water for tea, Harry Oakes fell through the ice of Gulf Lake but this did not dampen spirits. A big fire was lit and Harry was thawed out.

At this point William Wright, later owner of *The Mail and Empire*, arrived on the scene but too late. Wright staked to the west and founded the mighty Wright Hargreaves Mine. Oakes and his mates, having staked their claims, had to go to Matheson, the closest mine recorder's office some sixty kilometres distance. It is the Tough Oakes Mine—later called the Toburn Mine that emerged from this staking and would finance Harry Oakes' own Lake Shore Mine.

The first shipments of this ore in 1912 were packed to the shore of Kirkland Lake, then by canoe and over several portages on Amikougami Creek to the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway at Swastika. This hand-sorted ore averaging \$456 a ton brought a rush of prospectors in 1913 to Kirkland Lake.

Between 1913 and 1953 the Tough Oakes Mine produced approximately 570,659 ounces of gold. In 1999 terms this translates into a gold value of approximately \$215,709,102.

## Preserving the Toburn

Today, at first glance everyone agrees that the Toburn headframe is worthy of preservation and should not be torn down. Gradually, however, there emerges a litany of big "ifs." Our first step on the rocky rock to preservation was to resurrect our dormant Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) who in turn formally recommended to our town council that the Toburn is worthy of designation as a site of historical and architectural significance. Council agreed in principle but as discussions proceeded the problems emerged.

To formally designate one has to supply the owner with a "Notice of Intention to Designate" and this is very difficult if one can't find the owner. Taxes haven't been paid for years, and the property has given up its charter so there are liens on the property.

Our town treasurer is quoted in the local newspaper (*Northern Daily News*, November 20, 1998) with reference to the Toburn: that

it is "deemed to be an environmental hazard and therefore will not be registered for tax sale" and that "there are circumstances surrounding each (property) such as bankruptcies, owners who live outside of Canada and dissolved companies which have hampered collection efforts."

Part of our problem has been a lack of definition as to just what we are designating. There are several areas of concern. We recognize that we need a proper legal reference plan and since we don't want to designate the whole mine, we'll need a new survey but, alas, we have no money. All we want to save is the surface triangular parcel containing the headframe—not the underground.

Just what liability will be placed on the municipality by designation? The town proposes to allow the property to cede to the crown and then the crown would bear the liability. Can we designate a crown property? The response here has never been clear. "You can't designate the crown" observed our esteemed LACAC Chair. The sense is that in the rare instances where a municipality has designated a crown property that such designation is "probably unenforceable" and "it really has no meaning." The meaning then of designation would be primarily symbolic. The possible result of such designation could be negative in the long-term.

There are environmental concerns woven into the liability issue—there are peripheral buildings adjacent to the Toburn headframe in varying degrees of decay and there are slopes close to the surface. Our town officials have pointed out that "there may be contaminants" and consequently there are "closure issues per the Mining Act."

An outside consulting firm of engineers reviewed the property and found leaks. There is no precedent, according to our LACAC advisor as to just how required cleaning-up activities under mining legislation might affect a designated property. (letter from Mary Lou Evans, LACAC Ad-

visor, Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, January 11, 1999.)

When you boil it down there is more than one agency of the crown involved in the designation of the Toburn: the mineral rights and the rehabilitation of closed mine properties are administered by the provincial Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, the chattels are administered under the Mining Act while the surface rights are governed by the Ontario Realty Corporation (formerly the Ministry of Government Services). Given the heritage component then, the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation is involved and of course the municipality is involved.

And on and on it's gone. We held many meetings over an eight month period and various players "Come and go/Talking of Michelangelo." We are no further ahead; however, much ground support and media coverage has been garnered. The fear that the Toburn would be torn down in the immediate future is not a big concern; more likely, it would fall down!

## Hope for the Future?

In the meantime another project has emerged which dovetails beautifully with our efforts to preserve the Toburn.

The realization has emerged that the Toburn is really the flagship of numerous heritage properties in our town. A group called Trails 2000, independent but parallel to our local heritage community has worked some years to create walking trails around our town linking geological, historical and natural points of in-

terest. This group grew out of a Healthy Communities Coalition initiative, spearheaded by the Temiskaming Health Unit nearly 4 years ago when a recreational trail system emerged as a leading priority.

A feasibility study was initiated by the group to examine the possibility of a multi-use trail within the town boundaries. A survey of the community was done and public meetings held. Eighty five percent of those polled indicated support for the project. Interestingly, the respondents cited heritage/tourism reasons, as well as healthy reasons, for the creation of the trails. The Toburn has entered centre stage in this initiative.

The proposition has emerged from our efforts to protect the Toburn, and the Trails 2000 project, that in fact the entire community is worthy of preservation. We recognize that we stand at a cross roads to either let the Toburn, by virtue of our passivity, deteriorate beyond repair or we can cautiously and prudently restore it, and thereby revitalize our community offering it forth as a reminder of our glorious past for future generations to experience and to savour.

The story of the Toburn Mine is an epic tale that is not over yet. Only time will tell.



## The Story of the First Iron Smelter in Upper Canada

is told in one of the chapters in the book by Glenn Lockwood

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The Society's biannual scholarly journal, *Ontario History*, is available to member individuals for \$21.40 per year, member organizations and institutions and non-member individuals for \$32.10 and to non-member organizations and institutions for \$42.80.

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

**Editor:** Lorraine Lowry  
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**From the OHS Bookshelf Editors:** Pat and Chris Raible  
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