

ISSN 1206-4394

The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

Volume 11, number 4, February 2007

Trent Valley Archives; Trent Valley Archives Annual General Meeting	2
President's Message	John Marsh 2
Peterborough and District Homebuilders Association 50 th Anniversary: David Mitchell Remembers	Catherine Stutt 3
Peterborough and District Homebuilders Association, Presidents	5
Doughty Masonry Center – Independent and thriving since 1950	Catherine Stutt 6
Curtis Brothers Have Contracts to Supply Bricks for 50 Houses	Peterborough Examiner, 1907 7
Homes built by Henry T. Hickey (1888-), 1906 to 1944	8
Building in Peterborough 1890	Peterborough Examiner, 1891 12
The New Customs Building	Peterborough Examiner, 1892 16
Trent Valley Archives: resources for construction history	17
City's First Concrete Block Houses Built By Fred Tuggey in 1904-5	Peterborough Examiner, 1958 18
Cement Brick as Building Material	Peterborough Examiner, 1904 19
Real Estate and Building	Eileen Sklar, Peterborough Examiner, 1954 20
Thomas C. Sorby (1836-1924): CPR Architect and More	Elwood Jones 21
Queries	Diane Robnik 22
O'Connor; Bennett; Sir John A. Macdonald and Mrs George Barker Hall; Ivan Bateman on Ship Lists; McAlpin-Hamilton marriage; Class of 1924; Bronson Hall	26
Captain Basil Hall on Peterborough 1827	Peterborough Examiner, 1904 27
Design for A Corporate Seal: Mr T. A. S. Hay Has Submitted One	Elwood Jones 28
Canada's Official Census Dates: genealogical and historical research in censuses	Basia Baklinski 28
Conservation Corner	Cy Monkman 31
The Peterborough Ski and Snowshoe Club, 1923-1927	Andrew Elliott 34
The Rambling Rover visits 342 Downie Street	35
Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Peterborough [ACOP]	36
Sixty Years After the DVA Hospital Fire	DVA Hospital Razed (Doug Vaisey); Gloomy Predictions Proven (Harry Theobald); The Two Peterboroughs (Editorial) 38
TVA Fonds 25: IODE, Major Bennett Chapter	39
News, Views and Reviews	Quaker Fire 90th Anniversary; Robert Hicks' Woodyard; Reading Photographs; Gordon Bernard Parks; Joneses break same surname record; Trent Valley Archives awarded an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant; Scandals and Scoundrels – St Patrick's Day Pubcrawl; Poverty in Peterborough: an earlier Mayor's committee; Roy Studio Images restored and returned; Kim Krenz was a featured interviewee; Trent Valley Archives Announcement; Trent Valley Archives Annual General Meeting; Heritage Gazette Turns 10; Publications

Front page cover: Peterborough's Canadian Pacific Railway station was designed by T. C. Sorby (see story beginning page 21) and is now the tourist bureau. Photo by Elwood Jones.

Trent Valley Archives
Fairview Heritage Centre
567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough Ontario Canada K9L 1N1
 (705) 745-4404
admin@trentvalleyarchives.com
www.trentvalleyarchives.com

Trent Valley Archives
Fairview Heritage Centre
Peterborough Ontario K9L 1N1

(705) 745-4404

admin@trentvalleyarchives.com
www.trentvalleyarchives.com

Reading Room open
 Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm

Board of Directors

Heather Aiton-Landry
 Bruce Fitzpatrick
 Stephen Guthrie
 Elwood Jones
 Susan Kyle
 Doug Lavery
 Wally Macht
 John Marsh, President
 Gina Martin
 Chris Minicola
 Marjorie Shephard
 Toni Sinclair
 Keith Dinsdale, Andre Dorfman
 Martha Ann Kidd, Alice MacKenzie
 Don Willcock

Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

Elwood Jones, editor
Ejones55@cogeco.ca
 Keith Dinsdale, Martha Kidd,
 John Marsh, Gina Martin, Diane Robnik, Don Willcock

Trent Valley Archives Trust Fund

Peter Lillico, Michael Bishop,
 Tom Robinson

Trent Valley Archives

Diane Robnik
 Associate Archivist

drobnik@trentvalleyarchives.com

The information and opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Trent Valley Archives or its directors.

©2007 Trent Valley Archives
 Any copying, downloading or uploading without the explicit consent of the editor is prohibited. Classroom use is encouraged, but please inform the editor of such use.

President's Message

New Year seems an appropriate time to consider some new initiatives for the Trent Valley Archives. Foremost must be the provision of more space for our expanding collections and public services. Last year we attempted to acquire a larger building, but few suitable buildings in desirable locations at the right price are available. So we hope this year to make progress in planning an extension to our present facility and seeking funds to construct and equip it. Any generous donors should feel free to contact me about this!

The need for more space has become very apparent with the recent return of the restored flood-damaged materials, notably some land records that had been sent to the Roscoe Company of Montreal. We are grateful to the Trillium Foundation for financing this restoration and enabling these important records to be properly cataloged and housed in new boxes on new shelves.

Given the success of our publications *Up the Burleigh Road* (which has now sold out) and the *Mills of Peterborough County*, we are embarking on a series of highly illustrated booklets on local historical themes. The first one, drawing on our substantial collection of historical photographs, depicts the historical interiors of various Peterborough businesses. It has been, ably compiled by Diane Robnik and Elwood Jones, and professionally laid out by Louis Taylor. More such historical photo booklets are planned on topics such as building exteriors, people at work, old hotels, and Peterborough's railways.

We are already planning another summer programme of guided walks. There will be at least one new historical walk through Little Lake Cemetery, some ghost tours and historic pub crawls. As one student remarked to me on a ghost tour – "this is the way to learn history." It is also a way to encourage tourism and draw attention to our wonderful built and intangible heritage.

Let me say that we will continue to support new initiatives to safeguard our built and landscape heritage. We recently spoke out in favour of saving the historic YMCA in Peterborough. We support the initiative to research and designate an historical district in downtown Peterborough. We are inventorying and encouraging the preservation of our rural landscape heritage. We urge the new City, township and county councils to do more to recognize and protect such heritage.

Finally, I wish to encourage you to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Trent Valley Archives, 27 April at 7:30 pm. We will be treated to an interesting presentation by Rae Fleming on World War I and Leslie Frost, who was later premier of Ontario. We will review recent progress and and highlight our new initiatives. We will also be looking to elect some new Board members. If you would like to take a more active role with TVA please consider joining the Board or volunteering; just talk to Diane at 745-4404 or myself.

John Marsh

Trent Valley Archives Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Trent Valley Archives will be held in the chapel of the Princess Gardens, Peterborough Square, Thursday, 26 April 2007, beginning at 7:30 pm. There will be a short business meeting to consider all the usual motions for an annual meeting. As well, there will be a motion to ratify a board decision to change annual membership fees to \$50 for individuals and \$60 for families (GST extra) effective 1 January 2007. This is the first change in fees since 1998 when the Trent Valley Archives moved to the Fairview Heritage Centre. Our guest speaker, Dr Rae B. Fleming, will talk about Leslie and Cecil Frost growing up in World War I.

Peterborough and District Homebuilders Association 50th anniversary: David Mitchell remembers

*Catherine Stutt
Ontario Construction News Staff*

It is rather hard to imagine in the booming market of greater Peterborough that exists in 2006, but 56 years ago, an organization that now represents the area second largest employment sector and pumps hundreds of millions of dollars into the area economy started over a \$200 dispute.

That may oversimplify the issue, but David Mitchell remembers the time in great detail. Mr. Mitchell had moved to Peterborough from Oshawa, and for decades operated a successful contracting business, specializing in homes and apartment buildings.

The government, through the Federal Provincial Land Assembly (FPLA), purchased 400 acres in Peterborough. They didn't immediately develop it, which resulted in a huge demand for residential property, with little available. At the time, the Peterborough program represented well over 50 per cent of all lands under FPLA control in Canada. That left local home builders in a quandary. They were free to purchase lots throughout the City, but few were available on serviced land, and then they had to compete with the FPLA. Once lots under government control became available, Mr. Mitchell recalls that they were priced at about \$850, compared to \$1,800 on private lands.

An additional point of contention was the fact that the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) had complete control over the price of all homes built on FPLA property. Called the end sale price, home builders had no method of appeal should they find the end sale price unfair.

The prevailing opinion of the local CMHC manager was that it should cost less to build a home in Peterborough than in Toronto, and his end sale prices reflected that mistaken belief, recalls Mr. Mitchell. Peterborough was isolated back then and most materials had to come from Toronto, or we were forced to pay higher prices to local suppliers. For instance, to buy clay brick locally, we paid \$90 per 1000, but the Toronto price was \$45 per 1000. To buy from Toronto though, we had to pre-order the entire year supply prior to January 31. One year, I missed that deadline by one day, and they wouldn't budge. That market was that vibrant in the 1950s and early 1960s.

Mr. Mitchell recalls that builders in western Canada faced even tougher times. They had few local suppliers and manufacturers, so they had to order almost everything, from furnaces to shingles, from out of the province. If they ordered from an Ontario supplier, it might take six months, but if they ordered it from an American supplier, it would often arrive the

next day. There was a degree of resentment toward the Ontario market because of this.

At the same time, Carl Doughty, patriarch of Doughty Masonry, had secured a franchise for Dunbrick, a coloured concrete brick. It was hugely successful, and at one time more than 70 per cent of all homes in Peterborough featured Dunbrick. A similar percentage had Doughty-manufactured block basements.

I remember Carl borrowed my car to drive to the States to arrange the franchise, says Mr. Mitchell. That friendship, forged through the common bond of facing house building challenges, exists to this day.

The masonry contractors were facing tough times of their own. A housing boom that had not abated since the end of the war, combined with huge government infrastructure projects meant demand for concrete exceeded its availability.

The biggest part of my time was spent trying to buy cement, states Mr. Doughty. There was a real shortage after the war and the big companies were not creating new distributors. It was a closed market. Most of the domestic product went to the Ontario Hydro generating station in Niagara Falls. Hydro had first priority, and even though the suppliers might promise me a load for next day delivery, if Hydro called, I was out of luck. I ended up buying most of my cement from the Bank of Montreal, who was bringing it in from England. As busy as he was, Mr. Doughty was fighting an uphill battle with CMHC. Most home builders in Peterborough used Dunbrick, but CMHC policy was that Dunbrick lowered the value of a home by \$200.



That may not seem like a lot of money now, cautions Mr. Mitchell, but in the early 1950s, \$200 was a lot of money. Homes built on the FPLA lots cost \$9,200, or about \$10 per square foot, well into the 1960s. Anyone could buy a house with one income, and the wife's income wasn't a factor. Mortgages were a 25 year term, so people knew what they were paying for the full 25 years.

The FPLA had control of almost all of the building lots, so we accepted CMHC numbers for years, even

though we didn't agree. When CMHC cut prices, and therefore our profits, on homes built with Dunbrick, it was the final straw. We knew that we needed a stronger voice to make our point. That \$200 dispute eventually led to the formation of the Peterborough and District Home Builders Association.

Mr. Mitchell had previously attended the 1952 national meeting held in Winnipeg, and understood the theory of strength in numbers. He immersed himself in the minutiae of procedures and administration, and shared it with his new Peterborough colleagues. We all learned very quickly the importance of buying power, and the political impact an organization had, he recalls.

The first gathering was held in the Peterborough YMCA, where Mr. Mitchell, then single, lived for six years. The Empress Hotel was the next site, and finally, in 1956, the PDHBA was officially incorporated.

Art Kingdon was the first president, and Doughty Masonry was the first trade supplier member; the only one in the category for four years.

Once we organized, we took right off, remembers Mr. Mitchell. We became a model for others. In 1960, we won the Ottawa Citizen trophy for the most advanced builder association in Canada. We developed an operating manual for other associations and helped them organize and improve. Fifty years later, the PDHBA remains a vibrant and driving force throughout the region. It claims over 80 members, 10 of whom have been in the organization for more than 25 years. Kingdon TIM-BR and Doughty Masonry are still members, after 50 years.

While it is impossible to encapsulate half a century of impact that home builders have on a community (almost 8,000 new single family dwellings started from 1988 to 2005 in the Peterborough area), current PDHBA president Paul Peterson, president of member firm La Maison Home Contractors, hammered home the details.

In his inaugural speech this past fall, Mr. Peterson stated that the home building and renovating industry in the Peterborough area boasts 2,500 employees, second only to the public school board. It represents more than \$100 million in wages, almost \$200 million in gross domestic product, \$20 million in federal and provincial income taxes, \$6 million in WSIB premiums, and \$7 million in GST remissions. Land development charges, CPP and EI premiums, PST remissions, building permit fees, and land transfer tax generates an additional \$23 million. The additional \$84 million in assessment on new housing and renovations resulted in \$1.344 million for the City.

Executive Officer Lorraine Stratton started with the PDHBA five years ago, and notes that the organization is stable without becoming stagnant. We have a high retention rate, and we also have a diverse group. We have 11 directors on our board, and several of them are long-time members, while some are completely new to the PDHBA. We have a lot of experience and history mixed with fresh faces and ideas. It is a mix that works very well.

Scott Wootton, owner and dynamic driving force behind Kawartha Lakes Construction, is past president of the PDHBA. For Mr. Wootton, a self-professed need-to-know education junkie, tapping into the experience of over 80 members, most with decades of experience, allows him to mainline information.

"I joined because I was technically proficient but lacked the business acumen to grow a company, he relates with his trademark honesty and enthusiasm. I wasn't aware of the pitfalls of the school of hard knocks, but I knew I could learn from the members." There is a lot to be said for the direct pipeline into the heartbeat of what is happening. The PDHBA, by virtue of its membership in the provincial and federal home builders associations, allows us to stay informed of pertinent political and regulatory issues. We don't have the time to research every issue on our own. Right now, WSIB is proposing mandatory coverage for independent operators. Where do we go for information on that? How do we have a voice? The association lobbies on our behalf and keeps us abreast of what is important to us. Mr. Wootton understands that today entrepreneur needs to multitask, but home building is one of those sectors where most people have one overwhelming strength, while other skills are not always as well honed.

"A lot of us in this industry are technically experienced and proficient. There are strong family ties, and many are second and third generation home builders, so those skills are second nature, but how do we keep marketing, finance, administration, and production balanced? The association helps expose us to some of these other areas of business that can make the difference, keeping our businesses healthy and strong. On the flip side of CMHC's negative effects on Peterborough 50 years ago, the CMHC has since proven to be a very valuable ally and asset to the association over the years, with mountains of publications covering every topic you could possibly think of effecting the home builder and renovator. Members of home builder associations must adhere to a code of ethics, and generally promote a higher set of professional standards, but even amongst the cream of the crop, Mr. Wootton notes, there are different expectations from the members.

Like most endeavours, it is what you make of it. You can get as deep into it as you want, and get as much out as you put in. Some members are satisfied with involvement at the local level, but there are opportunities at the Ontario and Canadian level of the Home Builders Association also. Many Peterborough members have benefited through this exposure, while adding their insights to help shape policy for government and industry at the provincial and national level. Mr. Wootton is more than willing to immerse himself in the association and its endless opportunities.

"I would rather learn from other people in the industry, than from the school of hard knocks. There is such a wealth of information if you just ask. That's what the association has meant to me." Involvement equals opportunities to this home builder. As a board member of the Ontario Home Builders Renovators Council, Mr. Wootton participated in selecting the best overall performer in the Toronto association. Timing was perfect, coinciding with events at the Kawartha Lakes Construction Company.

"We were given the marketing pieces for the awards judging while I was right in the middle of working through my own marketing image and needs. It was great exposure to be part of the judging, and I had three perfect examples.

"Not only did I gain the experience of critiquing the pieces, I was able to determine what would work for us. I had no idea that I would see these great marketing programs when I volunteered. When you participate as a member of the PDHBA, you deal with professionals with decades of experience who share their history and that helps me avoid pitfalls in the future. We all learn from each other's mistakes and successes, because we are dealing with like-minded individuals who want to share in a non-competing environment." Everyone at the executive level has something to offer and they have a handle on the heartbeat of our industry. They are, in fact, the pulse of the industry. The PDHBA is a group of exceptional business owners who have banded together to form a collective voice, to encourage a higher standard of business practice, and to share vital information gleaned through years of sweat and tears.

They are not only non-competing at their monthly meetings and annual events, but laud each other success through the Kawartha Awards of Distinction, which for the past three years have recognized and honoured 15 recipients annually for excellence and creative achievement in architectural design, outstanding construction and marketing of new homes and renovations of existing homes in the greater Peterborough area.

The PDHBA is more than dinner meetings and golf tournaments; members contribute so much more than a few hours a month. They commit their time, experience, and energy to an association that evolves graciously, reflecting the very essence of the diversity of the Peterborough region.

For the past 50 years, these pillars of Peterborough have laid the foundation for a thriving city, for a network of communities that have grown together to become the soul of Peterborough.

For more information on the association, and to find a quality home builder, visit www.peterboroughhomebuilders.com.

To understand the impact this association has had on the great City of Peterborough, drive through its inviting residential neighbourhoods and see what this network of business associates, driven together by necessity, and kept together through a common purpose, have built.

Although it is 50 years old, the origins of the PDHBA are still deeply ensconced in Peterborough.

The original 400 acres under FPLA control were to have been developed within a decade or so, but there is still land available. Much is now zoned for commercial use and is home to the new Wal-Mart and Canadian Tire on Chemong Road.

Mr. Mitchell, after playing a huge role in the development of the PDHBA and the OHBA, after building 10 apartment buildings and more than 500 residential units, finally retired in 1999 at 72.

His good friend Carl Doughty says with a smile that Dave finally had to go get a job, so he is now volunteering three days a week at Lang Pioneer Village in Keene. Mr. Doughty turned the reins of Doughty Masonry over to his son Brian and daughter Leslie, and continues a lifelong friendship with Mr. Mitchell. Despite a half century as a shrewd and successful leader of the Peterborough business community, he is still unable to avoid recruitment by his friend, and can also be found at Lang Pioneer Village.

Relationships forged in adversity, bound by allegiance, it seems, are everlasting. It is perhaps the quintessential illustration of the benefits of membership in the Peterborough and District Home Builders Association.

Peterborough and District Homebuilders Association: Presidents

In October 2006, the association changed its name to Peterborough and the Kawarthas Homebuilders Association because so much building activity is on the surrounding lakes.

Art Kingdon	1956, 1964, 1965
George Clarke	1957
Leo N. Cleary	1958, 1967
Dave Mitchell	1959, 1962
Ted Gray	1960
Earl Minor	1961
Frank Ephgrave	1963
George Clarke	1966
Hans Keppler	1968, 1969, 1978, 1979, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987
Merv Gray	1970
Ray Moran	1971
Harold Doig	1972, 1973
Bob Woodward	1974
Randy Kingdon	1975
Frank Barker	1977
Bob Parr	1980, 1981, 1982
Jack Pierson	1988, 1989, 1990
Pat Cleary	1991, 1992
Murray Davenport	1993, 1994
Glen Watson	1995, 1996
Dean Hewitt	1997, 1998
Paul Lumsden	1999, 2000
Don Dyck	2001, 2002
Scott Wootton	2003, 2004, 2005
Paul Peterson	2006

Doughty Masonry Center – Independent and thriving since 1950

Catherine Stutt

Ontario Construction News

When Carl Doughty started out in the business in 1950, there were a few obstacles to overcome. First, there were the naysayers who were certain that his timing was all wrong and he had missed the post-war construction boom.

Ignoring their well-intentioned, but ultimately short-visioned advice, he plunged ahead, only to find that the building boom he relied upon resulted in a short supply of his raw materials.

Through hard work, ingenuity and no small amount of luck, that too was dealt with. More than 50 years later, the company continues to thrive, having proven for over half a century that often the strongest foundation is not the materials, but the people who provide them.

Carl Doughty was a recent graduate of the Kemptville Agricultural College when he started Doughty Masonry Center in 1950. Although he has kept his ties with the land, which included until recently raising Black Angus on his Peterborough farms, his focus has been the masonry business. As with the farms, it is a calling that his children have heard. His son, Brian, the assistant manager, has been with the company for 22 years, and his daughter, Leslie, works in the accounting department.

“When I started this, everyone said that I’d missed the boat, that I was too late,” recalls Mr. Doughty with confident humour that only the passage of time can develop. “Little did they know that it was just starting.”

Servicemen returning from overseas needed houses for their young families, which in turn created a demand for hospitals, schools, and shopping facilities. The post-war boom echoed for years to follow, stimulating the construction market. With the demand came shortages, though.

“The biggest part of my time was spent trying to buy cement,” states Mr. Doughty. “There was a real shortage after the war and the big companies were not creating new distributors. It was a closed market. Most of the domestic product went to the Ontario Hydro generating station in Niagara Falls. I ended up buying most of my cement from the Bank of Montreal, who was bringing it in from England.”

Once the raw material was located, the real work began. In 1950, automation was still in its infancy, and manpower was the main ingredient. Although cement was priced by the barrel, it was sold by the bag, four bags to a barrel. It was delivered from Montreal by boxcar, 1,000 bags at a time. Each bag weighed 87.5 pounds if produced domestically, and up to 94 pounds if it was an offshore product. Each one had to be moved by hand. A boxcar of cement would last a month and then the process was repeated.

It was not until 1957 that cement, which is actually limestone ground, re-ground, heated, and ground again until it resembles flour, was available in bulk. Now, a

tanker loaded with 30 tons makes a delivery twice a week, its cargo blown into one of two silos which are connected to the manufacturing line. Gone are the days of off-loading 87,000 pounds of cement by hand.

Although the company started out only manufacturing concrete blocks, changes in the construction industry required constant evolution to meet new demands and trends.

“In 1950 the main thrust of our business was block for house foundations,” explains Mr. Doughty. “We primarily supplied residential contractors. In the past 25 years, that focus has changed. Foundations are now usually poured concrete. Block foundations in residential applications are limited.”

Forecasting change has served the company well, allowing it to ease into new product lines while phasing out others. Between 1954 and 1960 the company operated concurrent with its block business, Dunbrick, which manufactured coloured concrete brick. During its tenure, according to Mr. Doughty, more than 70 per cent of the new homes in Peterborough were built with brick bought from Dunbrick.

In 1960, a new production plant was built on the original property at 1555 Chemong Road in Peterborough, and the brick business discontinued. Supplying commercial as well as residential block, Doughty Masonry Center continued to thrive.

In 1980, the company again expanded, increasing its production of architectural block. “We had started manufacturing the product a few years before that, but in 1980 it really became popular,” recalls Mr. Doughty.

At the same time, the company further increased its product line, adding a complete line of bagged cement, landscaping supplies and related products. Today, the showroom and yard are well stocked with virtually every masonry and landscaping product imaginable, from blocks and bricks to accent pieces and trowels, aggregate, retaining wall blocks and safety equipment.

“We have been manufacturing retaining wall blocks, step units, and paving stones for a number of years and are finding that the landscaping sector is an expanding market. We have a good number of area landscapers dealing with us, as well as homeowners using our product.”

“We are survivors,” says Mr. Doughty. “In the past 12 years we have seen established block companies either bought out by large nationals or closed down. We are one of the few independent manufacturers left and we owe that to our quality and our diversification.”

“We sell all masonry and landscaping related products,” states Mr. Doughty, “including those that we manufacture and those that we retail from other suppliers.”

One of those suppliers is Pinewood Aggregates of Lakefield, a company that was started by Mr. Doughty's father, sold, and then bought back into the family. Doughty Masonry Center is also an authorized dealer for Brampton Brick, which is one of only two remaining major clay brick manufacturers in Ontario. They also carry Hamilton Brick, Arriscraft stone and brick, and Brantford Brick.

Cement for the block plant is supplied primarily from St. Lawrence Cement. Explains Brian Doughty. "They have a great lab and assist us with special orders, like colour matching, but primarily in testing our product to ensure that it meets industry standards."

Strength testing is usually done by compression. The block is sent to the lab approximately one or two days after it comes off of the line, and evaluated. "Usually, after 24 hours," explains the younger Mr. Doughty, "the block is at about 75 per cent strength, rated in pounds per square inch. Ideally the blocks cure for 28 days, but after the first two weeks they are probably at 90 per cent or better."

Doughty Masonry Center further ensures quality through its voluntary membership in the Quality Assurance Program of the Ontario Concrete Block Association, a membership the company has held since its inception and values highly. "Not everyone joins, but we feel it's important. Quality is everything to us."

The company also holds memberships in the Peterborough District Construction Exchange and was the first associate member of the Peterborough and District Home Builders Association.

With the majority of the blocks now going into commercial and institutional buildings, the recent capital commitment of both the provincial and federal governments has kept the construction industry busy, which in turn means that Doughty Masonry Center is working full time to meet demand.

On the manufacturing line, the forms hold three blocks at a time, producing a staggering day's end tally of 6,500 eight inch blocks. Each block is formed in a hardened steel mould. The company has approximately 15 of these moulds.

"The aggregate is very abrasive, and a lighter, cheaper steel would wear out quickly," explains Brian Doughty.

"We can contour the forms and create infinite variations using different interior assemblies."

The blocks are formed by using a dry mix that is tamped into the form and vibrated for ten seconds. The green blocks then proceed down the line and are counted and stacked by computer. At that point, they are taken into one of the company's eight kilns, in lots of 1,200, where they will be steam-cured overnight. The steam process delivers the high strength quickly.

As well as standard blocks, Doughty has the capability to manufacture custom runs. "We have barrels of colour that we can add to the mix," explains Brian, "and often we can colour-match existing block. We also use different aggregates to compose specialty blocks, and can make them in different patterns and colours."

The company brought in pure white aggregate from a supplier in Perth and completed an order of dazzling white block for a Belleville area car dealership. Other times, slag is brought in from the Hamilton steel mills to make lightweight block. "It has superior fire rating and sound suppression qualities, and is commonly used in institutional construction," says Brian. "We modify the mix by adding more cement and water content, to compensate for the slag."

Doughty Masonry Center distributes its product through a valued dealership structure spread out over a 100-mile radius. Using mostly home building centres and lumber yards, the company strives to provide excellent service within its market area - a territory that stretches from Lake Ontario to Algonquin Park, Marmora to Carnarvon.

"We deliver throughout the area and often we will drop our product directly at the job site at the request of our dealers," explains Brian.

The Doughty family is quick to point out that their extensive line of products, and commitment to quality is largely a result of the dedication of their employees, some of whom have been with the company for years.

As Doughty Masonry Center continues to meet the challenges of a constantly changing industry, it has stayed true to the ingredients that will never go out of style- quality, commitment, and service.

Curtis Bros. Have Contracts to Supply Brick for 50 Houses Over 2,000,000 Brick Already Sold - Firm Compelled to Decline Big Order from Hastings Owing to Large Local Demand - Prospects for the Season

Peterborough Review, 23 April 1907

Curtis Bros. expect to start operations in their brick yard in a few days. The prospects for a busy season are very bright and already half of the season's output of their yards is contracted for. The firm have the contract for supplying the brick for the extension to the North Ward School and also for the new Collegiate Institute building. They have also to provide the brick for over 50 new dwellings which will be erected in Peterborough this year. They have received inquiries for brick from several outside firms, but have been obliged to refuse the order as it is expected all this output of their yards will be used at home. They were asked to furnish 100,000 bricks for Hastings, to help along rebuilding operations in that village which suffered from a severe fire on Sunday night, April 14th.

Mr. Thomas W. Gibson, director of the Bureau of Mines in his report for 1906 says "Curtis Bros" Peterborough have about 4 feet of red top clay which is underlaid by 13 feet of sandy Erie blue clay. Both are used in the manufacture of red and white brick, and tile and shaving? block. In this yard are two from Quaker machines and one Martin machine all run by electric power. The clay is handled direct from the pit in automatic dump cars which feed Baird pug mills which in turn feed the brick machines mentioned above. The bricks are stacked out to dry and are burned in two square down drafts kilns and in large open scooped kilns. The output of this yard is about 4,000,000 brick per year. The tile and hollow block are made in a Close machine, the hollow block being used for raised barns and table floors. This is one of the largest yards in the province and the goods manufactured are among the best."

Homes built by Henry T. Hickey (1888-), 1906 to 1944

1925	Barry's Bay	Lake Kamaniskeg	Government of Canada wooden wharf and pier	
1923	Beaverton	Lake Simcoe	Concrete pier and dock for Govt of Canada	
1912	Bethany	Main Street	Town Hall	
1913	Bowmanville	Liberty St S 47	Memorial Hospital – major renovation	
1925	Curve Lake Indian Reservation		School or Town Hall	
1932	Douro / Smith Township	Otonabee River	Trent Canal: Concrete Lock 23 dam (Kitts)	
1925	Haileybury		Court House & Jail	
1934	Kirkfield	Main Street	St Margaret's School major renovations	
1944	Lakefield	Grant Ave 1	Dr Murray Moher major renovations	
1915	Lindsay	Kent & Victoria sts	Flavelle Cold Storage plant	
1915	Lindsay	William St N 116	Horne Brothers Knitting Mill	
1930	Orillia Twp	Pointview Road Concession 3	Toronto Knights of Columbus: Columbus Boys Camp	
1933	Peterborough	Albertus Ave 420	Burgess home	Burgess, B I
1943	Peterborough	Albertus Ave 451	home	Katz, F, poultry dealer
1941	Peterborough	Anne St 7	Menzies home	Menzies, J B H
1933	Peterborough	Armour Road	Auburn Woolen Mill addition	
1938	Peterborough	Armour Road 780	home	Kelley, R A, Dr
1935	Peterborough	Ashburnham Drive	Crebar's Chicken House	
1938	Peterborough	Bolivar St 584	Allison home	Sherk, J R
1935	Peterborough	Charlotte St 177	Tom Lansfield cleaning plant and stores	Lansfield's Cleaners
1929	Peterborough	Charlotte St 204	Harry Florence furniture store	Florence, Harry, furniture
1942	Peterborough	Charlotte St 224	Hillrust Wines conversion for retail outlet	Fortner, J W; Firestone
1940	Peterborough	Charlotte St 228	Salvation Army hut major renovation	Moncrief's Dairy
1941	Peterborough	Charlotte St 261	Ernie Ferguson: renovation of cleaning plant	Ferguson's Cleaners
1944	Peterborough	Charlotte St 270	T. J. Cavanagh store and warehouse	T. J. Cavanagh electric appliances
1940	Peterborough	Charlotte St 612	Mowry home	Mowry, A H
1938	Peterborough	Charlotte St 622	Middleton home	Middleton, Frances, Mrs
1937	Peterborough	Charlotte-Aylmer	Ivan T. Lillico car showroom and service station	Lillico Motors
1937	Peterborough	Charlotte-Aylmer	Imperial Oil service station	
1933	Peterborough	Douglas Ave	sidewalks	
1942	Peterborough	Downie St 378	Duffus home	Boorman, C W
1916	Peterborough	Fleming Place 1	Gallivan home; office and triplex	Gallivan, Marie Mrs
1911	Peterborough	Fleming Place 5	Hickey home and duplex	Langley, A G Mrs
1943	Peterborough	George St N 328	Deluxe Café renovations	Deluxe Café / Market Hall
1936	Peterborough	George St N 417	Chown Hardware Store renovations	Chown, Hubert, Hardware
1926	Peterborough	George St N 437	Hunter's Grocery Store renovations	Victoria and Grey Trust
1943	Peterborough	George St N 461	Mohan-Hunter dairy bar	Mohan-Hunter dairy
1929	Peterborough	George St N 647	Edward Finn pharmacy and apartment	Finn, M E, Drugs / Postal Station
1939	Peterborough	Geraldine Ave 210	Wightman home	Wightman, K S
1927	Peterborough	Gilmour St 619	Dawson home	Murray, D
1928	Peterborough	Gilmour St 626	Hall home	Monkman, Gordon
1930	Peterborough	Gilmour St 627	Rodgers home	McCulloch, J M, Dr
1931	Peterborough	Gilmour St 631	Canning home	vacant
1927	Peterborough	Gilmour St 633	Hickey home	Hickey, H T, contractor
1940	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 580	Veneranda home	Turner, L E Mrs
1929	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 611	Staegel home	Steggles, Horace
1932	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 612	Hewitt home	Zakos, Spiro J
1935	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 615	Hardill home	Hardill, W John
1936	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 619	Lansfield home	Lansfield, Thomas J

1936	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 623	Grafstein home	Grafstein, R A
1938	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 624	Riley home	Riley, Edward F
1937	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 627	Fanjoy home	Gillespie, J E
1939	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 628	home	White, H J
1943	Peterborough	Homewood Ave 629	home	Howson, G N
1908	Peterborough	Hopkins Ave 581	Roach home	
1906	Peterborough	Hunter and Water	addition to Post Office; for Govt of Canada	
1920	Peterborough	Hunter St	Otonabee River bridge: construction superintendent for concrete work	
1938	Peterborough	King St 573	McCusker home	Cadd, E J
1932	Peterborough	King St 587	McCarney home	Laton, D F
1937	Peterborough	Lock St 120	Misses Gordon: conversion to duplex	Williams, H
1928	Peterborough	London St 370	Powell home	Terpstra, W J
1935	Peterborough	London St 393	Mohan-Hunter dairy	
1927	Peterborough	London St 422	Lynch home	Spring, F
1933	Peterborough	Lynch St 81	home	Cancilla, S
1933	Peterborough	Lynch St 85	home	Clements, Cyril C
1934	Peterborough	Manning Ave	Heppenstall home	
1916	Peterborough	Maria St	Vermont Marble Works – plant addition	
1936	Peterborough	McCannan Ave 555	or perhaps 478 or 590	Carveth, C A
1932	Peterborough	McDonell St 362	home	Lasher, M Mrs
1943	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd	St Peter's Cemetery vault	
1934	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1270	home	Newton, A J
1938	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1271	Collison home	Gluklick, M
1938	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1273	Hickey bungalow	Plowman, H V
1938	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1275	Hickey bungalow	Baggs, W Eric
1934	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1276	Munroe home	Munro, P B
1939	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1277	Hickey bungalow	Foster, F G
1940	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1279	Duffus home	Hardwicke, William L
1935	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1280	McKenzie home	vacant
1929	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1400	Martin home	Martin, Herbert S
1940	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1488	Hickey bungalow	Jopling, F E
1940	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1492	Hickey bungalow	Bond, H
1940	Peterborough	Monaghan Rd 1496	Hickey bungalow	Davidson, G K
1930	Peterborough	Murray St	Armouries: Concrete Pad mounting WW I Field Gun	
1910	Peterborough	Murray St 518	Talbot home	Talbot, L
1910	Peterborough	Murray St 520	Archambault home	McPhie, Ross D
1909	Peterborough	Murray St 524	home	Foley, D E
1909	Peterborough	Murray St 526	home	Duffus, Josephine Mrs
1909	Peterborough	Murray St 590	Traviss home	Mortimer, D D
1942	Peterborough	Park St N 107	Canadian General Electric factory building	
1925	Peterborough	Park St N 107	Canadian General Electric factory building	
1930	Peterborough	Park St N 571		Gallagher, Cecil A
1940	Peterborough	Park St N 6	Clancy's Dairy	Tony's Lunch
1927	Peterborough	Park St S 105	Martin Hewitt factory building	Martin Hewitt Containers
1919	Peterborough	Park St S 113	De Laval factory building	DeLaval
1908	Peterborough	Reid St 529	McIlmoyle home	Brooks, Thomas J
1944	Peterborough	Reid St 535	house converted into three apartments	Hickey, Kathleen
1936	Peterborough	Robinson St 83	Precious Blood Convent: major renovation	Sisters ... Precious Blood
1941	Peterborough	Rogers St 283	Anthony home	DeNoble, J E
1914	Peterborough	Rogers St 386	Immaculate Conception Church: Basement foundation built	
1943	Peterborough	Romaine St 234	Dr Robert Young medical clinic	General Medical Clinic
1933	Peterborough	Rose Ave	Sidewalks	
1941	Peterborough	Sophia St 141	Anthony bungalow	Libman, Charles
1941	Peterborough	Sophia St 145	Anthony bungalow	Berardi, Alex A
1941	Peterborough	Sophia St 149	Anthony bungalow	DeNoble, Anthony
1941	Peterborough	Stewart St 335	Dr Fitzpatrick office / home	Fitzpatrick, W S physician

1937	Peterborough	Stewart St 385	conversion Dr Robert Young, office / home	Young, R J physician
1926	Peterborough	Walkerfield Ave 604	conversion Roper home	Dorrington, D E
1922	Peterborough	Walkerfield Ave 606	Macnamara home	McNamara, T Miss
1928	Peterborough	Walkerfield Ave 608	Doran home	Henwood, E J
1927	Peterborough	Walkerfield Ave 610	Stevenson home	Taylor, Thomas
1918	Peterborough	Water St	J J Duffus: car showroom; bowling; funeral	Duffus Motors; Duffus Recreation Centre
1942	Peterborough	Water St 569	minor renovations	Willey, James H
1937	Peterborough	Water St 904	John Russelle car service station / garage	Russelle's Service Station
1939	Peterborough	Weller St 420	Pearson home	
1942	Peterborough	Weller St 707	Dr Dobson minor renovations	Dobson, H V Dr
1944	Peterborough	Western Ave 1060	Redemptorist Fathers major renovation	Redemptorist Fathers
1925	Ray-Mor	Larder Lake	Private road to mine site (with W. J. Kitts)	
1939	Smith Twp	Chemong Lake	R. Grafstein cottage	
1939	Smith Twp	Chemong Lake	Dr Fitzpatrick cottage	
1930	Smith Twp	Chemong Lake	Harry Florence cottage	
1922	Toronto	?	Moore Park Public School	
1922	Toronto	?	public school ?	
1931	Toronto	Avonwick Gate 5	O'Connor home; Maryvale in Wexford	
1924	Toronto	Bathurst St 60	Laura Secord Candy Factory: original building	
1923	Toronto	Kingston Road 1685	Scarborough Foreign Missionary Society first seminary	

Trent Valley Archives: resources for Construction history

The Trent Valley Archives is best known for its wealth of information on people who lived in central Ontario during the past 200 years. However, our collections are indeed quite varied and we have many archival and library items relating to property, and in particular to the design and construction matters. We have touched on such matters in earlier issues of the *Heritage Gazette* and in exhibits we have prepared for others. These are some of my favourite sources in the Trent Valley Archives; but there are many others.

Sometimes information about places, buildings or events that did not directly touch your ancestors can provide insights into what they might have thought or done in such circumstances. It helps to visualize the scale of the houses in which they lived, or the stores in which they shopped. So much of the material fabric of our cities has disappeared, we need to find ways to be imaginative with what remain.

The Hope fonds contains architectural plans and some details for four or five houses built by Hope, copying from designs in 1880s copies of the *Scientific American Builders' and Architects' section*.

The John Corkery fonds has the minute book of the Peterborough Workingmen's Building and Savings Society, 1889-1947. The secretaries of this society were Peter Henry, John Corkery (from 1894-1947) and James F. Dunn. The Society primarily arranged mortgages for its members.

Martha Kidd fonds has useful information on nearly every house built before 1900 in Peterborough's original boundaries as well as information on important residences and buildings in the city and countryside.

Peterborough County land records provide information on every lot at the time of a transaction such as purchase or mortgage; they are not specific about the buildings.

Gerry Stephenson fonds has considerable information about the building of cottages during the 1960s, particularly on Anstruther Lake. This fonds is also rich in photographs, and contains some photos related to the building of additions to St Joseph's Hospital. Other collections have useful photographs.

The Jack Boreham fonds contains archival items related to James Bogue, contractor, and to John Belcher, architect. Bogue's journal covers 1897-1904; Belcher's documents relate chiefly to the building of the Peterborough Post Office.

Newspaper collections often carry information on buildings for sale, or reports on changes in local streetscapes.

Directories have useful information related to construction, particularly when a series of issues can be consulted, as in our case, from 1940.

Assessment rolls can be very informative because they allow for comparisons of property values; we have posted two assessment rolls (1869 and 1914) on our website www.trentvalleyarchives.com. We get many favourable comments about the quality of the materials on our website; none is better than our directories and assessment rolls which are only available on our website.

The Affordable Peterborough Co-operative fonds, 1954-1961 provides insight into a co-operative housing project.

Publications such as the *Old House Journal*, *Municipal World*, as well as several books in our impressive research library. We have books on local history, architecture, and architects. The titles for much of our library collection is accessible from the website www.trentvalleyarchives.com.

James Moloney fonds contains many reports relating to appraisals of properties in the area. His fonds also contains

publications related to property appraisal, and a solid run of the *Municipal World*.

Trent Glass fonds contains some blueprints of buildings being constructed or modified; we only have a sampling of their plans; they supplied windows and doors to many

building projects. Also we have impressive builders' catalogues from the 1960s.

There are many different ways in which archives can help us link people with their homes and businesses.

Building in Peterborough 1890

Our Building Record – Detailed List of New Buildings Erected in 1890

Daily Examiner, 7 January 1891

[Editor's note: The original article contained information on repair work and on new construction in Ashburnham.]

The Examiner's annual list of the result of building operations of the year is presented at a much later date than usual. The building season; owing to fine weather was much more protracted than usual, and there was no end to the building industry of 1890, except that the end of the year itself. In fact a good deal of building was brought to a standstill by severe frosts, and it is probable that the next season's building operations will be marked by the activity of the closing month of the past season. Last year the total amounts spent in building fell somewhat short of the figures of 1889, but not so decidedly as to mark a loss of faith on the part of citizens as to the future of the town so much as the supply of a demand, and not a building boom, speculative in its nature. The following is as complete a list as could be obtained – any omission that may exist is entirely inadvertent:

Aylmer Street

N. Lush – additions to bakery, A. Rutherford (builder) \$350

J.J. Sheehy – Tenement Residence, 20x26 1/2, two stories, red brick veneer, six rooms, R. Sheehy (contractor) \$600

Thomas Bradburn – Finished a terrace of six houses on Aylmer Street, constructed of red brick, 100 feet long and 32 feet wide, two stories and a half high and mansard with a kitchen 14x14, two stories with each house and each containing seven rooms, James G. Graham (superintendent), James Bogue (stonework), Herb Johnston (plastering), A. Hall (tinwork), \$3000
William Fitzgerald – A dwelling house, 31x33 feet constructed of white brick, two stories high with bay windows furnished in the latest style, containing nine rooms, J. Hayes (stonework), P.J. McNamara (brickwork), W.J. Henry (plastering), Mr. Carton (painting), A. Hall (tinwork), \$1500

Brock Street

Bradburn – A new stable at the Windsor House (T. Giroux, proprietor), 18x34 feet, constructed of red brick and two stories high and a brick shed 71 feet long, James Graham (superintendent), A. Dawson (stone and brickwork), \$600

Barnardo Avenue

Wash. Huffman – A dwelling house 22x28 feet, two stories high, veneered in white brick with square bay 5x10 feet and two story kitchen. The dwelling contains seven rooms, John Hayes (stonework), George Curtis (brickwork), Wash. Huffman (carpenter), George Brown (plastering), \$1000

School Board – Building for gymnasium, James Montgomery (builder), \$400

Boundary Road

George May – Two storey red brick residence, 24x28, seven rooms, halls and closets, Harry Stephens (contractor), J. Hayes (stonework), T.M. McFadden (brickwork), Lewis Spry (tinwork), T. Sabine (plastering), \$1200

Chambers Street

R. Parks – Residence, 1.5 stories high, brick, 22x27 feet with kitchen wing 14x16, seven rooms, James Irwin (builder), \$900

Charlotte Street

Parker – a store, dwelling and dye house. The main building is 27x45 ½ feet and two stories high, constructed of red brick. The front has handsome plate glass windows with coloured glass margins and is surmounted by a tower or dome that gives the building a very handsome appearance. It is well built and Mr. Parker will have a very pretty and convenient place of business. The dye house in the rear is 22x45 ½ feet, substantially constructed of solid brick and is a full two and a half stories high and will give good accommodation to the large business that has faced Mr. Parker to secure larger premises. It is in fact one of the most complete dye works in Canada. Back of the dye house is a large stables and driving shed covered with iron. They are strongly built by William Fitzgerald, contractor and carpenter, John Hayes (stonework), J.J. Hartley (brickwork), W.J. Henry (plastering), R. Carson (painting), and Adam Hall (tinwork), \$3500

W. Snowden – a livery, barn and stable, 105x35 feet, constructed of red brick, two stories high and with iron roof. T. Rutherford (contractor and carpenter), R. Smith (stonework), E. Webb (brickwork), George Fry (painting), \$1600

Cedar Street

J. Crowe – A dwelling house, 21x28 feet of red brick, two stories high with kitchen, containing seven rooms, William Fitzgerald (contractor and carpenter), John Hayes (stonework), J.J. Hartley (brickwork), R. Carton (painting), W.J. Henry (plastering), \$1000

Cambridge Avenue

W.J. Henry – A dwelling house, 22x30 feet, two stories high, plastered on the outside and containing eight rooms. William Fitzgerald (contractor and carpenter), John Hayes (stonework), W.J. Henry (plastering), \$900

Downie Street

Mrs. Carney – Residence, 30x50, two stories and attic, red brick, nine rooms besides conservatory and closets, bath room with hot and cold water, furnace for hot air. McGregor and Frowde (contractor), J. Hayes (stonework and brickwork), P.J. McNamara (plastering), P. McHugh (tinwork), J. Murty (painting), \$27

Edinburgh Street

H.C. Stabler – a workshop 20x30 feet, one and a half stories high with red shed attached. H.C. Stabler (carpenter), \$200

George Street

Thomas Detcher – a dwelling house veneered with red brick 24x27 feet, two stories high and kitchen, seven rooms with halls. N. Mitchell (contractor and carpenter), R. Smith (stonework), George Wallace (brickwork), R. Pollock (plastering), \$1000

Mrs. Birdsall – Three single stores fitted up with plate glass front and fittings, an addition in the rear and the block of buildings repaired and improved. William Langford (contractor), George Wallace (brickwork), D. Kernighan (painting), \$2000

Thomas Bradburn – The store occupied by A. Clegg, furniture and E. Welsh, confectioner, enlarged and improved. An addition was built in the rear 40x40 feet, two stories high constructed of brick. A new front was put in Mr. Clegg's store and both stores were remodelled all through. James G. Graham (superintendent), E. Webb (brickwork), H. Johnston (plastering), \$2500

Thomas Bradburn – improvements in Mr. R. Fair's drygood's store. The store was widened considerably, a new plate glass front put in, a hardwood floor laid, the second storey remodelled, and the whole premises overhauled and improved. James G. Graham (superintendent), \$1000

H.A. Mulhern – An addition to residence 13x32 feet, one story high, constructed of white brick. Mr. Mulhern also had a new and handsome fence about 900 feet long constructed around his residence with large gates; had the house overhauled and alterations and improvements made in it and had considerable other work in the way of improvements done on the premises. W. Fitzgerald (contractor), Improvements in Housing and Fencing; J.J. Hartley (brickwork), J. Law (painting), W.J. Henry (plastering), \$2100

Town of Peterborough – The new market building was completed this year. This building which has five stores on the ground floor and the market hall on the second, has been described in these columns. T. Rutherford (contractor and carpenter), John Hayes (stonework), E. Webb (brickwork), T. Sabine (plastering), Sharp and Smith (painting). The total cost was about \$26,000 of which there was expended this year, \$13,000.

Public Works Department – Custom Buildings – the foundation walls are only completed this fall. Size of building is 35x50 with return of one story, 20x30. J.E. Askwith (contractor), J.E. Belcher (engineer), T. Rutherford (superintendent for contractor), J. Hayes (stonework), \$20,000, expended this fall - \$3000

Gilmour Street

John Dougan – has excavated and finished foundation work for two story brick tenement, 22x40, but was stopped by severe weather from proceeding. \$1800.

John Babb – Tenement residence, 26x38, two stories, red brick, solid wall, ten rooms with closets. J. Babb (builder), \$2000

Thomas J. Moore – Two tenement residences, red brick, veneered, each 20x28. T. J. Moore (builder), H. McDonald (stonework), T.M. McFadden (brickwork). Cost each \$1000 - \$2000 total

D.C. Dawe – Residence for self, red brick, two stories, 25x32, seven rooms, closets. J. Smith (stonework), T. M. McFadden (brickwork), R. Carton (painting), R. Pollock (plastering). \$1200

James Sheehy – Residence, two stories, red brick with octagon front with pediment and gable, 32x33, with two storey brick kitchen to be erected in spring. Twelve rooms, R. Sheehy (contractor for stone and brick work), carpentry day work; James Murty (tinwork), J.P. Shevlin (painting). \$2000

Hunter Street

James Paterson – Additions to residence. McGregor and Frowde, builders. Cost \$400

St. John's Church – Fence in front of the church property – stone. R. Smith (contractor), \$75

Inverlea Street

H.C. Stabler – On Inverlea Street, a dwelling house, 22x28 feet, two stories high with kitchen, veneered with brick, containing six rooms, \$1100.

King Street

W. Rudkins – Residence, octagon front, two stories, solid brick. Eight rooms, closets, cellar under all. Hot water heating (Brooks Manufacturing Co.), McGregor and Frowde (contractors), P. McNamara (brickwork and stonework), P. McHugh (plastering), J.P. Shevlin (painting), J. Murty (tin work), \$2000

London Street

T. Bradburn – Improvements, alterations and repairs to residence and hot water furnace for heating put in, James G. Graham (superintendent), A. Hall (furnace), \$1600

Dickson Company – Storehouse for supplies used in lumbering operations, 35x60. Three stories with stone foundation, T.M. McFadden (stonework), Dickson Company (carpentry), W. J. Martin (foreman), \$1000

Louis Street

Thomas Bradburn – Two double dwelling houses, constructed of brick, 39x32, two and a half stories high with kitchen, eight rooms in each house. James G. Graham (superintendent), James McGregor (stonework), E. Webb (brickwork), P. McHugh (plastering), A. Hall (tinwork), Cost \$1000 each, for a total of \$4000.

Paterson Street

A Rutherford – four tenement dwellings each two stories, brick, 22x32, with kitchen wings. Cost \$5000.

Park Street

Edison Company – Building for machineshop for their works, 100x273 feet in area; red brick, side walls 30 feet to plate, 63 feet to gables, truss and roof. The brick walls are laid upon footings of solid limestone masonry of the most substantial and durable character. Plans for building prepared in general manager's office. Engineer in charge, Mr. Juline Meyers; cost estimated at \$15000

P.J. McNamara – two story brick residence, 21x39, with kitchen and woodshed, A. Rutherford (carpentry), P.J. McNamara (brickwork), J. Garside (plastering), George Fry (painting), J. Murty (tinwork), \$900

R. Clinkscale – Two storey white brick residence for self, 32x32, seven rooms, cellar under all, hard and soft water – a most complete and tidy residence, \$1800

John Baker – Frame dwelling, 20x28, 1.5 stories. James Montgomery (contractor), R. Smith (stonework), William Henry (plastering), George Fry (painting), \$700

James O'Brien – A dwelling house constructed of red brick, one and a half stories, 21x28 feet and containing six rooms. N. Nicholls (contractor and carpenter), J.J. Hartley (brickwork), R. Pollock (plastering), D. Kernighan (painting), \$800

Rubidge Street

St. John's School Room – 30x60 feet, entrance porch (12x28), very tasteful design of the Romanesque order, stone basement, red brick structure. Interior finish – barrel ceiling, finished in oiled pine, exposed hammer beams, wainscoted from floor to height of six feet, brickwork inside tuck pointed. J. E Belcher (architect), A. Rutherford (contractor), James Bogue (stonework), P.J. McNamara (brickwork), George Fry (painting), \$2000

W.H. VanEvert – Residence for self, 28x40, two stories, red brick, eight rooms besides halls and closets etc. McGregor and Frowde (contractors), R. Smith (stonework), J. Murty (tinwork), \$2000

George Elliott – Dwelling for self, two and a half stories, white brick, 34x36, contains ten rooms with hot and cold water, closets, gas throughout, city water, heated by furnace. George Elliott (builder), R. Smith (stonework), Ed. Webb (brickwork), R. Carton (painting), George Hutchinson (tinwork), \$3500

Peter Simons – Residence for self, red brick, double wall, two stories, 22x42 and kitchen wing. Ten rooms and cellar, bathrooms and closets. Hard and soft water, furnace etc. James Hayes (contractor), George Ross (brickwork), William Henry (plastering), John Simons (painting), \$2000

Peter Simons – Tenement dwelling to be erected alongside the above building, 22x30 and kitchen wing, seven rooms. C. Park (contractor), \$1100

William Fowler – A dwelling house 31x31 feet, two stories, veneered with white brick containing eight rooms, halls and with an octagon iron bay window. Thomas McKee (contractor and carpenter), R. Smith (stonework), Adam Dawson (brickwork), R. Pollock (plastering), D. Carson (painting), \$1800

Reid Street

William Hamilton Manufacturing Co – Rebuilding machine and pattern boiler shop. Machine shop 34x74, pattern shop 32x76, boiler shop 20x50, all of brick. A. Rutherford (contractor), P.J. McNamara (brickwork), Adam Hall (iron roofing), \$5000

William Hamilton Manufacturing Company – Chimney to works 15x15 feet at base, 6.5x6.5 at top, 100 feet in height. Seventy thousand brick were needed. A. Rutherford (contractor), P.J. McNamara (brickwork), M. Hayes (stonework), \$1200

Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation – Addition to Convent building, 40x54 feet, two stories with lofty basement, foundation and basement wall of rock-face. Longford stone, neatly pointed and of solid red brick, 14 inch. The basement is well-lighted, brick floored and contains the Smead-Dowd heating and ventilation apparatus for the building. The addition contains an entrance separate from the main building, opening on a hall of 9x26 feet. The building contains a first and second floor, two large airy, well-lighted and well-ventilated class rooms. Mr. J.E. Belcher (architect), Henry Carveth (contractor), James Bogue (stonework), P.J. McNamara (brickwork), James Murty (tinwork), George Brown (plastering), T. Carveth (painting), \$3000

W. McElwain – Brick tenement residence, two stories 23x30 with kitchen wing. Nine rooms, with closets. W. McElwain (contractor), William Drake (stonework), Robert Pollock (plastering), Ralph Carton (painting), George Hutchinson (tinwork), \$1550

Stewart Street

Harry Stephens – tenement dwelling, 22x28. A. Dawson (stonework), H. Hiller (brickwork), \$1000

William Reilly – Red brick residence, octagon front, with pediment and gable, double walls, 30x45 feet, two stories with floored attic, cellar under all closets, bath rooms etc. Heated with hot water, gas in every room. James Montgomery (contractor), P. McNamara (stonework and brickwork), W.J. Henry (plumbing), James Smith (gas fitting), James Noble (heating – Brooks Manufacturing Co.), J. Murty (tinwork), John Kelly (grading and sodding), \$3600

W. G. Ferguson – A brick barn, stable and driving shed, 85x20 feet, one and a half stories with concrete floor and fitted up in first class style. William Langford (contractor), R. Smith (stonework), E. Webb (brickwork), \$1300

Sherbrooke Street

R. S. Davidson – a dwelling that was partially destroyed by fire – rebuilt. William Langford (contractor), \$150

B Laroque – A home rebuilt that had been partially burned. William Langford (contractor), \$150

Simcoe Street

James Stevenson – Repairs to Lock Works premises. James Montgomery (superintendent), \$900

H. Lebrun – a handsome residence 37x44 feet, two stories high, veneered with white brick with two octagon bay windows the full height of the building and containing nine rooms, halls etc. This residence has a fine appearance and has fireplaces in several rooms, is heated with hot air, lighted with gas and has all conveniences. H.C. Stabler (contractor and carpenter), John Smith

(stonework), George Rose (brickwork), W.J. Henry (plastering), R. Carton (painting), George Hutchinson (furnace), G.S. Noble (plumbing), \$3000

Smith Street

H. Lush – a dwelling house 21x29, two stories high, veneered with brick and bay windows of full height. James Graham (contractor), R. Smith (stonework), George Brown (plastering), D. Kernighan (painting), \$1200

H. Nesbitt – a fine residence 20x37, two stories high, constructed of solid brick, with octagon bay windows and containing nine rooms, also frame driving shed. H.C. Stabler (carpenter), A. Dawson (stone and brickwork), W.J. Henry (plastering), Thomas Goldie (painting), \$2200

Townsend Street

H. Stephens – two story shop and dwelling building for George Minorgan, 35x40, red brick, two stories. Spencely and Chapman (stonework), H. Hillier (brickwork), \$1300

Water Street

Dr. Halliday – An addition to his office and dispensary of octagon shape and constructed of brick. William Fitzgerald (contractor), \$150

William Langford – a dwelling house 20x33, two stories high, veneered with white brick containing seven rooms and halls.

William Langford (carpenter), R. Smith (stonework), George Wallace (brickwork), \$1400

William Langford – A large and handsome residence 34x40 feet, two stories high of solid brick, containing ten rooms and with two square windows and side entrance. R. Smith (stonework), George Wallace (brickwork), William Langford (carpenter), \$2200

The Court House – On this building considerable work was done. An addition was built constructed of stone and brick 22x45 feet and two stories high. The Council Chamber and Division Court Room was enlarged and the ceiling raised and a new beautiful panelled ceiling put in the room entirely remodelled and refurnished. A new entrance and stairway was also constructed. The windows in the whole front of the building had new sash and plate glass put in. An office was also fitted up for the Public School Inspector, and the Sheriff's Office and the Registry Office received improvements. A new furnace was put in and necessary piping done. William Langford (contractor), R. Smith (stonework), George Wallace (brickwork), Adam Hall (furnace and piping), \$3600

William Hartley – a dwelling house 21x28 feet, two stories high and with bay window and kitchen, containing seven rooms. Thomas McKee (contractor and carpenter), R. Smith (stonework), Adam Dawson (brickwork), R. Carton (painting), R. Pollock (plastering), \$1100

H.C. Stabler – two dwelling houses 21x28 feet, two stories high with kitchen, veneered with red brick containing six rooms each. H.C. Stabler (carpenter), John Smith (stonework), George Rose (brickwork), W. J. Henry (plastering), R. Carton (painting), \$1100 each

H.C. Stabler – a dwelling house 22x44 feet, two stories high, veneered with red brick and containing eight rooms, two stairways etc. H.C. Stabler (carpenter), John Smith (stonework), George Rose (brickwork), W.J. Henry (plastering), R. Carton (painting), \$1500

F. Mason – a seed and flower shop 18x50 feet, two stories high constructed of red brick, with plate glass front and well fitted up. Also a greenhouse 52x24 feet with brick wall and between 1700 and 1800 feet of glass. J.J. Hartley (brick and stonework), H.C. Stabler (carpenter), R. Carton (painting), James Johnston (plastering), D. Belleghem (shop fittings), George Hutchinson (tinwork), Adam Hall (boiler and plumbing), J.D. Baptie (frames for glass), \$2000

Dr. Carmichael – residence and office constructed of red brick. This building is novel in design and presents a very handsome appearance. It is 40x42 feet and two and a half stories high. There is a fine brick porch at the front entrance, a balcony on the third storey and a pretty observatory on the third overlooking the Court House park, while the front windows are of heavy plate glass. The entrance to the surgery and dispensary is on Brock Street and these offices are neat and convenient. There are thirteen rooms in all, besides a wide and airy main hall, handsome staircase and halls and closets. It is furnished with hot water for heating purposes, lighted with gas and has all modern improvements and conveniences. The building is substantially constructed, well finished and is an ornament to that part of town. William Blackwell (architect), William Fitzgerald (contractor and carpenter), John Hayes (stonework), J.J. Hartley (brickwork), W. J. Henry (plastering), R. Carton (painting), J. G. Noble (heating and plumbing), Adam Hall (tinwork), \$3500

Edward Green – a mansard roof 110 feet long constructed on a block of residences and other improvements. William Fitzgerald (contractor and carpenter), T. McFadden (brickwork), W.G. Bain & Co. (tinwork), \$650

Thomas Moher – a dwelling house under construction 32x34 feet, two stories high, with two bay windows the full height of the house. R. Smith (stonework), William Fitzgerald (carpentry), \$1600

R. Shera – Veneering dwelling house with brick, building verandah and other improvements. George Rose (brickwork), carpentry by owner, \$200

Westcott Street

James Gillespie – Residence for self 19x27, one and a half storey, W. McElwain (contractor), \$850

Walnut Street

William Fitzgerald – a dwelling house 22x30, two stories high, constructed of red brick with kitchen, containing eight rooms, John Hayes (stonework), J.J. Hartley (brickwork), William Fitzgerald (carpentry), W.J. Henry (plastering), \$1900

Waterford Street

Mrs. James Kellott – two storey red brick dwelling with kitchen wing same height. R. Smith (stonework), P.J. McNamara (brickwork), \$1200

The New Customs Building

Peterborough's Handsome New Tax Mill Ready for Occupation – Short Description of the Structure – A Credit to the Contractor and Architect

Peterborough Examiner, 9 June 1892

The beautiful new government building for Customs and Inland Revenues offices on the corner of George and Charlotte Streets is now completed and ready for use and it will be occupied the first of July. The building presents a fine appearance as it stands, its solidity of structure, the heavy circular stone window heads, handsome roof, ornate chimney places and gables, and the general harmony of outline make the structure an attractive one. The style of architecture is a mixture of Tudor and Queen Anne. The building is 51 x 3.5 feet in area, three stories with basement and the examining warehouse annex is 17x31 feet, one story. The foundation is three feet in thickness with four feet footing is of rubble stone, with one stone facing terminated above with a cut stone bevelled string course. The superstructure is of red brick, tuck pointed in black; the walls 20 inches in thickness. The roof is of slate with galvanized iron décor.

The main entrance is on George Street. A flight of wide solid cut stone steps (with similar steps at the rear entrance on Charlotte Street) admits to a vestibule which opens upon the main hall, lighted by a large double window at one end with private offices on either side, each 12x17, and terminates in double doors at the public offices for the customs department to which this floor is devoted. Passing through the staircase hall, the Customs examining warehouse is reached with two entrances, one on

Charlotte and another with double doors for the reception of packages at the eastern end. Off this room is the toilet room fitted with hard woods and with Demcrest closets.

The second floor is a counterpart of the first except that the space representing the vestibule is occupied for the toilet rooms fitted up like those on the first floor. This floor will contain the weights and measures, gas inspection office, a private office and the office of the collector of Inland Revenue. The gas inspection officer contains a vault the continuation of that on the floor below.



The third storey contains the apartments of the janitor, kitchen, parlour and three bedrooms, toilet rooms etc. The basement is large and airy with six inch concrete and cement floors, plaster ceiling and whitewashed walls, and space for a steam heating furnace. The stairways are especially elegant with birch treads and risers, filled ash newels, balusters and handrails and self-supporting landings. The floors are of oiled birch. The inner doors have headlights provided

with adjustable Haverrack transom holders. The windows are of double glass, with amber-tinted cathedral glass circular heads. The building is piped for city water and gas, and is complete, and solid and substantial in every respect though there are exteriorly some details to attend to.

The spring blocks of the window arches are to be carved, granolithic pavements is to be laid in front of the building and an elegant stone fence, with with cutstone openings and post is to be placed from the north exit corner to the Balmoral Hotel building.

The building as far as the contractor's work goes is completed, but the office furnishings are not yet ready. Only a day or two ago, Mr. Thompson, inspector for this district was in town, and in company with the Collector of Customs, Mr. Clementi, visited the building to prepare requisitions for office furnishings. The architect of the new building was Mr. Thomas Faller, Ottawa, with Mr. J.E. Belcher, consulting architect; contractor: Mr. John E. Arkwith, Mr. Thomas Rutherford doing the work for him, Stonework: Mr. John Hayes, Carpentry: Mr. T. Rutherford, Brickwork: Mr. Ed. Webb, Plastering: Mr. Thomas xxx, Painting: Mr. Samuel Sharp, Plumbing and Galvanized Iron Work: Mr. Adam Hall. The building is a credit to the architect, contractor and all the parties concerned.

Trent Valley Archives,

Fairview Heritage Centre,

567 Carnegie Avenue

Peterborough Ontario K9L 1N1

705-745-4404 www.trentvalleyarchives.com

admin@trentvalleyarchives.com

Without archives there is no history

THE OPENING OF THE LAKEFIELD CEMENT WORKS

John Marsh

One of the most impressive industrial relics in the Peterborough County landscape is the Lakefield Cement works. Even now the chimney and silos are impressive, but consider what an achievement it was to build them in the distant past. Not surprisingly, the opening of the works was an occasion for much celebration. A banquet was held at the Craig House (later known as the Lakefield Hotel and the Ship and Shore) on 31 January 1902. "The spacious dining hall was splendidly decorated for the occasion with flags, flowers and mottoes, among which were displayed "God Save the King," "Eat, Drink and be Merry" – an injunction which was fully followed." The banquet attracted numerous distinguished guests from the Peterborough area, elsewhere in Ontario and the United States. The company was represented by: J.M.Kilbourn, President, R.P.Butchart, Vice-President, from Owen Sound, the Directors E.Bravender from Syracuse, New York, and H.P. Smith, and J.H.Kilbourn, Secretary-Treasurer.

Was one of your Lakefield ancestors at the banquet? The local hosts included:

John Hull, J.P.Strickland, J.R.Fraser M.D., A Northey, R.C.Strickland, W.M.Graham, T.H.Benson, Wesley Sherin, W.H.Casement, J.H.McWilliams, C.D.Crawford, A.J.Kidd, L.Payne, A.Jory, W.Calder, J.F.Moore, Dr.D.Fraser, F.R.S.Barlee, F.J.Lillicrap, J.W.Ridpath, F.M.Delafosse, W.A.Evans, J.H.Sherin, C.S.Tanner, J.G.Kelly, W.J.Baptie, E.A.Tanner, Geo.Baptie, J.J.Crowe, J.L.Madill, J.S.Madill, J.W.Stewart, O.A.Langley, G.B.Hilliard, J.E.Richardson, C.Young, W.E.Brooks, W.F.Trude, Fred McWilliams, George Hendren, A.E.McGinnis.

Or one of your Peterborough ancestors?

Hon.J.R.Stratton, Mayor Denne, Adam Hall, R.R.Hall, D.W.Dumble, W.G.Ferguson, W.H.Meldrum, and R.B.Rogers C.E.

There were numerous speeches, responses, toasts and songs, with much mutual congratulation and applause. The Peterborough Daily Examiner devoted a page to report in detail on the event. This provides insight into the significance accorded the works and more general attitudes and expectations at the start of a new century.

A variety of factors favoured the location of the works in Lakefield. First, the resources needed to make cement by the wet process were available locally. Limestone could be quarried nearby, along Highway 134, marl was available, a little further east at Buckley's Lake, and blue clay could be brought in from Lily Lake, just west of Peterborough. The Otonabee River and the hydro dams at Lakefield and Young's Point could provide a source of electric power. Mr. J. M. Kilbourn. President of the company, also noted

the proximity of the Trent Valley Canal "as a factor in the successful and more profitable prosecution of his industry." However, he stated, that initially "the railway would be the chief partner in the company, as represented by what it would realize in freights till the canal was completed." The Grand Trunk Railway Company was willing to sell a 13 acre lot on which to construct the works. Finally, the Lakefield Village Council offered the Lakefield Portland Cement Company \$10,000 and a ten year municipal tax exemption.

Kilbourn also noted that "in all his considerable experience he had never found a higher class of labourers and mechanics than he had found in Lakefield." Furthermore, the company had procured its water power machinery from the William Hamilton Company of Peterborough, and its work "had no superior for completeness, solidity and general excellence from top to bottom." Clearly, "Mr Kilbourn believed in patronizing home industry." Mayor Denne of Peterborough congratulated the company and the Lakefield Council, and hoped that Peterborough and Lakefield would soon "be united by an electric railway, as they were now by the Trent Valley Canal."

At this time "there appeared to be no end to the uses to which cement could be put." It was suggested that "perhaps the Trent Valley Canal was the pioneer in new uses – to a large extent – for cement. We had our locks, dams and bridge piers built up with concrete in which cement was the essential factor. We had the only lift lock on this continent and the largest in the world owing existence to cement. Cement for street pavements or sidewalks was becoming the universal material. The town of Peterborough had laid several miles of granulitic pavement and he believed it was the policy of this Council to replace all wooden walks requiring reconstruction with cement walks."

It was anticipated that "the market would be unlimited, for Canada has just entered in earnest on a new stage of development." To emphasise that "the use of cement was growing by leaps and bounds" various statistics were presented. In 1891, the US produced 154,813 barrels of cement, which increased to 8 million barrels in 1901, a 20 fold increase in 10 years. In 1899, Ontario produced 70,117 barrels (valued at \$136,749), which increased in 1900 to 132,154 barrels (valued at \$698,015). This resulted in wages of \$198,903. In the last 15 months the Lakefield works had paid out in wages \$80,000.

In the fall of 1900 a railway was constructed to Buckley's Lake, where the company had purchased 800 acres of marl lands. By December a huge digger, steam engine and cars were ready to excavate and transport the marl. The company also acquired 20 acres of clay land at Lily Lake, but no information has come to light on whether this resource was exploited. Construction of the works itself began, with the laying of a foundation stone, on 23 November 1900. By Spring of 1901, a cement office building had been built at the intersection of Division and Oxford Streets. The works was finished by the end of the year, and became operational on 18 December.

Mr. Stratton remarked that "perhaps nothing has made a greater revolution in certain manufacturing and building lines than the largely increased modern uses to which cement has been subjected." He went on to say that "this fact had a bearing upon the one great need of Older Ontario, which was local manufacturing industries. We had reached a point, as regards farming, where the farms had become too small. Our farms were not large enough to subdivide and therefore farmer's sons, when they grew up, must seek pastures new either in the Northwest or in Northern Ontario. We therefore needed manufacturing industries other than those confined to towns and cities to give employment.

The project, Stratton stated, "turned into a form of wealth natural resources which, in their natural condition, (were) worse than worthless blots on the landscape of a beautiful country... It was a great achievement to turn into a bank account hundreds of acres of stagnant marsh which have for ages been the home of the bullfrog and malaria – to replace these with an article of commerce which would in its production give large employment to labour and capital and stir into new life numerous other commercial and manufacturing activities of a permanent character."

D.W. Dumble, President of the Peterborough Board of Trade, said that he once thought "that the Otonabee River would be lined from Lakefield to Peterborough with factories but the modern mode of transmission of power permitted of the centralization of factories, and he hoped in the course of time to see Peterborough and Lakefield, in a manufacturing sense, the Lowell of Canada."

As the banquet progressed toasts were offered to a wide array of interests including: Our Agricultural Interests, the Learned Professions, The Ladies, and The Press. They were interspersed with anthems and songs, including "God Save the King," "A Song for all the Britons" and, for the benefit of Mr. Kilbourn, "He's a Jolly Good Fellow." Salutations turned to generosity when Mr. G.B. Hilliard of the Strickland Canoe Company, remarked that "as Mr. Kilbourn was going soon to the Holy Land, if he wanted to paddle his canoe on the River Jordan, the Company would furnish the craft."

It was optimistically suggested that the works "are in their present condition only a beginning, for when the intentions of the promoters are brought to maturity they will be increased to many times their present capacity..." As forecast, the works were expanded in 1903 so it could produce 1,000 barrels of cement daily. The Quaker Oats Company in Peterborough became a major customer.

In 1909, the eight plants, including the Lakefield one, that comprised the Portland Cement Company were merged as the Canada Cement Company. However, in August 1910, the Lakefield works were closed. This has been attributed to excessive payments to promoters and the rising cost of coal, but there may be other explanations. The works reopened but closed again in 1914. In 1920, it was anticipated that the works would open again but using a dry method of production that required less coal and could produce 3,000 barrels per day. In 1921 the company began renovating the works, and then built the huge concrete silos that remain to this day. The large 300 foot smoke stack, that still dominates the site, was built in 1932. However that same year the works closed permanently, perhaps

largely due to the Depression, but the specific reasons require further investigation.

The banquet to honour the opening of the Lakefield Portland Cement Works in 1902 reveals the spirit of the times. It was an age of optimism. Those "banquetted" had great expectations, that have largely been realized, for a new multi-purpose resource – cement. They had a vision of industrial growth in the Peterborough-Lakefield area. The works were said to be indicative of "the forward march of the village in an industrial direction." They saw the potential of railways, the canal and electricity. There was a pride in the skills of the local labour force, though limited concern for worker safety. It was recognised that local farms could not provide sufficient jobs for young people, so industry was required to enable them to stay in the area. While private enterprise was exalted, the Lakefield Council saw fit to ensure the establishment of the works by subsidizing them. Wetlands, long considered useless and responsible for "ague" or malaria, were now envisaged as a "bank account" of useful industrial materials. One speaker emphasised "the conservation of our water resources as an indispensable requisite of our manufacturing prosperity." However, no concern was expressed about environmental impacts on land, water, wildlife and air. The works were a visible symbol of progress not an ugly, polluting intrusion in a place increasingly devoted to tourism. Had there been a banquet upon the closure of the works, three decades later, no doubt the speeches would have revealed different and less optimistic attitudes and expectations. However some of the statements made in 1902 even resonate today.

After the final closure of the works some buildings were demolished and the scrap steel sold. The quarries that supplied the limestone are abandoned, gradually being reclaimed by nature and occasionally frequented by fossil hunters. In 1967, it was reported that at Buckley Lake the channels excavated for marl had "filled with water" and "vast beds of wild rice have sprung up covering almost the whole area except these channels where pond lilies float in the murky waters. It is a natural paradise for ducks and frogs..." But in Lakefield the silos and smoke stack remain as part of our industrial heritage. An electric railway from Peterborough to Lakefield never materialized, but River Road and the Rotary Trail afford attractive access to the site. This spectacular industrial heritage should be protected and advantage taken of its education, and tourism possibilities.

References: "Banquetted at Lakefield." *Peterborough Examiner*, 1 February 1902; Edmison, J.A. (Ed.) *Through the Years in Douro, 1822-1967*. Newson, Peterborough, 1967; "Lakefield Plant of the Canada Cement Company May Re-Open." *Peterborough Examiner*, Peterborough, 11 September 1920; "Lakefield Proposes to Reopen Negotiations with the Cement Company for Resuming Work." *Peterborough Examiner*, Peterborough, 9 April 1925; *Peterborough Examiner*, December 7, 1900; "The Cement Works." *Nelson's Falls to Lakefield: A History of the Village*, Lakefield Historical Society, 1999.



Portland Cement Works, Lakefield (TVA, Martha Kidd fonds)

Building with Bricks., Cement and Clay

City's First Concrete Block Houses Built By Fred Tuggey in 1904-05

Peterborough Examiner, 26 April 1958

TVA, Don Cournoyea Collection

[Editor's note. Fred Tuggey built urns and mounds for local city parks, and in a recent feature in the Heritage Gazette, It was thought he might have build the fountain of which we had a picture.]

The first houses built of concrete blocks in Peterborough were the work of Fred Tuggey in 194-1905.

He came out from Reading, England, in March 1904 as an experienced bricklayer, but as one of the little ironies of life he had to turn his hand to the building material that was as new to him as it was to Peterborough.

This week [April 1958] Mr Tuggey found a photograph of one of the houses on Water St north, near the Hilliard farm and the old isolation hospital.

"I thought it might be of some interest to people, showing when and where the first of the new blocks were used in Peterborough, and how they have stood up for more than half a century," Mr Tuggey said.

"I had a job for awhile at the CGE and then worked for the city on the first concrete sidewalks that were being laid that season of 1904 in the George-Dublin section. I had rented a house on Division Street from Thomas McKee, a carpenter, and a very fine man. The town council of that time employed him as a part-time assessor with Thomas McGrath, a painter. William Aldrich was another assessor.

"Mr McKee bought a machine for making concrete blocks. It cost him \$500. He lived on Dublin Street and his yard was near mine. One day he asked me if I thought I could lay those blocks instead of brick, and I told him I could. But, I was working on the sidewalks, doing the finishing, at \$1.75 a day, and that was 25 cents more than the others were getting. Jack Thimbeck was the boss and Harry Evans the street commissioner.

"The first house of the new concrete blocs was at 633 Aylmer Street, south of Edinburgh, now owned by Andrew Foley. Mr McKee had two stonemasons on that job, real good tradesmen, but he said their wages were more than he could afford to pay. He knew I was a bricklayer from the time I rented his house on Division Street.

"About a week after he had asked me the first time, he came back and wanted to know if I had decided to go with him. Mr McKee suggested the two of us go to Havelock where a house of concrete blocks had been built. So, on 12 July 1904, the two of us took the noon train. We had plenty of time to look it over, and he asked me again if I could do a job like that.

"I told him I felt sure that I could. When we came home, he paid me the day's wage I would have earned from the city. Two days later I told him I'd work for him.

So, the Aylmer Street house was finished, and then we went to the Water Street place.”

The cement was bought from the Canada Cement mill at Lakefield, was mixed with sand and sufficient water to hold the two ingredients together.



House built by Fred Tuggey, Water Street north of Parkhill. Elwood Jones

“The blocks were laid as veneer. John Higgins had the contract to build the Water Street house for a man named Mullan, and had Mr McKee make the blocks. I laid them. The sand came from the rear of the lot. Hilliard farm is on the higher ground above the street level.”

Mr Tuggey said he built those two houses in 1904. “Mr McKee wanted me to stay with, paid my wages through the winter, and wouldn’t take any rent for that season. In the spring we built a house on Water Street, north of Parkhill Road for William Hartley, a superintendent at the Auburn Woollen Mills.”

“The blocks were all hand-made in the McKee machine. The cement was bought in car lots, about 200 to 225 barrels, at \$1.75 a barrel of four bags. They were unloaded on the lot at the rear of the big house owned by James Bogue at the corner of Dublin Street and Aylmer Street.”

That is the Tuggey contribution to the story of the development of the building industry in this city. It was only incidental, but the manufacture of concrete blocks has grown into large proportions as compared with the handmade products of Tom McKee, with occasional help from Fred Tuggey. The first blocks were tamped into the mould of the machine that was bought from a manufacturer in London, Ontario. The second machine was purchased by Taylor and Hall and Mr Tuggey say they had him show them how the blocks were turned out in the simple process.

The *Examiner* story was accompanied by a 1904 photo of the concrete brick house on Water Street near Langton Street under construction. The caption for that photo read:

CONCRETE BLOCK HOUSES – Concrete block houses first appeared in Peterborough in 1904. Thomas McKee, carpenter and assessor, was the maker of the blocks. He engaged Fred Tuggey to lay the blocks as veneer walls on three houses. The first was at 633 Aylmer Street North; the second shown in this picture was on Water Street North, near Langton Street. The men in the picture from the left: Mr Tuggey, Tom McKee; third unknown; John Higgins, carpenter and Ben Johnston, painter, on the ladder. The blocks were 32 x 10 x 9 inches. The third house was built in 1905.

Cement Brick as Building Material

A New Departure in the Manufacture of this Product Promises to Prove Satisfactory, Messrs. W. Taylor and Company Operating a Plant

Peterborough Examiner, 15 September 1904

The industrial development of Peterborough which is apparent to all who give the matter a moment’s thought is not confined wholly to the establishment of new manufacturing concerns, or the advent of business enterprise, but perhaps the most satisfactory evidence of this development is found in the enlargement of the concerns already in existence, for this proves that those manufacturers already here have found that they conduct their business in such a manner as to produce satisfactory returns, consequently are enlarging their plants in preparation for increased business.

One of such concerns is that of William Taylor and Co. manufacturers of cement pipes and blocks, a company

of comparatively recent origin, but one which during the months since it started business has had a most satisfactory record. It is now branching out from the somewhat limited sphere in which work was at first confined, to the manufacture of cement bricks, something entirely new to the town, and almost equally to all other parts of the province. The use of cement as building material has grown wonderfully in the recent years and apparently the limit has not yet been reached.

It was but a short time ago that the *Examiner* chronicled the inauguration of the manufacture of cement building blocks, and now following hard upon it is that of bricks for the same purpose. A huge machine for the manufacture of

these bricks has been installed in the works of the company mentioned above on Victoria Avenue and yesterday a test run of the plant was made which was found to work satisfactorily. The machine is known as the McIntosh brick machine and was manufactured in Goderich Ontario where two other machines manufactured by the same concern were made, although that installed in the local plant is the only one of its kind in existence and embodies many improvements suggested by the operation of its two predecessors.

Mr. W. Miners, one of the inventors of the machine with an assistant are here to install the plant and put it in successful operation. Yesterday afternoon a test run of four hours was

made and the result of the run was the manufacture of 9520 brick, the daily output of the machine when in operation 10 hours each day will be in the neighbourhood of 24,000 brick. The plant is almost automatic and it is stated that brick equal in every way to the ordinary clay product and superior in many can be manufactured to sell at a price very little if any higher than the latter. One great advantage claimed for the new brick is that it is perfectly uniform in size, while with the clay article this is impossible, and if a wall is not as good looking as the owner would like to see it, the builder's excuse is that the "bricks were not even." This will be overcome in the cement brick although one objection raised by a bricklayer was that it was too uniform and consequently would require greater care in building and an attendant advance in the cost of laying. This is an objection however, which to the ordinary lay mind seems a misnomer and the manufacturers characterize it as absurd.

The process of manufacturing is rather an interesting one to witness. The sand, previously screened, is elevated by a bucket elevator to the

second story of the building, where it is dumped into a receptacle which forms one half of the mixer, the other half containing the cement. The sand and cement are then automatically mixed, the machine being so arranged that it will mix the sand and cement in pre-determined proportions. The mixed sand and cement, by a screw conveyor, is taken to the point directly over a spout leading to the machine, and enroute is sprinkled with sufficient water to render it in the proper condition to adhere.

The mixture is sent through a chute to the machine, and automatically fills a tray containing eight moulds. These moulds are 5 3/4 inches deep and as the tray is shifted by means of cams under the press, the latter descends into the moulds forming the brick, and applying a pressure of about 280 tons, compressing the mixture from 5 3/4 inches in height to 4 inches. Thus eight bricks are made with each revolution of the machine, which makes about five revolutions per minute, running ordinarily. As the bricks are formed, they are conveyed to the drying shed, one man at the end of the conveyor, placing them into the racks, where they

are allowed to remain for 24 hours and then placed in the open air for a short time, when they are ready to be put into use for building purposes. The machine itself, which is a ponderous affair weighs 7 1/2 tons and is driven by a 20 h.p electric motor. The product seems all that can be desired and whether increasing popularity of the cement for building purposes, these bricks should prove a valuable addition to the present building materials in use.

**Trent Valley
Archives**
Fairview Heritage Centre
567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough Ontario
K9L 1N1

705-745-4404
www.trentvalleyarchives.com
admin@trentvalleyarchives.com
Without archives there is no history!

Real Estate and Building

Eileen Sklar
Peterborough Examiner, 9 October 1954

The 325 houses built in 1948 and 1949 by the Central Housing and Mortgage Corporation and presently being rented can now be purchased by the occupying tenants.

Houses are located on Gillespie, Hawley, Little, McKellar, Monaghan Rd., O'Connell and Rose Sts. (in the south end), Morrow, Montgomery, Morphet (by the locks) and Ludgate, Welsh, Simmons and Watts (in east city.)

Letters have been sent to tenants advising them that they may purchase the house. Tenants will be given six months to decide on purchase.

Peterborough is the first place in Ontario where rental income houses built by CMHC will be sold.

Houses are now being rented by veterans and can only be sold to people presently occupying them.

However, if they are not sold when they do become vacant they will be available to the next highest point veteran. CMHC has a system (approved by the Canadian Legion) of pointing all applicants, whereby the applicant's service in Canada and overseas, number of children, his financial responsibilities and his present living accommodations are taken into consideration.

NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS

The local branch of CMHC arrived in the sales position after negotiating two agreements with the municipality during the summer.

Effective Sept. 1, the new agreement replaces two previous ones drawn up in 1946 and 1949 respecting construction and rental of houses on land in the city.

The main point of the new agreement is that the city will receive full taxes on all houses sold and when a project is 50 per cent sold out city will receive full taxes on remaining rentals.

Previously CMHC has paid in lieu of taxes \$70 for four room bungalows and \$75 for the storey-and-a-half houses each year. Now it will pay \$82.60 for the smaller house and \$88.50 for the latter.

With the increase of taxes rents are raised accordingly, which comes to about \$1.50 per month. Thus rents are now between \$36 and \$39.

Prices of bungalows range from \$7,750 to \$7,850 and storey-and-a-half from \$8,150 to \$8,850.

Prices are arrived at from given recovery figures of CMHC head office and type of house and locations is considered in appraisals.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS

When a tenant buys a house he will make monthly payments of approximately \$48 to \$58. The balance will bear interest at 5½% and will be paid in equal monthly installments (including principal, interest and tax provision) over a period of 25 years or until paid. Down payment is about one-tenth of house price.

One thousand dollars of the balance will be deducted from the sale price at the rate of \$16.66 per month from the date of purchase for each month the family owns and occupies the home. After five years of continued ownership and occupancy \$1,000 will have been deducted. No interest is charged on the \$1,000. In the event the owner sells before the five years are up the unearned portion of the \$1,000 will be payable to the corporation in cash or demand. This is to reduce speculation.

Owners must arrange for their own fire insurance.

When they purchase the property title of property is conveyed to them and CMHC holds the first mortgage.

REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL

A move has been made to modernize and standardize real estate appraisal procedure through eastern central Ontario, by the establishment in Peterborough of a chapter of the Appraisal Institute of Canada.

Purpose of chapter is to conduct classes for realtors and others connected with the field through the area during the fall and winter months.

Organizer and initiator of this movement is Lloyd Found, Lindsay realtor, who has been studying during the past five years to qualify as a member of the Appraisal Institute of the National Association of Real Estate Boards and the Appraisal Institute of Canada.

Mr Found has graduated with honours from extension courses held at Toronto University in 1953 and at Harvard

University in 1954. These courses represent the highest standard of real estate appraisal studies in either Canada or the United States.

....

25 FOOTINGS PUT IN

The Valleyview Co-operative Co. Ltd., building development of 28 homes in the Parkhill Road West subdivision is moving along at full speed. Since the official sod turning took place Sept. 11 25 footings have been put up.

Frames of seven homes and three roof skeletons have been completed. Co-op manager, Ralph Hutchison, said the three work teams are working well together and they are getting help from members of two other city building co-ops.

Connected with the meat and grocery business in this city for 35 years, under Fitzpatrick and Geraghty Ltd., Jim W. Geraghty joined Lorne Smith Real Estate recently.

While in the grocery business with his partner, Mr Geraghty operated six stores in the city. After they were sold Mr Geraghty went into the house building and alterations. And in this work did several store front renovations on George and Clonsilla Streets.

He said the reason for his direct venture into real estate is his long interest in this field. He is a past president of the Chamber of Commerce. He is married to the former Helen Shaver, of Peterborough, and has four sons.

The Co-operative Listing Association of the Peterborough Real Estate Board reports that 11 sales totalling \$105,750 were completed in September. This compares with the nine sales totalling \$58,500 transacted for the same month last year.

Thomas C. Sorby (1836-1924), CPR Architect and More

Elwood Jones

As we noted in the November 2006 issue of the *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley*, Gordon Young reported that students at Sir Sandford Fleming College had restored the coloured glass at Peterborough's former Canadian Pacific Railway station, now home to the Chamber of Commerce and the tourism offices. He wondered, in passing, why Thomas C. Sorby had been the architect for Peterborough's CPR station.

The short answer is that Thomas C. Sorby was the CPR architect, working out of its offices in Montreal. In those days being the architect for one firm did not prevent one from carrying on a wider architectural practice. However, what more is knowable about Sorby? The fascinating question is why Sorby did not remain the CPR architect through its most famous architectural projects. The question has more bite when we

consider that it passed the baton to Francis M. Rattenbury, a veritable youngster and Sorby's formidable rival in Victoria, British Columbia.

Sorby was born in Wakefield, in West Yorkshire, England; Sorby claimed that his family had been based in Wakefield and Sheffield for some 300 years. Sorby was trained in architecture at London, and practiced there for 25 years. The *Directory of British Architects* places his office in London at Holborn, Bedford Row. In the 1870 British census, Sorby and his wife, five years his senior and a native of Sheffield, were living at Palace Grove 5, Penge, Surrey. He was County Court Surveyor for England and Wales for ten years and served comparable roles for the Home Office and the Treasury, and for Metropolitan London. In these years he was overseeing the architectural soundness of courts, police stations, gaols and other public structures.

Three surviving buildings have been drawn to my attention. His 1869 Lambeth court house is now the home for Jamyang, a Buddhist centre. "Internally, it had a single court in which all cases were heard, and various offices leading off it. The former court room is of double-height with a lofty timber roof, suggestive of an upturned Viking ship, and above what was the magistrate's chair, is a timber canopy of impressive proportions. From the court, a door leads to an extensive two storey cell block, through a holding 'tank', where prisoners were held before appearing in the dock." His police stations at Clerkenwell and Rochester Row are also surviving. While in England he had sound professional affiliations as a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Fellow of the Royal Geological Society and a member of the Society of Arts.



*Former Lambeth court house.
(Jamyang)*

It is not clear whether Sorby was engaged by CPR before or after emigration. He came to Canada in 1883 and immediately for three years worked for the CPR, designing several stations including ones in Peterborough, Port Arthur and Montreal. The Peterborough CPR station was the oldest station still used as a railway station, but remains a remarkable survivor from earlier times. Port Arthur's station is described as picturesque; the three-storey 1884 Gare Dalhousie on rue Notre Dame Est in old Montreal was his largest. At the request of William Van Horne, Sorby also designed the CPR's first three British Columbia mountain resorts: Mount Stephen House at Field; Glacier House in the Rogers Pass; and Fraser Canyon House at North Bend. Sorby designed all three in a Swiss chalet style that was immediately popular. The mountain resorts were set at the summits of the three steepest rail tracks. They were intended to provide dining facilities, but as the idea of mountain holidays became more popular all three of the Sorby resorts were enlarged dramatically, in all cases by Rattenbury and as dramatic chateaux. None of Sorby's CPR hotels has survived, but, as the CPR hoped, they did attract tourists to the Canadian

west. Some of the hotels were used until 1953 as YMCA hotels for budget travelers.

Sorby's immediate successors as CPR architects included Bruce Price, who designed Montreal's Windsor Station, a fine Richardsonian Romanesque building; and Walter Painter (b 1877) who, with Price, designed Banff Springs Hotel, Chateau Frontenac and Montreal's Place Viger Hotel. Edward Colonna (1862-1948), a protege of Price, was a CPR architect from 1888 to 1893, during which time he designed CPR stations in Fort William, Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Regina, Calgary and Banff and also redesigned the Montreal home of Sir William Van Horne. The in-house architects also produced standard plans for railway stations; the Indian Head pattern, with upstairs living quarters, was used in Norwood, Ontario.

After their CPR careers each architect returned to private practice. Bruce Price was a fashionable New York architect. After 1893, Colonna developed a reputation for Beaux Arts architecture largely working in Paris. Before getting CPR projects both Price and Colonna had supplied designs to a CPR supplier, Barney and Smith Manufacturing Company of Dayton, Ohio. Painter, the first architect to work full-time for CPR, returned to private practice after 1911 in Montreal. The connections made at CPR helped their subsequent careers.

Sorby was drawn west by the opportunities that followed the great Vancouver fire of 1886. During the next year he designed several buildings in Vancouver, including the first Hotel Vancouver, the Stephen block, Mr Abbot's house, St James Church and the premises of the Hudson's Bay Company. The Hotel Vancouver was intended to be a railway hotel attracting tourists to spectacular scenery. The CPR connection was significant in attracting Sorby to the western terminus of the railway; the CPR mainline had been completed in 1885.

Sorby moved to Victoria in 1887, and the rest of his career was there. He had his office and residence in the James Bay village area, at Cheviot Lodge, at the corner of Niagara Street and Menzies Street. He sometimes had a downtown office at the Five Sisters Building on Government

Street. When he died he was living with his daughter at 429 Quebec street, the family home for the last two decades of his life.

Before 1891 Sorby had built the parsonage for Christ Church, altered residences of T. R. Smith and William Ward, and built residences for H. Dumbleton, Robert Ward, Dennis Harris, A. N. Richards and others. His most significant commercial block during those years was the Five Sisters Block. The 1891 four-storey building, 101' x 160', had Turkish baths, eight stores and ninety offices. The special features included steam heating, a self-contained electrical system and an elevator made by the local Albion Iron Works, the largest such plant north of San Francisco. The Five Sisters Block, where he was one of the tenants, was destroyed by fire in 1910.



Weiler Building , Victoria BC

His most important commercial building still standing was the 1898 Weiler Department Store at 921 Government Street, and fronted also on Broughton and Gordon streets. This, Victoria's first large scale department store, had a total floor area of 109,168 square feet. The building was commended for its excellent display of merchandise. Each floor was well-lit by the large arched windows made possible by the post and beam structure. On the interior, Sorby used elaborate moulded plaster and native woods.

Sorby's most venturesome schemes combined his engineering and architectural skills and experience. Sorby had plans for the design and development of both Victoria's inner harbour and outer harbour. Sorby proposed a total project to improve navigation in Victoria essentially by clearing obstacles, reclaiming solid land, and

deepening the harbour to thirty feet. Temporary dams would close the lower harbour, pump out water, excavate a 167 acre harbour area to a 30 foot depth and enclosed by a rock wall, and build up other parts totaling 109 acres to be used as solid lands and as industrial sites. The improved waterfront would stretch about five miles. He seemed to have considered all the eventualities. The temporary dam could be built from the ends, and then when the middle was completed a temporary pier would be created along the temporary dam. Sorby even took the idea to Ottawa. The immense project would have cost \$5.3 dollars over five years. The idea was not completed as Sorby envisioned it, and consequently the inner harbour had to be frequently dredged and the industrial lands which could have been sold were not created. In time, industrial space was gained from Indian lands in Esquimalt.

Sorby also prepared plans for improving Victoria's outer harbour, and these were used by government engineers who erected the breakwater and piers. The *Victoria Colonist* obituary [16 November 1924] observed: "Probably Mr Sorby's most notable contribution to the city welfare was his preparation of the plans which were used by the Dominion Government in the building of the Ogden Docks and Ogden Point Breakwater. The development of Victoria as a seaport was a hobby as well as a business with him, and he devoted most of his time during the latter years of his life to that task. He at one time drew up elaborate plans for the construction of a coffer dam for Victoria's inner harbour, which he claimed was essential for future port expansion." There were many ideas about how Victoria might benefit from the building of the Panama Canal whose completion was celebrated in San Francisco. The impact was less than boosters expected, but the initiatives were important nonetheless.

Sorby was the perennial secretary of the Victoria Inner Harbour Association from the 1890s to his death. The organization promoted various harbour improvements and lobbied City Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade, and

other institutions. The province created a Board of Harbour Commissioners to organize improvements. Sorby drew an impressive map of Victoria Harbour, dated 4 June 1899, to promote changes. The project ran into heavy criticism from various "Luddites" (as the *Colonist* called them) evidently protecting current waterfront rights for their companies (such as Brackman-Ker), or advocating a go as you pay strategy as opposed to Sorby's proposal to move quickly and completely which Sorby maintained was both more economical and more likely to achieve results. Sorby's scheme was put aside in 1900 evidently because the Board of Trade committee thought there was a shortfall of \$31,000 from Sorby's projections. One lasting feature of the project was the filling in of James Bay to create the land on which the Empress Hotel was built; the rest of James Bay is now effectively Victoria's Inner Harbour which frames the BC Legislative Building and the Empress Hotel. Sorby's plans would have made the Inner Harbour thirty feet deep, have created more shoreline suitable for industrial uses, and have made it easier for larger boats to come into the inner harbour. Ogden Point has become the landing spot for cruise ships and it is now easier to see that Sorby's schemes if pursued more vigorously would have been of great benefit to Victoria. However, his name is not well-recognized in Victoria.

Sorby's scrapbooks, now in the Victoria City Archives, contain a variety of news stories from the 1880s to about 1903. Sorby's thinking about harbour improvements seems to be linked to proposals he made in 1884 while living in Montreal. He proposed that the city could prevent spring flooding by dredging channels in the St Lawrence River. Sorby followed closely the investigations of the Point Ellice bridge collapse (Victoria 1896), and on the Trent Bridge collapse that reached Assizes in October 1899. He also followed big engineering projects to bridge the Fraser river, the Chicago canal, waterworks, sewage and tall buildings.

The scrapbooks contain excerpts from publications such as the *Builder*, *Scientific American*, *Building News*,

Engineering Record, *British Trade Journal*, *Canadian Architect and Builder* as well as the *Victoria Colonist*. For some time I have suggested that the most important influence on Peterborough house buildings was the *Scientific American Carpenter's and Builder's Edition*. The best evidence of this is in the Hope fonds in the Trent Valley Archives. However, the Sorby scrapbook confirms that Sorby, whose designs are heavily of the styles introduced in the *Scientific American*, was very familiar with the journal. Moreover, an interesting book compiled by Donald Luxton, *Building the West: Early Architecture of British Columbia* (Vancouver, Talonbooks, 2003) features chapters on several architects, including Sorby, as well as chapters on copy-book architecture which includes the first recognition in a Canadian history book that American sources for architectural plans could have wide influence, direct and indirect, on Canadian building. Early historians have stressed the British influences, or seen American influence in a wider cultural borrowing. In Peterborough, many homes were built with *Scientific American* patterns.

Sorby was one of the founders of the Festival of British Columbia Yorkshire Societies. As his scrapbook suggests, Sorby was eclectic and the influences on his buildings came from Britain as well as the United States, and from engineering as well as architecture.

Sorby died in St Joseph's Hospital, 15 November 1924, aged 88. His funeral was arranged by the Sands Funeral Chapel, the Rev F. H. Fatt officiating; he was buried in the Ross Bay Cemetery. He was survived by his daughter, Lucy Winifred Sorby, who had lived with him probably since emigrating to Canada in 1887; she died 27 May 1942, aged 74.

Sorby arrived in Canada at the age of 48, after a 25 year career in England. From there he fashioned a remarkable Canadian career undeterred by age. As the *Victoria Times* obituary commented, "Thomas C. Sorby demonstrated that age was no bar to usefulness."

Queries

Diane Robnik

Sir John A. Macdonald and Mrs George Barker Hall

The biographer of Sir John A. Macdonald wishes to know if any of our readers are able to verify or substantiate any of the rumours that are contained in these two letters. How close was the relationship between Elizabeth Hall and John A. Macdonald. Both had lost their spouses and John A. eventually married Agnes Bernard; that romance was more interesting to London journalists than the London Conference leading to Confederation of British North America and the creation of Canada. Also it would be helpful to know anything at all about Elizabeth Hall and her children. Please direct your information and observations to Elwood Jones at ejones55@cogeco.ca.

The following is an excerpt of a personal letter from the widow of George Barker Hall, Beavermead, Peterborough, January 1861. The original is in the Library and Archives of Canada in the John A. Macdonald papers.

My loved John

I heard Mr. Dennistoun had a telegram from you from Quebec and Mr. Burnham said I need not have been fretting about the matter as all was right. I said I knew it would be so far as you were concerned but I had no confidence in those who were acting for me here.

Mr Dennistoun is legal adviser to some of my creditors, was theirs before he was mine. This places him in an awkward position being bound to act for their interest first & under these circumstances it was strange he took my business.. One of said creditors came Wednesday ev'g to say he understood he had no chance of being paid as this property all went into your hands at the sale & I had nothing left. Therefore this man came to ask Mr. Burnham if he ought to sue.. Mr Burnham advised if possible that you should send Mr. Archy John Macdonald to represent you at the sale. It would keep off those gentlemen, give confidence to the creditors & ease of mind to me which I believe will outweigh all other considerations with you

I hope I shall have a letter from you today my darling as if not I shall be able to hear for another week intending to leave this place tomorrow.. When I return from the backwoods where I only intend to stay a week & you will have no letter for that time. If that is a privation to you what must I feel if a fortnight without hearing from you. I cannot bear to think of it. Mrs. Burnham & I spent yesterday eve'g with [?] & lady & his sisters. Made a seance to find out if I was to be married in spring. .. [Mrs. Hall repeated what my] mother advised me when setting out in life, to believe "Nothing I heard & only half what I saw." & I wished my friends would do the same. She then tried Mrs. Burnham who told her she would not believe it till told by the parties themselves...Mr. Fortye sent the statement. I enclose the part they consider themselves liable to being half of what is claimed. The total amount being \$760. . Goodbye my own darling

Ever your loving Lizzie

The following is a letter from John A. Macdonald's letterbook sent to Robert Dennistoun, probably 28 January 1861. It is also from the John A. Macdonald papers, but has been reprinted in J. Keith Johnson and Carole B. Stelmack, eds., The Letters of John A. Macdonald 1858-1861, vol II (Ottawa, Public Archives of Canada, 1969) 297.

I hereby authorize Robert Dennistoun Esq of Peterborough to purchase for me and in my name the Real Estate of the late George Barker Hall Esq advertised for sale by the Sheriff & referred to in the foregoing letter of Mrs Hall at Sheriff's sale at a price sufficient to cover the executions, and if I become the purchaser, I declare that I will hold the same in trust for the purposes mentioned in the letter of Mrs Hall written on the first & second pages of this sheet. I add as a stipulation that I shall not be called upon or expected to put any portion of the property into the market for sale for six months from the date of the conveyance to me. And that if the said property or any portion of it is offered for sale by me at public auction, upon two months notice in the "Peterborough Review" and "Examiner", I will be at liberty to make one bid for each lot put up and if I become the purchaser that I shall hold the lot freed & discharged from all trusts whatever. The purchase money of course being applied to the trusts mentioned in this declaration of trust.

John A. Macdonald

January 28 / 1861

O'Connor

Member seeks information on John O'Connor (1813- 22 April 1889). Does anyone know the maiden name of his wife, and information about where in County Connaught, Ireland they might have lived before emigration. The couple is buried in Peterborough's St Peter's Cemetery.

Bennett

Private Cecil Bennett (3 April 1895 - 9 April 1917) died in the Battle of Vimy Ridge. Member seeks any information about him, particularly an obituary. He was a farmer in Mount Pleasant, near Peterborough, when he joined the 20th Battalion on 21 September 1915.

Class of 1924

Gina Martin has a very interesting St Peter's grade 1 class photo of 1924 and wonders if any readers might be able to identify people in the photo. If you wish to see the picture, contact the editor at ejones55@cogeco.ca.

Bronson House

In 1920 Albert Parberry moved the Bronson house from near the Twin Hills on Highway 28 to south of Burleigh Falls on Highway 28. It was subsequently known as the "Bullock Farm". When the stucco cladding was removed the owners saw the inscription "F.[E?] J. Bronson, March 5, 1888" carved in the log facing. If you have any information about this house please call Judy @ 705-654-4543.

Ship Lists

Ivan Bateman, one of our valued members, draws attention to the value of ship lists when doing genealogical research. Many ship lists are now accessible on the web and can identify people who have indicated their destination to be Peterborough. We know many people end up in Peterborough even when it was not a conscious destination. Still this can be helpful for many cases. These particular ships are between 1872 and 1874.

S.S Polynesian 1873**Exiting Liverpool (7 August) –****Arriving Quebec (17 August)**

John Cook – Farmer –

Destination Peterboro

Thomas Robinson age 31 –

Destination Peterboro

Mary? – Wife – Age 27

James – Child – Age 6

Joseph – Child – Age 5

William – Child – Age 1

Fredelia Yelland age 40 –

Destination Peterboro

Bessie Yelland -

Destination Peterboro

William Pearce age 50 –

Destination Peterboro

Mary Ann Pearce age 44 –

Destination Peterboro

S.S Polynesian 1874**Exiting Liverpool (22 June) –****Arriving Quebec (1 July)**

John Astle age 21 – Destination

Peterboro

S.S. Scandinavian 1873**Exiting Liverpool (25****September) – Arriving Quebec****(5 October)**

Sarah Wheeler age 56 –

Destination Peterboro

Child Wheeler age 10

S.S. Manitoban 1873**Exiting Glasgow (23 April)**

James Sutherland age 30 –

Destination Peterboro

Johanna Sutherland age 7

Ashley? Sutherland age 4

S.S Scandinavian 1872**Exiting Liverpool (11 July) –****Arriving Quebec**

James Devlin age 50 –

Destination Peterboro

S.S. Prussian 1872**Exiting Liverpool (5****September) – Arriving Quebec**

James Broad age 60 –

Destination Peterboro

William Yelland age 40 –

Destination Peterboro

S.S. Sarmatian 1873**Exiting Liverpool (1 May)**

William George age 28 –

Destination Peterboro

Elizabeth George age 26

Henry George age 4

Elizabeth George age 2

Emily George age 8

Infant George – born September

McAlpin-Hamilton marriage: Letter to the editor

Russell L. Hanson, Indiana University Bloomington, writes:

Thank you very much for checking the records at St. John's for me, and for your explanation of what the absence of a record of the McAlpin-Hamilton marriage might (or might not) mean. In fact your speculation was spot on, as I learned after ordering a microfilmed copy of *The Church* through interlibrary loan. I reproduced the pertinent information here, in case you are curious:

The Church, 4 July 1845, p. 2, col. 4: The Lord Bishop of Toronto held an Ordination at the Cathedral Church of that city on June 29.... Deacons.... Mr. Harvey McAlpin, student of the Diocesan Theological Institute, who, it is understood, will be appointed to the charge of the Church at the Toll Gate, in the city of Toronto."

The Church 3 July 1846, p. 206, col. 2: "The Lord Bishop of Toronto held an Ordination at Cathedral Church on June 28 ... Priests....Rev. Harvey McAlpin, who proceeds to the Rectory of Kemptville, vacant by the removal of the Rev. H. Patton to Cornwall."

The Church 17 July 1846, p. 3, col. 6: "Married....On Thursday, July 2nd, by the Rev. Robert J.C. Taylor, M.A., Rector of Peterborough, the Rev. Harvey McAlpin, Off. Minister of Kempville, to Margaret, youngest daughter of the late Major Robert Hamilton, of Her Majesty's 79th Regiment."

From this it is clear that Taylor performed the ceremony, though not (necessarily) at St. John's, and that McAlpin was en route to Kemptville, as you hypothesized.... Thank you again for researching this on the Peterborough end of things. I really appreciate your expert guidance!

The researcher wondered why the marriage register for St John's Peterborough did not contain information about a marriage that was performed by the rector of that church and for a bride from Peterborough. McAlpin was on his way to become the incumbent in Kemptville. I suspected the wedding had taken place in Toronto and that Taylor would have entered the information in his personal register. The information from the personal register was not always transferred to the parish register. So the absence of information in the parish register was not proof the event did not occur. The family information was confirmed by recourse to the Church, the newspaper of the Church of England and Ireland. He was also curious about why transcribers could read Harvey as anything else; however, my experience of people reading a legible Elwood as in illegible Edward provided the answer to that, too. Editor.

Captain Basil Hall on Peterboro 1827

Diane Ferguson has sent the following interesting item which first appeared in the Newry Commercial Telegraph Abstracts, 29 January 1828. Captain Basil Hall and his wife were the Trent Valley's first tourists. They did a side-trip here and arrived 23 July 1827. Hall published his account under the title Travels in North America in the years 1827 and 1828, published in three volumes in 1829. There was also a fourth volume with his illustrations. The story of his visit to Peterborough appears in volume 1, and includes letters by Thomas A. Stewart and Charles Rubidge which have been reprinted in various places. This letter to the editor did not appear in the published account of his travels. Wilmot Horton was responsible for the assisted emigration projects and was the man who hired Peter Robinson to manage the migration to Peterborough in 1825. Basil Hall, a Navy veteran, was a professional travel writer who wrote several travel accounts that remain highly collectible. Martha Kidd edited letters of Mrs Hall for the Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley and Howard Pammett's account of the Robinson settlement has also appeared in our pages.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA: EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPT. BASIL HALL, R.N. TO THE RIGHT HON. R. WILMOT HORTON

Albany, State of New York, 27th Sept. 1827

My dear Sir, – About two months ago, when travelling in Upper Canada, I went out of my way to visit the settlement at Peterborough, where the emigrants of 1825 are placed. I went with Mr George Boulton and Mr Falkener, of Cobourg, and was accompanied by Mrs Hall, which I mention merely to shew you that in the matter of roads, things have improved since 1825, when I believe, no lady could have gone over the same ground. I visited a good many of the emigrants on their cleared lands, and took care to come upon them unexpectedly, but not to alarm them by sudden interrogatories, or to give them reason to fancy I had more than an ordinary degree of interest in their concerns; some had cleared more land than others, or had cultivated it with greater success, owing to their having more or fewer grown-up children, or in consequence of their having been a shorter or longer period on their land. But it is no exaggeration to say of these emigrants, they were all in a state of prosperity. They were contented in their present state, though a very laborious one; and they looked forward with the most satisfactory kind of hope to what was before them. They are all in as fair a way of doing well as any settlers we have seen elsewhere, and in a very short time they cannot fail to be in most respectable circumstances. What is extremely curious, and I think important, is the fact of these people being not only sensible of the favours which have been granted them, but their being willing to acknowledge this, and apparently anxious to express their gratitude to his Majesty's Government; and all of them are most desirous of having it known that they had all they wished or could want to render them comfortable in the first instance, and to advance their more independent efforts afterwards. It is material to state here, that I consider the visit I paid as being more to your purpose, inasmuch as all adventitious aid has been stopped, and the emigrants had been working for nearly half a year entirely free. In the interval, as I was told by Mr Stewart, of Douro and others, there had been in many instances considerable hardship, and in some cases severe pressure from actual want. I made a point, therefore, of visiting some of these people, and found them to be full as cheerful and uncomplaining, and in all respects as grateful as the others – freely acknowledging that their distress arose from other circumstances than any want of attention or breach of faith on the part of the Government, for whose exertions they all had said they felt the sincerest thankfulness. Upon the whole my impression was that the experiment had completely succeeded, if the object was to render a mass of destitute and miserable people independent and useful, instead of being burthens to the country. I am well satisfied that immense public benefits have accrued from this measure alone, some of which, perhaps, you did not think of, and which, indeed, I did not dream of till they were brought to my notice on the spot.

DESIGN FOR A CORPORATE SEAL

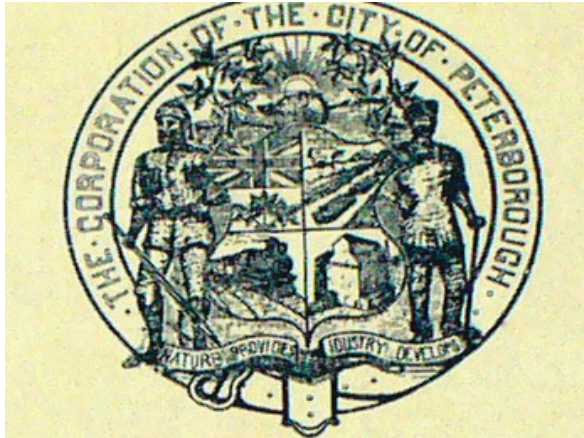
Mr T.A.S. Hay Has Submitted One Which is Very appropriate

Peterborough Examiner, 10 March 1904

Peterborough may soon have a coat of arms all her own. One of the necessary adjuncts in a progressive town or city is the possession of a coat of arms, representing the characteristics of the place. Peterborough, hitherto, has not been in possession of such a mark of dignity, and it has been felt that in this it was perhaps not keeping pace with other places of equal size or importance. But that is likely to be remedied very soon. Mr T. A. S. Hay, the Town Engineer, has designed a very appropriate coat of arms which if approved of by the Council will be adopted and used as a corporate seal. The motto at the bottom of the design is "Nature Provides and Industry

Develops," and at either side of the central shield is a figure, one representing a woodsman, emblematic of nature; the other, a mechanic representing industry. Surmounting the shield is the Canadian beaver and entwined are the Canadian maple leaves, while a rising sun shines over all. On the shield which is quartered are scenes representative of the industries and natural advantages possessed by Peterborough. Perhaps the most interesting is that depicting a section of the Trent Valley Canal, upon which a tug-boat hauling two barges, are shown. Below this is a view of a large grain elevator and flour mill, a prophecy of the condition of things which will be seen

when the canal has been completed. On the opposite corner is a very accurate representation of a modern express train. The view emphasizes the two great advantages possessed of this town, transportation facilities and industrial advantages. On the left upper corner is the National emblem.



The whole design is a most appropriate one, and Mr Hay is to be complimented upon his skill.

Commentary

Lance Anderson of Peterborough This Week inquired about the coat of arms for the City of Peterborough which preceded the one that the city has had since 1950 and which is described on a city webpage. We were able to find the

actual coat of arms (shown above) in the 1908 Electric City supplement. Aided by F. H. Dobbin's Peterborough chronology we were led to the newspaper article. In 1950, the coat of arms was modernized and the motto Latinized "Dat Natura, Elaborant Artes." This is perhaps a reasonable rendition of Hay's words but it is worth noting that the Latin phrase is more inclusive: literally it means "What comes from Nature is improved by the Arts." Victorians (and engineers) believed that man could change the course of rivers and alter nature with impunity, and prosperity came to those who did it best. Manufactories in those days implied hand-made and applied even to workshops employing as few as two or three people.

According to Martha Kidd, the earlier coat of arms, for the Town of Peterborough, is found in the 1889 gable of the Market Hall. It is much simpler than either of the successor coats of arms.

Canada's Official Census Dates: Genealogical and Historical Research in Censuses

Elwood Jones

Colin Wilton-Davies, who lives on the Channel Islands, recently asked if Canada and the United Kingdom hold their censuses on the same dates, as well as the same years. That's a very good question as one could imagine that Britain would want to have information from Canada that was timely with theirs.

The British elections dates were, he reported, 1841 June 6; 1851 March 31; 1861 April 7; 1871 April 2; 1881 April 3; 1891 April 5; and 1901 March 31. One notices that the British elections after 1851 were held between March 31 and April 7, a very narrow time frame, clearly reflecting Parliament's wishes.

Our 1841 census was held in 1842, and the 1848 stretched over February and March. The actual census date for the 1851 census was 12 January 1852; the 1861 census date was Sunday, 13 January 1861. In 1871 to 1891, the first three census years after Confederation, the census dates were 2 April 1871, 4 April 1881, and 5 April 1891. As you can see, these are virtually the same official dates as for the British. However, in 1901 the census date moved to June, in order to get better weather and better roads. The census officials decided to go as early as possible in June so as to minimize the problem of people moving to summer resorts. In 1921 and 1931 the census date was 1 June, and the pattern of early June censuses has remained.

In summary, our first censuses were held in January; from 1871 to 1891, they were in April, nearly coincident with the British experience; and then after

1901, the census date was early in June. Still, the decisions for the Canadian census were made in Canada; after 1848, with the achievement of Responsible Government, the census became a matter of domestic concern, and for the provincial legislature of the Province of Canada. After Confederation, the census became a national responsibility.

Still the idea that former British colonies should synchronize their censuses was strong and in 1920 the British Empire Statistical Commission agreed that all censuses should be held within two months before or after 15 April. Even so, the census date for Australia's 1931 census was 1 July 1933.

Genealogists and historians need to pay close attention to the official census date. The census is capturing that moment, and the experience of twelve months preceding that date. One historian studying part of Peel county discovered that from 1861 to 1881 the average age of men rose nine years, and for women seven years. At first blush we might think that people were too sensitive about age when the census enumerator arrived. However, the distance between the 1851 census and the 1861 census was only nine years.

Even by 1851, Britain had a permanent bureaucracy to handle the census. The Canadian experience was to look for cheaper options. Our enumerators were temporary workers who were paid according to the number of names they enumerated to a maximum of three dollars per day. In 1901,

enumerators were paid five cents for each living person enumerated, and for each death. As well they were paid 25 cents for each farm and 30 cents for each factory. Because the workers were temporary, the census officials had to arrange informal training. Much of the necessary information was given orally. As well, there was a printed manual for census workers, and usually printed samples of the different census schedules with examples about how to fill in the schedules. The number of enumerators in 1871 was 2,789 who were supervised by 206 District Commissioners and 13 Chief Census Officers. By 1931, there were 13,886 enumerators

However, we know that census enumerators made big mistakes. John Scoble won the ire of his census enumerator in 1861 Hamilton when he pointed out the shortcomings of a system that depended on the honesty of people in the household to fill out the forms, as was the case in cities that year. He said the enumerator was too ignorant to be able to spot obvious errors. The enumerator ranted on the census schedule that Scoble was a died in the wool Liberal who would stoop to any level to hurl a rock of any size or shape at the current government. Wow! Sometimes the enumerator errors help genealogists. For example, I saw one enumerator who filled in the little square that was to indicate whether a person was married with the actual date of the wedding. We could wish that more would enumerate so poorly. On the other side, we are continually confounded by a very simple question. Enumerators were supposed to ask how old people would be on their next birthday, and instead got answers of how old they actually were. I know that I am not the only person who has taken such information at face value and tried to calculate year of birth by a simple subtraction. However, doing so can lead to errors of up to two years if you have not also factored in the actual date of the census, the actual question and the likely error of the enumerator. By 1901, census officials finally tried to solve this particular problem by putting in fields for the actual birth date. That same census also took the mystery out of the date of emigration by asking for specific year of migration.

The biggest bonus for genealogists has been the question related to religion. We value this the more when we see the problems with United States censuses which explicitly prohibited the asking of the question about religion. In Canada, we can at least have an idea of what churches might have the parish registers we need to consult. In the United States, researchers are forced to use proxies to try to estimate the littlest information about religion.

The decennial censuses remain the single most important source of information for Canadian historians as well. Historians are usually interested in wider questions but the snapshot that attempts to capture everybody at the same time is invaluable. Moreover, once we have a series of snapshots to compare it becomes possible to track changing attitudes about work, and about religion. It becomes possible to reconstruct the structure of work and industry and commerce and agriculture, fishing and

forestry. We can study immigration and migration patterns, and look at demographic structures. We can tell when population is significant, or when numbers are large. Censuses allow us to place every Canadian town and city in the context of the country as a whole. When the census asks the same question in each census, then it is possible to be quite specific about the nature of change.

One should distinguish the manuscript census from the printed census. The manuscript census is the actual record created by the enumerator at the doorstep. There were several census schedules in each census year. Each schedule had several questions, and usually a column for the answer to the questions. Most commonly for genealogists, Schedule 1 was the "Nominal return of the living." In 1871, that schedule had 23 questions. In 1871 there were 211 questions asked in nine schedules.

For people using the microfilm version of the manuscript census, Schedule 1 is what they see. Occasionally even in our five counties' area, there are some agricultural censuses, or what in 1871 was Schedule 4, with 36 columns. However, there is lots of interesting information in the other schedules, and very essential if you wish to know what was being produced on a particular farm, or by a particular factory. We know that all schedules did not survive, but Statistics Canada and its heirs are required to transfer such schedules to the Public Archives of Canada and its heirs.

However, the printed census tries to capture the information from nearly all the schedules. These reports were commonly produced within months of the end of the enumeration, and of course the methods of drawing statistical information became more sophisticated over time. Still it is remarkable what one can learn from the printed censuses. At the Trent Valley Archives we have parts of the printed census for 1871 and for 1921; I personally own the rare 1851 printed census. The complete set of printed censuses (although with an imperfect 1851) is at the Bata Library at Trent University, and probably in most Canadian university and legislative libraries. It is worth noting that volume 4 of the 1871 printed census prints the historical censuses from 1665. Needless to say early censuses asked too few questions to be of much value to historians and genealogists. Still it is possible in many cases to identify information about the head of the family and the size of the family.

For the 1861 census in Peterborough, Thomas White Jr, the editor-owner of the *Peterborough Review*, was the census commissioner. The enumerators were R. Rowe, W. Johnston, R. Rutherford, and John Ritchie. Males outnumbered females 1,964 to 1,872; total population was 3,836. The census results were recorded in the local papers weekly from late February through March.

The 1871 census was the first after Confederation and it set new standards for what to expect. The information from the nine schedules was reported in one way or another in 54 tables. The census districts matched closely the political districts

as it was important to the principle of representation by population to have constituencies that were equal. Extra census districts were carved out of those ridings that were very large by 1871 censuses, and that included the districts of North Simcoe, North Victoria, East Peterborough, North Hastings and North Renfrew.

At the census date, 2 April 1871, the population of Ontario was 1,620,851 and during the year preceding there had been 18,063 deaths. That was a rate of 11.14 per 1000 population. For the three parts of Peterborough (West, East and North), the deaths were respectively 124, 163 and 35 in a total population of just over 30,000. The death rates were respectively 10.54, 11.14 and 8.59. One expects low death rates in areas that are being newly opened. Peterborough North includes the townships being opened up by the Burleigh Road, whose story was recently told by Mary and Doug Lavery in *Up The Burleigh Road*. In the oldest part of the county, the eastern half, the death rate matched the provincial rate. The figures for the west were in-between. Peterborough is one of the growing areas of the province in 1871. Several of the tables allow historians to determine the pattern of deaths across the year, the cause of death, the age of death, and the religious patterns of death.

The aggregate figures for churches in 1871 do not quite jibe. There were reportedly 62 church buildings in the three census districts, but the number of places totaled 100. There were 11 Anglican, 50 Methodist, 20 Presbyterian, 10 Baptist and 9 Roman Catholics. It looks as if the Methodists were counting private homes and corner stores. In that census, Peterborough county recorded no hospitals, no orphanages, and no superior schools.

I have been asked questions recently about wool production and woollen mills in the Peterborough area. The census is a good place to look for such information. In Ontario, 12 April 1871, there were 1,514,914 sheep producing a total of nearly 6.5 million pounds of wool. That means the average sheep was producing 4.23 pounds of wool. In Peterborough county, there were 26,259 sheep producing 119,742 pounds of wool, or an average of 4.56 pounds of wool per sheep. I sampled some other counties in central Ontario and found the rate varied from 3.83 pounds to 4.84 pounds. Clearly Peterborough was comparatively efficient, with the lowest rates coming in the new townships opening up along the colonization roads.

Another good example is the production of white pine. Our entire region of east-central Ontario was a major region for the harvest of white pine from the 1840s for nearly a century. In the mid-1860s, the lumber mill located where Trent University is now situated was the biggest producer in the province. In the 1871 census, which reflects figures for 1870-1871, Ontario produced nearly 15 million cubic feet of white pine; Quebec, nearly 9 million. In Quebec almost three-fifths of the output came from Pontiac County and one-fifth from Ottawa county; the Ottawa valley was a major source of white pine on

both sides of the provincial line. On the Ontario side, Nipissing accounted for 6.2 million cubic feet of white pine, compared to 6.9 million on the Quebec side. And there was another 4 million cubic feet of white pine coming from Renfrew and Lanark counties. However, the next most significant region was east-central Ontario where Simcoe's output was 1.6 million cubic feet; Peterborough's .6 million; Hastings' .7 million.

Each of the many tables had tales to tell. For example, the only significant mineral production in that period was in iron ore; but in iron ore Peterborough produced over half the iron ore for the province: 16,000 tons out of a total short of 31,000 tons. The Governor-General visited the mines and the Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley featured a photo from that occasion as one of our early covers.

Beginning with Table XXVIII the census shifts to the industrial scene. We learn that in Peterborough county, there were 39 employees engaged in the production of agricultural implements, evidently at the Peter Hamilton, William Hamilton, and Mowry foundries. Total wages were \$17,580; raw materials cost \$13,000; and total output was valued at \$38,400. There were ten bakeries employing 20 people: 17 men, one woman and two teens under 16. Wages totalled \$6,000, and total output was valued at \$28,000. There were 48 blacksmith establishments employing 85 people. Wages totalled \$23,478; raw materials cost \$11,201; and the value of the output was nearly \$50,000. It was surprising to learn that Peterborough county at that date only had one cheese factory employing three people. Our lone furrier, Lech, was apparently assisted by his three sons, all under 16. Wages totalled \$700; raw materials cost \$4,000; and the total value of the finished furs was \$6,200. There was one jeweller, and one potter. Ontario had 58 potteries with output valued at \$186,405; 207 employees earned \$57,000, and the raw material cost \$25,117. Peterborough's lone pottery had five employees earning \$1500; raw materials cost \$1000; final output was valued at \$3,000. The local potter's experience was not typical of the Ontario experience.

Across the province, the aggregate value of all industries was nearly \$115 millions. Peterborough's output totaled nearly \$1.85 millions, 1.56% of the provincial total. Wages in Peterborough county amounted to 1.87% of the provincial total; the work force was almost 2% of the provincial total. Local capital investment was just over 1.8% of the provincial investment. Peterborough was at the beginning of a half century of increasing industrialization and the figures suggest there was room for improvement.

The printed census is a terrific resource both for learning about local history anywhere and for placing it into a wider context. But one can also learn something about what to expect in the manuscript censuses, now open to 1911, but not widely available in all the schedules.

Conservation corner

Basia Baklinski

Have you ever wondered what goes on downstairs at Trent Valley Archives? You may have noticed the sign on the door that reads "Please visit Basia, our conservator, downstairs" If you venture down those stairs and peek around the rows and rows of boxed records, you will see a room packed full of wonderful and interesting things. There are shelves loaded with rolls of Japanese repair paper, adhesives with strange names like B 72 and wheat starch paste, magnifying glasses, tiny tools with hooks and points and paints, powders and potions. This is my conservation laboratory. On any given day you will find me working on such fascinating projects as a hand-written letter from the early 18th century that is so fragile and worn that it looks as though it will disintegrate at the slightest touch; or a painting that has suffered paint loss, frame loss, or is so dirty that the image has become obscured; or a lovely collection of tintypes that will have a custom-built album created to house it.

If you are intrigued, or have questions, please stop by the lab the next time you are at Trent Valley Archives. Or call me at 745-4404, Mondays to Friday, 10 am to 4 pm.

Basia was featured in a special article by Rachel Punch, *Peterborough Examiner*, 17 January 2007. Basia has nearly ten years of experience and has recently started a business specializing in the preservation of paper-based documents such as maps, letters, photos, certificates, artwork, greeting cards, diaries, framed paintings and postcards. Her clients include Lang Pioneer Village and Trent Valley Archives. *Editor*

The Peterborough Ski and Snowshoe Club, 1923 – 1927

Cy Monkman

"SKIING NOTICE: All those that are interested in the forming of a Skiing Club are asked to attend a meeting for this purpose at White's Cycles and Sports Store to-morrow evening at 7:30." - LOCALS, Examiner, 13 November 1923.

With this notice in the Evening Examiner the formation of what was probably the first ski club in Peterborough was set in motion. Two days later the new organization was confirmed with the following headline: "NEW WINTER SPORTS CLUB ORGANIZED. Will Popularize Skiing and Snow-shoeing in the coming season. A new winter sports organization was formed last night at White Bros athletic goods store." Twenty charter members were in attendance. George Logan was elected President and Secretary and Frank White treasurer. Services of a coach were arranged for. Subsequent weekly meetings were held at White's store and all those interested in skiing and snow-shoeing were asked to attend. By December 6th the membership had grown to thirty five and a Special Meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A. The blue and white colours of the Peterborough Athletic Association were adopted (and these colours continued throughout the history of this and the Peterborough Ski Club). In order to augment membership numbers it was decided to invite "Ladies" into the Club and embark on a membership campaign. With the permission of the "Ashburnham Patriotic Association the Club will use Armour Hill for their flights which will include humps for the adepts of this sport." Some of the members went over a proposed course on the hill and removed loose stones. Although not referred to in newspaper reports in 1923 J.H. Vernor, then General Manager of the Western Clock Company (Westclox)

was one of the prime movers behind the organization of this Club. In 1927 he was named Honorary President.

As proof of the existing popularity of skiing and snow-shoeing or as a result of the formation of this new Club, or both, large ads appeared in The Evening Examiner placed by "White's Cycles & Sports Ltd" located at 212-214 Charlotte Street for winter sports equipment of every kind.



Members of the Peterborough Ski Club, the picture was probably taken in the Westclox building on George Street. Roy Photo. Courtesy Peter Green

On December 28, 1923 a Notice was placed under the "LOCALS" column of the Evening Examiner inviting members of the Club to turn out for "initial fun" the next afternoon (Saturday) and for a "slide" at Armour's Hill.

On 8 January 1924 the following Notice was placed: "With the abundance of snow there should be a large turnout of skiers and snowshoers for the hike Wednesday night. All those intending to participate please notify any member of the executive so that adequate provision can be made for refreshments. Meet at the YWCA at 7:30 pm."

A week later a similar Notice appeared. So from this point in time weekly night "hikes" became popular. A few days later "The Business Girl's Club" held a snowshoe "tramp"

from the YWCA. One must assume that the streets of Peterborough were mostly free of salt, sand and automobiles with only main roadways plowed.

**"LEARNING TO SKI -TRY SMALL HILLS
A Few Hints for Beginners in the Most Thrilling of all
Winter Sports"**

Evening Examiner, 9 January 1924

As a number of people in the city are trying for the first time this season the following hints for beginners may be of interest:

- buy a pair of skis, there is no economy or satisfaction in cheap ones, hickory or ash, clear straight grain, any reputable dealer would tell you the right kind. Skis of moderate length are recommended for beginners.
- If possible, buy regular ski boots and have them fitted to the skis at the shop. One cannot ski properly unless the irons and harness fit the boots perfectly, this is of first importance. Boots should be large enough to take two pairs of socks or stockings, woollen. Keep your boots well oiled.
- Poles are now universally used. The bamboo ones are the best, of moderate height coming just to below the shoulders.
- Make your first attempts under the tutelage of some experienced skier, there are many useful necessary elementary points that can quickly be learned by personal instruction.
- Choose a moderate slope free of trees, don't try the big hills until confidence has been gained and a fair amount of control obtained. A beginner's skis have an unpleasant and unexpected way of going where they are least expected to.
- Keep the feet and skis together when running down the hill one foot about 12 in. behind the other, knees slightly bent, body leaning slightly forward. The skis should make but a single track in the snow. Trail polls at the side and behind, never carry them in front, serious accidents happen from doing this.
- Learn how to stop and turn as soon as possible, there is no mystery about the Telemarker or Christiana, but they can be acquired only by trying and practice. Spend a little time in doing "stunts" and results will follow fast.
- Carry in the pocket at good knife, strong twine and a piece of ski wax or candle to wax skis in soft weather.
- Don't take chances. Be extra careful when in strange country, and always keep under control. When you have to stop and stop quickly... sit down.
- Join the local ski club if you're not already a member. The club's field committee are giving special attention to beginners."

At the beginning of the 1924 -1925 Season it was announced that membership fees would be \$2.00 for ladies and \$3.00 for men. In addition to the official P.S.S.C. Monogram a small yearly badge was to be issued to members. A committee was appointed to give instruction to those who are not "adept" in the art of skiing and in addition to this the President "threatened" to issue a pamphlet of "Don'ts."



Lillian Laderach.

Evidence of J. H. Vernor's involvement in the Peterborough Ski and Snowshoe Club was the making available of the "Old Westclox factory" on George Street South (later to become site of Kesco Electric and then

Century 21 Real Estate office) for "Club Rooms". "Hikes" would sometimes start and often finish at this location. On the evening of January 21st the scheduled hike was "south of the city". A future evening hike started from the Y.M.C.A., proceeding east across Victoria Park to Sheridan Street, then east on Hunter Street to the (new) Westclox Factory. Time was spent "sliding" on Armour Hill. After that the Club members proceeded south to the (old Westclox) Club Rooms. This could be considered a good physical workout (on a week day evening) by any standard. And it should not be forgotten that the members were skiing by street lights. "Sliding" on Hunter Street east roadway hill was also popular.

"SNOWSHOE CLUB AT FIRST MEET"

**Membership is Expected to Reach 200 Mark This Season
HAPPY YOUTHS**

Evening Examiner, 14 January 1926

The local ski and snowshoe club held its first meet last night, a good crowd of rosy cheeked youths, garbed in gay coloured toggery being present. Last night being the opening night of the 1926 season, the presence of both members and prospective members was welcome and many old acquaintances were renewed.

Leaving the Y.W.C.A. at 7:30 p.m. the party journeyed to the Prince of Wales school, where for about two hours the

skiers fairly kept the hill hot, sliding and tumbling down it from all angles. From here they proceeded to the old Westclox factory on George Street South, where installation of officers for the present year took place, preceded by refreshments.

One glance at the membership will show the progress the club has made since it was formed two years ago. Last year the paid membership numbered 101. This season the membership is expected to reach the 200 mark, and by the way the application forms are going at present it may be well over that figure. The membership is limited to 200 members, so applications must be in early.

The club is in a good standing as far as finances are concerned, and a very successful season is looked forward to. If anyone is counting on learning to ski now is the time to learn when others are learning. This is not just a Ski and Snowshoe Club but a getting together club, composed of young men and women who are out to have a jolly time.

Skiing is Canada's most healthy winter sport. Ask those who do it. They will tell you whether it is or not.

George Logan will again occupy the seat of President this year, and Gerry McClelland, who was again appointed vice president, will ably assist him as in the past. Frank White, a faithful secretary-treasurer last year will look after the books for another term. Announcement of the next hike will be made early next week.

"SKI AND SNOWSHOE CLUB NOTES"

Evening Examiner, 19 January 1926

At a meeting of the Peterborough Ski and Snowshoe club held last evening in the YWCA it was decided that the regular weekly hike be held on Wednesday evening providing the weather is favourable. If the field committee do not think it is advisable to have the ski run, an announcement to that effect will appear in this column on Wednesday night. Watch this column tomorrow night for if the hike is postponed a theatre party, followed by a dance and refreshment at the clubhouse will likely take its place.

Many new members have already handed in their application cards but there's still room for a few more. Application cards may be had at White's Cycle and Sports store, Charlotte Street or from any member of the club.

It has been the intention of the club for some time to build a jump, but as yet no suitable Hill has been located. The field committee were last night appointed to inspect and test several hills in the city including Green Hill, west of the highway on Sherbrooke Street, Armour Hill in East City and Prophet's Hill to the west of Jackson Park.

The highest jump to be erected will likely be about 6 ft. while small ones will also be put up for the beginners. With a good fast take off some of the more expert daredevils of the local club will likely be able to make a jump of from 40 to 50 ft.. At present the club cannot afford to erect a tower but it is hoped that one will be built in the near future.

(Note: A ski jump tower was built 10 years later on the drumlin at Nassau)

Everything Set For Big Ski Run Wednesday Night

Evening Examiner, 26 January 1926

The following is a course planned by the field committee of the Peterborough ski and snowshoe club for Wednesday night's hike.

Leaving the YWCA at 7:30 sharp the party will journey down Aylmer Street to Charlotte Street, west on Charlotte to Monaghan Road and south on Monaghan Road to the field south of Prince of Wales school. Any members residing in the west end of the city may join the party on their way out instead of meeting at the YWCA. Refreshments at the clubhouse following hike. It's up to you. Make it a wow.



Gord Hall, top, with Terry Hall, Doug Hall and Otto Laderach.

Weekly Hike Will Be Held To-night To Rye's Hill

Evening Examiner, 2 February 1926

At a meeting of the Peterborough Ski and Snowshoe Club held last evening in the YWCA it was the wish of all present to hold the weekly hike on Wednesday night. All members and all those interested in the club, whether members are not, are cordially invited to attend and are asked to meet at the YWCA at 7:30 sharp, or at Rye's Hill on the Monaghan Road, to which place the party will proceed by way of Charlotte Street and the Monaghan Road. It is a wish of the club that there be a good turnout of snowshoers as well as skiers. Do not hesitate to be on hand and bring your friends along with you. Special evening at the clubhouse following hike. Make it a memorable night in the history of skiing and snowshoe hiking in the city.

"SKI CLUB NOTES"

Evening Examiner, 9 February 1926

"The ski run held last Wednesday night proved to be the biggest success of the season. Many new faces were amongst those present and since then the membership has increased considerably. Tomorrow night's hike should be another "Wow" if the present ideal weather for skiing holds out. All members and those who have handed in their application cards are cordially invited to attend. Dancing and refreshments at clubhouse following hike.

Owing to the shortage of snow on Green Hill the jump has not yet been erected, but a smaller one has been built on Prophet's Hill west of Jackson Park. The jump is by no means a small one but owing to the poor take off on this hill the speed required for long-distance jumping cannot be obtained and up to date the longest distance acquired is 30 ft.

The route planned by the field committee for this week's hike is as follows: leave YWCA at 7:30 sharp and proceed up Aylmer to McDonnell, west on McDonnell to Park, North on Park to Smith, and out Smith to Jackson Park, through the Park, and then down Monaghan Road to Rye's Hill. Returning to the clubhouse for refreshments."

"HAROLD YELLAND HEADS SKI CLUB"

Succeeds George Logan as President –

Successful Season Expected

MEMBERSHIP LARGE

Examiner, 7 January 1927

At the general meeting and elections of officers of the Peterborough Ski and Snowshoe Club, held on January 5, the following officers were elected:

Hon. President - J. H. Vernor
President - Harold Yelland

Vice President - Doug Hall

Sec – Treas. - Fred Green

Advisory Board - H. Woods, G. D. McClelland, William Read, Mrs. G.D. McClelland, Miss Elva Jackson.

The club auditors, Mrs. L. Scully and Mr. William Hinds, made their report to the effect that they had duly audited the accounts of the club and found them in good order.

George Logan, who has been President of the club for the past three years, refused nomination this year. On retiring

from office, Mr. Logan expressed his hearty thanks to the members of the club, especially the executive committee, for their support, and asked that this same support given to the new officers.

Mr. Yelland, the new President, stated that as secretary-treasurer of the club during the past year he had fully realized the work that Mr. Logan had done for the club, and moved a vote of thanks to him which was heartily accorded. Yes have a nice holiday

51 members turned out to the first hike on Wednesday, which indicates that a splendid season may be looked at forward to. The membership is expected to reach the century mark and with the hikes, parties and other activities already planned (coupled with those spontaneous, unplanned ones for which the club is famous) there's bound to be a bigger and better time than ever.

This article appears to be the last reference to the Peterborough Ski and Snowshoe Club in 1927 but it was not due to lack of snow during the balance of the winter. In fact Environment Canada records 94 cm during February. During December 1926 and the early part of January there was little snow. The photo below (dated January 9, 1927) of Lillian Laderach confirms this. However on December 16th of the same year what could be assumed as an organizational dance was held by the Club at the Canadian Legion Hall. "Logan's Merrymakers" led by Bill Logan, the first President of the Club, provided music. No further media references to the Club were found in 1928, 1929 and until December 1930 when the Peterborough Ski Club was organized. One wonders why because there was obviously no lack of support or enthusiasm for the sport and the Club during the first 3 or 4 years and the average snow fall for each of 1928, 1929 and 1930 was about 200cm (80 inches).

Editor's note: Cy Monkman is nearing completion of his history of the Peterborough Ski Club and we thank him for sharing this excerpt from his forthcoming work.

The Roving Rambler visits 342 Downie Street

Andrew Elliott

The house at 342 Downie Street could be easily overlooked, yet there it sits, a bit of an anachronism in a town of old brick houses. This two-storey wood frame house is greying and weatherworn. The front and side verandah roofs sag severely, looking as if they might not withstand the weight of snow from another winter. At the back there is a wood shed with a tin roof, also fragile, but it is in better shape than many sheds of its vintage. The house has a big back yard with an old wooden shed, and a tiny shed-like garage but no real driveway and little trace of a front walkway. It sits between an unfenced vacant lot to the north, and a fenced parking lot for a convenience store on the south. The windows have the original latticed shutters, unlikely opened for years. A crooked tv antenna sticks up from the roof,

looking like it has seen better days. There are also two brick fireplaces. At first glance, on a busy weekday afternoon, the place seems deserted.

Yet, suddenly, while I am admiring the house, out of nowhere appears an older man. Fred Maybee asks if I am interested in the house. I say that I am, and ask him if he owns it and how long he has been here. He tells me that he has lived in the house since 1949 - a total, he says, of 56 years, seven months, and three days. He goes on to say that his parents inherited it from an uncle of his who died in 1949, and then, after his father died in the late 50s, and then his mother died in the early 60s, he decided to stay. He never left. I ask him how old the house is, and he says it was built in 1860. "Pretty darn old, I should think!" he says with a little

laugh, before he drifts into further conversational territory.

Reading Martha Kidd's book *Peterborough's Architectural Heritage*, we learn that this is indeed one of the older houses still standing in the city. In 1860, it was home to a wagon-maker by the name of Michael O'Brian. By searching through some of Martha Kidd's papers at the Trent Valley Archives, we learn that the house has been in continuous use since 1860. Martha did what any good house researcher would do. She searched through city assessment roles and city directories for the street name and number, and then matched the person that was listed beside the address. O'Brian appears to have lived here until 1883 (when he died, perhaps?). In 1880, a Mrs. Collins lived in the house, from 1883 to 1890, a W.H. Collins and Mrs. O'Brian were listed, including in 1888-89 a Johannah O'Brian. In 1914, a M. Jas was here, followed in 1940 by Josephine O'Brien (different spelling), and in 1948 by J.J. (John Johannah) Gridale. In the 1950 city directory Fred K.W. Maybee was living here and working as a clerk at the General Electric factory. A 1958 directory tells us that he and his wife Eleanor, as well as his son Fred, were also here, and Fred senior was a crane engineer at the General Electric factory. The present owner has a quiet, leisurely manner that seems well suited to this house.

Mr. Maybee has applied for city funding to fix his roof, but was turned down. They claimed that the property wasn't historic enough to qualify. I suggest he get a second opinion. At this point, another elderly man ambles up, catches this part of

the conversation, and chimes in "Maybe you want a third opinion. I'll give it [to] you!" He and Maybee start talking earnestly, and this seems like an appropriate time to make an exit. Mr. Maybee, who appears to have no car, seems quite content living here, and a fixture of the neighbourhood. At one point, a house like this would have been on the edge of town, but still within walking distance of all amenities. Now it is completely within the city, and still a walk from most amenities. Houses like this one should be cherished for their proximity to services. In a far-flung suburb dependent on cars and big box stores, would someone like Mr. Maybee have the same quality of life?

I imagine what has taken place in the years that Mr. Maybee has lived in this house, and I think of the many more years in the house's history before he was here. I imagine what would be lost if this house were knocked down because it wasn't considered worthy of preservation. How much longer 342 Downie Street will be here is anyone's guess. Who, if anyone will live here next? With some conservation work, and designation for heritage status, this house might be able to last for many more years. That this low-keyed, unpretentious example of mid-19th century architecture has survived this long, is remarkable. One thing, though, is certain, and is sometimes overlooked: when you look at old houses, you find not only building structures and architectural styles, but occupants and neighbourhoods, and it is their stories that make it all worthwhile.

Andrew Elliott is writing a freelance column, possibly titled Roving Rambler, for the Peterborough Examiner that will begin in the near future. The foregoing article is scheduled to appear in that series.

Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Peterborough [ACOP]



542 Downie Street

A Peterborough branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario [ACO] was established last April following a public meeting at St Paul's Presbyterian Church. There was a perceived need in the heritage community for an organization of respected pedigree to speak on issues related to heritage architecture. The ACO has been very

significant in Port Hope for over forty years. Bruce Rumgay believes it was the catalyst for encouraging countless heritage projects and a climate of loving heritage. Peterborough did not develop an ACO those many years ago because the energies of the Peterborough Historical Society's [PHS] Old Buildings Committee was a firmer base. In those days it was enough to have one respected heritage voice. The PHS got first-hand experience at heritage restoration when Hutchison House was given by bequest. We fought hard to save the Cluxton Building. We tried to slow the serial killer who was running circles around the planning regulations and destroying the endearing heritage qualities of countless buildings. Martha Kidd was taking pictures of buildings as they were destroyed. Several of us met with the architect for Peterborough Square and will be able to get significant concessions. The Market Hall and the Peterborough Club were retained with a view to restoration, and the brick facade and heights that had defined George Street since 1862 were applied to Peterborough Square. The Ontario Heritage Act led to the creation of LACACs across the province and Peterborough hosted the Ontario Main Street

conference in 1979 and the Kawartha Conference in 1981. Over the years we gradually came to rely on PACAC as the front line watchdog for heritage architecture. However, PACAC was not always effective because it was directly responsible to City Council, which could refuse recommendations, and which effectively limited PACAC's influence by providing little space and little funding. In more recent times we have seen real improvements with heritage now integral to the city organization. Erik Hanson has proven to be a very able advocate for heritage causes and he has recruited good staff.



Still, however, there were two realities. Discussion of heritage architectural issues were discussed in a very narrow circle in which decision-

making was linked as much to political convenience as to knowledge. As well, buildings seemed more endangered if they came under city protection: the King Edward school disgrace revealed how cleverly the city administration and Council could be finessed by someone with political savvy. Could heritage advocates have similar savvy if organizations such as PHS, ACOP and TVA worked together.?

Since April we have been reminded of the need for public vigilance on heritage issues. Trent University has been ambivalent about its heritage buildings. The city and the YMCA were unable to protect King Edward School and now it appears that the Y's historic downtown landmark is in danger. The only good news on this front came from former Mayor Sylvia Sutherland who said the city also gave the Y a solid offer and proposal for the property. Like the many letter writers she said the Y building is an essential anchor of the downtown core, and of the veritable civic centre that it abuts. Heritage tourism is worth promoting and the building could have met civic needs had the city used wider parameters. The Art Gallery of Peterborough and the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives have been seeking major new space. The biggest threat to heritage architecture in Peterborough is with the Peterborough Regional Hospital Centre. All that remains in doubt is how many buildings will be demolished at the two sites.

ACOP will have much to keep it busy and it is looking for more volunteers. You can contact their president Ed Smith at 743-1953 for more details.

Preservation Works

Dear Editor:

Edward Smith, President of ACO Peterborough sent me a copy of the article on Preservation Works in Beaverton. (*Heritage Gazette*, November 2006) Over the years Preservation Works has saved many Ontario buildings.

I am delighted that Mr Fleming was pleased with the Preservation Works Service provided by architect, Phillip Carter, but must say I was a bit disquieted by his criticism of the ACO's response. What Mr. Fleming may not realize is that the ACO is a volunteer organization too. With the exception of our manager Mr. Rollo Myers who is paid modestly for about 1/3 of the time he puts in, all the rest of the work is done by volunteers. At the time he contacted the office for support our volunteer Preservation Works co-ordinator was recovering from a stroke, and the manager was hard pressed to find a volunteer architect to do the work. I foolishly agreed to try to do it in between my other commitments, but it proved impossible to schedule a mutually convenient time. When we did get someone back in the co-ordinator's chair we found Phil Carter, and we are all grateful to him for doing such a great job.

The Preservation Works Program provides communities with very good value. All the Preservation Works consultants volunteer to support the cause for just their expenses, usually donating 2-5 days of time worth at least \$1000.00/day.

The modest \$250.00 fee goes to support our work, which includes keeping this valuable program going. The list Mr. Fleming talks about is kept by us....and it costs to have someone at the end of the phone in an office when someone calls, and to find a willing volunteer from the very small roster of qualified consultants available.

We aren't perfect, but we do our best under difficult circumstances...which is the lot of heritage activists in Ontario.

Catherine Nasmith Architect
President ACO

Sixty Years after the DVA Hospital Fire

The *Peterborough Examiner* marked the sixtieth anniversary of the Department of Veteran Affairs [DVA] Hospital fire with an excellent flashback article by Andrea Houston. Following a lead from the Trent Valley Archives, she interviewed Doug Vaisey, who then had been a reporter with the *Examiner*. She also interviewed Ken Grainger who was then 19. Doug Vaisey said six men eventually died of the shock from the fire. Both recalled the looting quite vividly. But they also remembered that patients were scattered all over the city. In the space of three hours, the fire completely destroyed the 268-bed hospital on Monaghan Road. The hospital was built in renovated H-huts, and even though only opened months before, was considered DVA's best TB facility. The government decided not to rebuild, and the CGE parking lot is now situated on this site.

The 1946 *Examiner* coverage was very thorough, and many reporters worked twenty-four hours non-stop on the project. The Peterborough Fire Department will tell this story in its forthcoming special history book, *Fire Fighting in Peterborough*. Here is a sampling of the articles that appeared in the two days following the fire.

DVA HOSPITAL RAZED

Not One Casualty as 228 Men Escape \$1,500,000 Building

Fire swept the DVA Hospital, Monaghan Road last night, completely destroying the former CGE staff house, causing more than \$1,500,000 damage to building and equipment. Swift, coolly efficient action by hospital orderlies cleared the 228 T. B. patients in less than five minutes. There was not one casualty in the ranks of either patients or fire fighters.

Bill Anderson, hospital orderly, discovered the fire when he went to the orderlies room to change into his hospital garb. "There was a lot of smoke in the corridor, and then, phooff! the whole room caught fire," he said. He notified Mrs A. Vondette, night switchboard operator, and a general alarm was sent though the hospital.

Hospital orderlies went to Fire "action stations", and carried out the normal routine of closing all windows and doors. Smoke filled the central ramp of the hospital and flooded into the two lower wards. Immediately after the alarm patients started filing out the fire escape door at the rear of the hospital. Orderlies, proceeding without panic, marshalled the men under the crisp orders of Dr J. A. McNeill. The patients, their discipline perfect, stood in ranks awaiting orders to evacuate.

Orderlies raced from ward to ward arousing patients who had not heard the alarm, and in some cases assisted them through the smoky corridors to the escape exit.

Out lower windows and down ladders patients poured in the orderly race to escape the smoky corridors and blazing building. Said Dr McNeill, "The evacuation was brilliant. They obeyed orders and the hospital fire alarm instructions.

First to be evacuated were J. E. Patterson, former RCAF flight lieutenant, and Walter Kemp, who were carried from Upper D ward on stretchers. Orderlies C. O'Toole and Art Weir carried the two men out through the corridors to an ambulance waiting at the evacuation point to take them to Civic Hospital.

By Doug Vaisey, Examiner Staff Writer
Peterborough Examiner, 6 December 1946

Patterson, critically ill, was lying in an oxygen tent when the alarm was sounded, and with Kemp, another seriously ill patient, was given top priority in the smooth evacuation operation. All that remained this morning was a tangled mass of twisted steel and charred walls. Ends of the two sections farthest from Monaghan Road were still standing but flames were licking through them rapidly, although firemen were still soaking the ruins.

The huge smokestack is still standing, and the steel framed elevator is upright but leaning toward the road. Within the concrete foundation of the first building, tin containers were exploding regularly as the heat reached them.

Immediately after the alarm sounded an emergency switchboard was set up at the home of Mrs Constance Spooner, 590 Wolfe Street, and calls were sent out to members of the hospital staff off duty. From this vital nerve centre assistance was summoned to carry the patients from the hospital to the CGE cafeteria.

Police stopped motorists on Monaghan Road and direct them to the rear of the hospital where patients were picked up and carried to the cafeteria. The motorists braving personal danger and possible damage to their cars, wheeled their cars up a driveway lighted by the blazing building.

Hundreds of citizens volunteered assistance in fighting the fire, evacuating equipment and shouting encouragement to the patients standing rank and file waiting to be transported to safer quarters.

The 250-bed hospital provided the most modern equipment and most advanced technique of treatment. The first DVA hospital designed exclusively for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis, it was intended primarily for the less serious cases and suspected cases of tuberculosis.....

Gloomy Predictions Proven as Fire Devoured the DVA

The Staff House went the way the public said it would. "If fire ever gets in there...." used to be their gloomily-convinced predictions when the wartime boarding house on Monaghan Road was built by the federal government for the accommodation of workers in the factories helping to fashion the tools and accessories of victory.

"It will be just like cardboard," those prophets of the fairly obvious would declare in rounding out their visions of the quick doom of the building the government rushed to completion as temporary housing which could not otherwise be obtained here. Appeals were made through the press and otherwise for rooms in private homes, and when that approach to the problem failed the government authorized the construction of what became known as the Staff House on Monaghan Road.

It was never intended to be a permanent structure. It was conceived only as part of the cost of victory, a building to be rushed up in a hurry because the factory needs were pressing more heavily on the community and its housing resources every week, and then to be torn down and charged to the expense of war.

But, the war ended, and a new use of the staff house appeared. Hospital space was needed for the sick, and again in an emergency the building was altered for the convenience of hospital treatment.

Meanwhile, the public seemed to have forgotten the fire hazard in the hurriedly constructed housing on Monaghan Road, and the place was serving a new purpose related to the war and it seemed safe and secure enough, with precautions and vigilance.

The Two Peterboroughs

The fire at the DVA hospital was calamitous, but mercifully the losses can all be reckoned in money and equipment; no lives were lost, and so far as can be judged at present, no patient came to any serious harm from shock. Tis is a very different story from that of the great Peterborough fire of 30 years ago, when the Quaker Oats factory was burned, and seventeen people were killed. All things considered, the fire was dealt with as efficiently and thoroughly as possible under the extremely difficult circumstances. The hospital staff, the patients, the fire department and scores of civilian helpers showed a spirit which deserves the highest praise.

Shortly after the fire was discovered arrangements were made to shelter the patients and to find new quarters for them. Private citizens in great numbers called the emergency bureau, offering to take patients into their homes, to take them to the city hospitals – to do anything at all which would help to meet the emergency. Thousands of people collected at the scene of the fire and did whatever they were asked to do to help in the salvage work. Nobody held back, nobody shirked. A magnificent spirit was shown by the official and unofficial helpers – a spirit to warm and gladden the heart, and to refresh faith in human nature.

But unfortunately there are always a few scoundrels who seek to profit from great misfortunes. There were looters at the fire, and they made off with a good deal of stuff which was salvaged. These looters were not shifty, sneaky little men and blowsy hags in shawls, as looters are in the movies; they were people who looked just like the men and women who were doing their best to help fight the fire and care for the patients. Their ugliness was all of the spirit. Seeing things – bed-linen and the like – which were not under close supervision, they could not restrain their impulse to steal. We urge very strongly that the police pick up half a dozen of these looters – they will not be hard to find – and that they be given a stiff sentence for their crime. By making examples of them, other thieves will be warned.

Two Peterboroughs were seen at the fire; there was the helpful and generous Peterborough, and the underhand, sneaking, contemptible Peterborough. The former was many times greater than the latter, but the latter was uncomfortably apparent. This duality exists in every community, and nothing can be done about it. We may be proud, however, that on this occasion the men of goodwill so many times outnumbered the self-seekers.

Harry Theobald

Peterborough Examiner, 6 December 1946

And then in three hours last night the hospital disappeared in roaring flames and crackling lumber, clouds of embers and smoke, blown relentlessly by a strong east wind that drove across the buildings and grounds of the CGE plant up slope of Chamberlain's hill.

Fire struck at the very vitals of the hospital in the weather conditions of midnight last night, to the north side of the centre corridor of the main building immediately facing Monaghan Road. Its main door looked up a long corridor, built as a ramp to fit the slope of the hill, and with the wind blowing from the east it caught the first wisps of flame and licked them out of the firemen's control, raged up the ramp and reached out on either side into the north and south sections of the series of buildings, three rows of them, all filled with dormitory accommodation, and occupied with patients.

The corridor was essential for every day use, but with flames loose and rampaging in the big high-walled administration building, the first arriving spectators shook their heads with "I told you so" as they saw the billowing draft-blown fire start up the ramp.

In the succeeding three hours, building after building was invaded through the wide ramp entrance and finally the long torch of the fire ate through the last wall, its insatiable tongues reaching further and futilely toward the snow covered hill. The fire then contented itself with leisurely extension into the lateral sections of the last two buildings, and its destructive work was complete.

Editorial

Peterborough Examiner, 7 December 1946

IODE Fonds

We are pleased to announce that the IODE fonds will be officially opened for research on 4 April 2007. The detailed finding aid is available in the reading room. The summary of the papers follows.

MAJOR BENNETT I.O.D.E.

Trent Valley Archives Fonds 25

Creator: Major Bennett IODE Chapter

Dates of Material: 1935, 1946-2004

Physical Description:

10 volumes, 2.75 m.

Bound scrapbooks, 1 m

Total 3.75 m

Scope and Contents:

Records, 1951 to 2002, of the Major Bennett Chapter IODE; Minute books and financial statements of the Catharine Parr Traill IODE, 1946-1965; and occasional records, 1961-1985, related to the provincial and national meetings of the IODE, together with information from other branches as received usually by the regent or the secretary. In addition to the many minute books, treasurer's books and notes, the papers contain an extensive record of newspaper coverage, and many photographs of IODE events. Particularly impressive are the records related to the annual Valentine's Ball, 1954 to 1980, which contain correspondence and materials related to organizing such a major annual event. Also noteworthy are the ten scrapbooks, most with specially designed covers, covering from 1950 to 1965. Newspaper clippings after that date are filed in photo albums or are loose in files awaiting someone to make a fancy scrapbook. The *Globe*, 6 May 1935, had a special section for the silver jubilee of George V. The papers are arranged according to the following series:

- Series 1 Regent's Files, 1952-2000, 14 cm. (vol. 1)
- Series 2 National and Provincial, 1961-1985, 10 cm. (vol. 1-2)
- Series 3 Executive, 1964-1996, 10 cm. (vol. 2-3)
- Series 4 Secretarial, 1951-1994, 37 cm. (vol. 3-5)
- Series 5 Financial, 1959-2004, 41 cm. (vol. 5-7)
- Series 6 Membership convenor, 1951-1966, 2 cm. (vol. 8)
- Series 7 Educational, 1951-1956, 4 cm. (vol. 8)
- Series 8 Publicity, 1964-2002, 5 cm. (vol. 8)
- Series 9 Social, 1946-1996, 23 cm. (vol. 8-10)
- Series 10 Scrapbooks, 1950-1995, 125 cm. (vol. 10-15)

Access Conditions:

Open to researchers.

Finding Aids:

Available on site.

Accruals:

None expected.

Custodial History:

The files were donated to the Trent Valley Archives in 2003-2006, and were organized according to the nature of the records. Some of the files were not explicitly labelled and efforts had to be made to determine provenance of the particular files. Where that proved impossible to determine, the files were described by contents. It appears that the records were accumulated annually by the current office holders and then were passed on to the successors. There is not always uniform agreement on the required tasks. As well, we still need to do more consideration on determining the provenance of different parts of the fonds. It seemed reasonable to assume that certain continuities indicated likely provenance. While organizing papers not otherwise identifiable it was discovered that many completed the series that we identified with the successive regents or secretaries. Some remained unclear and because of content were arranged by subject with Social and Publicity. As most people kept the records with them while in office the papers lack the uniformity that would come had the organization had a fixed office. Considerable effort was made to keep files together as they had been created even though the files were placed next to those that seemed related. The contents of such files are clearly indicated in the finding aid in order to ensure maximum accessibility. The papers were organized by Marianne Mackenzie, Alice Mackenzie and Elwood Jones.

It should be noted that the papers contain the minutes and account books of the Catharine Parr Traill IODE Chapter. These were given to the Major Bennett Chapter after the group folded in 1965.

Biographical Sketch/ Administrative History

The papers permit a significant study of the history of the IODE, worldwide as well as locally. The organization began in 1900, and local branches began as early as 1911.

News View and Reviews

Quaker Fire 90th Anniversary

The Trent Valley Archives prepared a well-received Quaker Fire Souvenir to mark the 90th anniversary of Peterborough's most disastrous fire, the Quaker Oats fire, 11 December 1916. It contained articles by Gina Martin that had previously appeared in the Heritage Gazette as well as Gina's report on the unveiling, 23 October 2006, of the plaque to fire victims. That plaque is now standing in the parkette at the corner of Hunter and Driscoll Terrace. As well, Elwood Jones spoke on Peterborough in 1916 and Gina Martin commented on some of the victims of the fire. The Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives prepared an exhibit for the occasion, and there were comments by Gordon Young, Father Heffernan and Doris Brick, chair for the occasion. Two of Doris Brick's ancestors died in that fire: Dennis O'Brien and William Hogan. As Gina noted, Dennis O'Brien was a hero who rescued two workers and was heading for a third. Fortunately, Gina's grandmother, a faithful Quaker employee, stayed home from work that day. Alan Wilson and Jeff Leal both worked at Quaker Oats and shared their different memories. Elwood Jones commented that the rebuilding of Quaker Oats and the building of the Hunter Street bridge were memorials to those who died. Moreover, the work was done at high wages, partly because so many young men were fighting in World War I. The two events attracted more than fifty descendants, many who welcomed the opportunity to know that their ancestors were well-remembered. Mayor Paul Ayotte thanked those who helped preserve history. Major fires affect the wider community in varied ways and occasions such as this remind us to think broadly even as we honour those who died. Limited copies of the Quaker Fire Souvenir are available: call 745-4404.

Robert Hicks Woodyard

The Robert Hicks & Co. woodyard was featured for September 2006 in last year's Waster Reduction & Conservation Calendar. The huge woodlot in the 1909 Roy Studio photo covered the entire block from Aylmer to Bethune and from Brock to Murray, essentially next door to Hutchison House. According to the huge printing on the side of the office building, at 248 Murray Street, Hicks sold lime, cement, sewer-pipe, sash doors and building supplies from this location. However, he was also in the fuel business, selling wood and coal, and this business was by the late 1920s succeeded by the Conger Lehigh Coal Company who set up a service station on the corner of Brock and Aylmer. Catherine Dibben has been the key researcher for the Roy Studio pictures that the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives have supplied to the *Peterborough Examiner* (weekly on Monday) and to *Peterborough This Week*, usually the second Wednesday. The captions for these pictures are well-done and provide real insight into our local history. Photos need commentary.

Reading Photographs

The Society of American Archivists has recently published an encyclopedic book, *Photographs: archival care and management*, which is without doubt the most useful book on the subject. It covers every aspect of how archivists have to deal with photographs: appraisal, arrangement, conservation, research and storage. Every chapter of the 550 page book is a delight. It was compiled by a team of five archivists led by Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler and Diane L. Vogt-O'Connor. It will be an essential reference for the Trent Valley Archives.

The current issue of *Archival Outlook*, the newsletter of the Society of American Archivists, carries a timely article on "Reading and Researching Photographs." Helena Zinkham makes many interesting points. Using a photo included with the article she suggests how to read photographs. In the first step, you capture your first impressions in words, name everything you can, and then look at the picture again. In the second step, you read any textual information that might be associated with the picture, and describe what the picture shows, and consider who made the picture, and why, when, where and

how. She says to flag your assumptions with question marks. Just because you ask a question does not mean you have the answer. The third step in reading photographs is to verify the information and talk to others about what you might have missed.

Only then does she consider how to research photographs. She says really look at the photographs and see what information can be gleaned about the details in the pictures, in its framing, and in comments that might be written on the back of the photo. Check any information about the photographer. Identify anything in the picture that could be useful for reference purposes. Even if the people are unidentified, the pictures might be important to illustrate period clothing, or artifacts, or the way artifacts are used. We might learn something about furnishings and decorations or the room arrangements and uses. They might reveal something about transportation systems. Also, you might be able to understand the reason the photograph was taken.

These distinctions between first impressions, reading and researching are central to the work of archivists handling photographs. Currently we have a

volunteer creating a finding aid to a photographic scrapbook of high quality prints of Canadians along the Western Front of World War I. All of these suggestions are useful.

We have several collections with historical photographs. Some are the work of photographers, from professionals such as Peterborough's Osborne's Photography and Ottawa's Mel Sucee to gifted amateurs such as Omeme's C Hillary Williamson or Peterborough's Gerry Stephenson. Many of our collections have been created by amateur historians, and photographs are usually found in their fonds. For example, there are many photographs in the Robert DelleDonne collection and in the Martha Ann Kidd's fonds. The Electric City Collection contains photographs gathered by Elwood Jones and Bruce Dyer while producing their book, *Peterborough The*

Electric City (1987). As well, TVA has acquired some photographs by purchase.

The Trent Valley Archives considered ways in which we might share our photographic resources with people interested, as we are, with genealogical, historical and archival approaches to photographs. The first result is a modest publication featuring photographs that illustrate the interiors of stores, homes and factories. We are printing the photographs in a large format so readers can read photographs just the way Helena Zinkham suggests. If this is successful, we will follow with booklets in similar format but highlighting other themes.

The first book should be available very shortly, and we are offering a discount to members. We will post the information on our website, www.trentvalleyarchives.com and of course you can also contact Diane for details.

Gordon Bernard Parks (1930-2006)

One of Peterborough's most important photographers passed away in November. Gordon operated Parks Studios for 30 years, and many of his photographs are at the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives. In 1979 he left for the ministry. When I joined Trent University in 1969 the Examiner published notices accompanied with a Parks photo. I met Gordon Parks later when he wanted advice about his photo collection. It turned out that we had common connection to the Carmarthen area of Wales and he later gave me a book on the natural life of that area. He was a great gentleman and Peterborough was the richer for the life of him and his father, Lewis R. Parks. There are many delightful photos in his collection and it will be a great day when a book of Parks photos is published.

Joneses break same surname record

The BBC reported that 1,224 Joneses gathered at a special event in Cardiff. The count was administered by the Guinness Book of Records. The number did not include people with hyphenated names or maiden names. Jones is the most common surname in Wales; 13.5% of the population. They are not necessarily related as in the 18th century people with John as their first name could adopt the Jones surname. The previous record was held by the Norbergs who had 583 at a gathering in Sweden two years ago. Who will keep up with the Joneses?

Trent Valley Archives awarded Trillium Grant

The Trent Valley Archives won an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant in early December to permit the return and reintegration of the Peterborough County Land Records. The grant was for \$22,600 to cover the cost of the Rosco invoice, and to provide for new shelving and new boxes to house the Land Records. As well, the grant provided some funding to permit us to hire archival assistance for reintegrating the records. In the flood of 15 July 2004, the water level in the lower storage level was about 1 inch above the lowest shelf which held about 90,000 documents. With great volunteer assistance and facilities in two local schools and Trinity Church hall for which we are eternally grateful we were able to gather the documents, dry them out and rebox them. However, it was the advice of conservation specialists that all the documents were not sufficiently dry and with the assistance of Ken Doherty at City Hall we were able to piggy-back our land records on the trucks taking the Roy Studio collection to the Rosco freezers in Montreal. The City paid for the shipping and freezing of the documents as the Trillium grant would not cover aspects of the project that preceded the grant. We are pleased to report that the affected documents have returned in excellent condition. Don Willcock was hired to assist our volunteers in the many complexities of the project. We are at press time still waiting for some of the shelving but Don has made great progress in reboxing all the land records and in reintegrating the records that have just returned from Montreal. We know that there will be some difficulty with a small proportion of the documents, primarily because in some cases the cover pages with the important document control numbers became separated from the rest of the document. There were also some other collections that were affected and these too have been returned and will be reshelfed in proper order as well.

The Trent Valley Archives is holding an open house on 4 April 2007 from 1-4 pm, with speeches at 2 pm. We invite all our members to take this opportunity to see the terrific changes that have taken place, to view special exhibits and to see some of the returned records. As well, we will officially open our collection of IODE records. See you then.

Scandals and Scoundrels - St. Patrick's Day Pubcrawl!

Diane Robnik

Peterborough's downtown core is unique as many of the original hotels and taverns are still standing leaving our local history largely visible. Join the Trent Valley Archives Scandals and Scoundrels tour as we guide you through four historic taverns in downtown Peterborough (Clancy's, The Pig's Ear, The White House and The Rooster). Naturally, we will have time to stop and have a drink! Your guide will also point out other hotels and their infamous guests and adventures along the way. Tickets are \$20 and do not include drinks. This tour is not suitable for children.

Some interesting lore of the evening will include a tavern which had encounters with the Cavan Blazers and an afternoon police shoot-out. Another popular bar has three ghosts lurking on two separate floors. You will learn about the importance of hotels in our fair city; one becoming a hospital ward during the influenza outbreak in 1918. Another held an important gala with a guest of honour who never arrived. Yet another is linked with a young girl who was buried alive in the woods. A famous hotel now gone once hosted Mary Pickford when she was in town. And the list goes on. Last year about 25 eager participants took part in Trent Valley Archives first-annual Scandals and Scoundrels St. Paddy's Day pubcrawl. This tour highlights the (sometimes scandalous) history of drinking in Peterborough including the creation of pubs (public houses), the importance of whiskey as well as temperance movements and prohibition. This fun tour is approximately 3.5 hours as we allow for about 30 minutes inside each tavern. Peterborough's hotel history is also illustrated as we discuss 5 downtown hotels which were significant to Peterborough's development. Special thanks goes out to our ever-popular tour guides, Bruce Fitzpatrick and Wally Macht who effortlessly provide solid entertainment for the evening. Thanks also to the bar-owners who have made the evenings memorable by sharing their stories: John Punter (Pig's Ear Tavern), Mike (Clancy's Bar), John Vranic (White House Hotel) and Tony and Pete from the Rooster. The pride in your establishments is evident to all who have participated.

This is the most popular "crawl" of our season, so if you are interested in coming along with us this year - mark Friday March 16 on your calendars! Tickets are \$20 and are available at Titles Bookstore beginning in March.

Reservations can also be made earlier by calling TVA at 745-4404. Come out and bring your friends!

True or False Quiz

Take the following quiz and test your knowledge about the history of drinking in Peterborough. The answers will be part of the discussion along our tour of Peterborough's infamous "Rum Rows."

- a.. Bars were known as "Beverage Rooms" inside hotels
- b.. People were referred to as Teetotallers because they decided to switch from alcoholic drinks to tea only
- c.. The restrictive Scott Act was named after Adam Scott
- d.. Taverns were eventually closed on election days to prevent rioting and vote-buying
- e.. Foot railings were placed in bars so you could tie up stray animals that would wander inside from the street
- f.. "Open" bars meant these taverns could be open all night
- g.. Ginger Beer and Ginger Ale came were created as "temperance" drinks
- h.. Taverns had to stop serving alcohol at 10pm
- i.. Local police estimated in the 1880s that 90% of court cases in Peterborough were related to alcohol

Joseph Stewart Was For Over 40 Years a Law Enforcement Officer – Retired in 1930

Peterborough Examiner, 22 April 1935

Law enforcement officer in Peterborough for over 40 years, Joseph Stewart who had lately been living in retirement on his farm in Otonabee Township is dead. He passed away on Sunday evening in his 75th year. For many years the late Mr. Stewart was a constable on the City Police Force from which he was appointed to the position of license inspector under the Ontario Government. With the passing of the system of licensed hotels, Mr Stewart was retained as special officer for the enforcement of the Ontario Temperance Act, and subsequently the Liquor Control Act. Those duties extended over a long period of years, and constituted a record upon which Joseph Stewart earned the well-merited confidence of his superiors and also of the public.

He was retired from the Provincial Police under superannuation, on 1 June 1930 upon the attainment of his 70th birthday. While he was license inspector and enforcement officer under the O.T.A. it used to be said that conditions in Peterborough were comparatively favourable in the extent to which the law was respected and obeyed. This was the general opinion particularly in the later years of the licensing system.

The late Mr. Stewart served on the City Police Force when it was composed of Chief George I. Roszel and three constables. He was a native of Ireland and came to Peterborough from that country in 1880. Predeceased by his wife four years ago, he leaves two daughters, Mrs. H. White of Peterborough and Mrs. B.E Hardy of Toronto and also two sons, J.E Stewart of Ottawa and J.G Stewart at home.

The funeral is to be held from the family residence on Wednesday at 2pm to Little Lake for internment. Services will be conducted by the Rev. J.S. Ferguson, pastor of Keene United Church.

Poverty in Peterborough: an earlier Mayor's committee

Mayor Paul Ayotte, of Peterborough, has appointed an impressive task force on poverty with a mandate to explore issues of poverty and report to City Council by 12 March 2007. This is not unprecedented for the Town of Peterborough used similar initiatives to tackle the problems of poverty in the winter of 1875-1876. The debate is discussed in chapter 3 of Anson House: A Refuge and a Home (Peterborough 2001). The book emerged from my fourth year class 2000-2001 and their research notes are in the Trent Valley Archives as are the papers of the Protestant Home, later known as Anson House. It was a very impressive public exercise that the committee might wish to examine more closely. For starters, here is the report that went to the Council of that day. Mayor Ayotte announced his committee 21 December 2006, almost exactly 131 years after this committee had its first meeting. This report is from Peterborough Review, 7 January 1876.

After a couple of meetings of citizens, and a special meeting of the Town Council, wise and judicious steps have been taken for providing employment for those who are unable to find work at the present time in town. At the second meeting of citizens, the following report of the committee appointed at the first meeting was presented by Mr G.E. Shaw, and adopted: —

“The Committee appointed at a meeting convened by His Worship the Mayor in the Council Chamber, the 22nd instant, to take into consideration the most efficient means of relieving the families resident in the town of Peterborough, and likely to require assistance during the present winter, beg leave to report as follows: —

“1st That from personal observation and due inquiry, your committee are of the opinion that there are several families residing within the corporation that have been unable during the past summer to earn sufficient to make provision for their maintenance during the ensuing winter.

“2nd That owing to the general depression of trade and commerce, more particularly all classes of manufacturing establishments, many artisans and employees are without the usual employment and unable to provide for the daily requirements of themselves and their families.

“3rd Your committee have learned with much gratification that the immediate aid required by several families to enable them in part to enjoy the festive season, now at hand, have been relieved through the assistance of the corporation, the Protestant Home, and the charitable Societies.

“4th That in order to meet the wants of those who are without employment, and are waiting and desirous of earning something to supply their daily requirements, Your committee recommend that His Worship the Mayor advocate in Council assembled the appropriation of a certain sum of money to be expended during the present winter in public improvements, in order to give employment to that class of labour most in need, and without any other apparent means of support.

“5th Your committee recommend that His Worship the Mayor appoint a special committee of four councillors to be assisted by eight of the ratepayers of the Town, two to be chosen from each Ward, four out of that number shall be owners of real estate, and such joint committees shall be known as “The Corporation Relief Committee,” and shall have full power to act and expend as the council may direct, all monies entrusted to their care, also other sources of relief that may be placed at their disposal, to the best of their ability, for the relief of those who may be in need.

“In conclusion your committee are of the opinion that if an appeal were made to those who are charitably disposed both in town and country surrounding, the large donations requisite for the support of those in want would be supplied, and that, together with the appropriation granted by the council, would be adequate to relieve those who are unable to work, as well as that class who are willing and ready to earn their daily bread.

“All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. E. SHAW, Chairman of Committee.”

Roy Studio Images restored and returned

Rosco Group Document Restorations in Montreal delivered 10,500 restored glass plate images to the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives in October 2006. The plates had been damaged by the flood waters that broke into the basement of the Peterborough Public Library 15 July 2004. The million dollar cost was paid by insurance, federal and provincial grants and the United Way. The very valuable collection is now housed at PCMA's Armour Hill location. It is particularly rich for documenting many aspects of local life from 1904 to 1940 but some images in the collection seem to date from as early as 1892, and some as late as 1992. Three generations of Roys were professional photographers, and R. M. Roy was taking photographs as early as 1860. He moved to Peterborough in 1888 working for the Midland Railway and in 1892 began his business on the second floor of the Post Office at Water and Hunter. When the business moved a few doors west in 1896, father and son began a business that operated from that location for nearly a century. Miranda Studios is now at that location, and Doors Open had an open house of the venerable photo studio. We congratulate the PCMA on its success in overcoming adversity.

Trent Valley Archives Announcements

You are cordially invited to attend our festive open house, 4 April 2007, 1-4 pm to celebrate the reopening of the Peterborough County Land Records, and the opening of the IODE fonds. We will officially thank the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the City of Peterborough, Jeff Leal and our friends and volunteers for their great support in making this possible. Refreshments will be served.

During Ontario's Archival Heritage Week, 2 to 6 April, we will run workshops related to the land records, conservation and photographs. Call 745-4404 for details and reservations.

TVA's website, www.trentvalleyarchives.com has some new features for which we are grateful to the hard work of Chris Minicola. Our index to the *Peterborough Examiner*, 1890-1924, largely the work



Don Willcock preparing new boxes.

of Don Cournoyea and Diane Robnik, has been added and is a complement to other guides to newspapers which we have created and posted to the web. As well, we have added some early newspaper stories, 1847-1860; they have been selected from the much larger collection that is available on computers at TVA.

As well, the index to historical articles in *Prime Time*; a finding aid for John Marsh's fonds relating to Parks and Recreation; and the guide to series 5 of the Electric City Collection. The full index to the *Heritage Gazette* will be posted in the near future. Thanks to the efforts of those who have made such improvements possible. This is still the best site for Peterborough genealogy and history.

TVA will unveil two new cemetery walks and present a fresh version of its classic walk, "Tragic Tales of Loss and Misfortune." The new walks are tentatively titled "Victoria Mourning" and "Seats of the Mighty." The walks will run on Sunday afternoons.

The annual fees for membership in the Trent Valley Archives will be \$50 for individuals and \$60 for families. GST is extra. This change in fees, the only one in eight years, is overdue and we believe that people realize that the new rate is still a remarkable bargain. The *Heritage Gazette*, the superb website, the accessibility to personal research, the exceptional reading room resources, the large family history database, and other services clearly merit wide support. We will still need to rely on donations from friends and members, for which charitable donation tax receipts are given. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the kind donations received for our recent winter appeal. It was our most successful fundraising events ever. Thanks very much for the kind and welcome indicators of support for our many initiatives.

Trent Valley Archives Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Trent Valley Archives will be held in the chapel of the Princess Gardens, Peterborough Square, Thursday, 26 April 2007, beginning at 7:30 pm. There will be a short business meeting to consider all the usual motions for an annual meeting.

Rae Fleming, a former TVA director, the sage of Argyle, former editor of *Ontario History* and noted author will be our guest speaker. His books include *Eldon Connections* (1975), *Railway King of Canada* (1991), and books on the Royal Tour of 1939 and on general stores in Canada. In addition to the book on the Frost brothers, he is working on biographies of Peter Gzowski and Paul Yurik. His talk, "From Passchendaele to Chapters, With Love and Passion," will reflect on the experiences of writing a book based on the Great War letters of Leslie and Cecil Frost. Leslie Frost was premier of Ontario in the 1960s and a founder of Trent University. Leslie Frost emerges as a youth with great imagination and excitement about the potentials of Canada. They also provide insights into the small-town central Ontarian experience with health, drinking and politics. Rae is an accomplished writer and public speaker and we know this talk will be of wide interest. Bring friends and plan to enjoy a great evening. For further details contact us at 745-4404.

Kim Krenz was a featured interviewee

Joelle Kovach did an interesting interview of Kim Krenz that appeared in the Examiner on 10 November, the very day that the last *Heritage Gazette* came from the printers. That issue featured Kim Krenz' delightful history of Rosemere Manor. The Examiner article talked about the many interesting turns in Kim's fascinating life. Kim, who has a Ph. D. in Physics, was raised in China where his parents worked for the USA consulate. He is proficient in five languages and his career in nuclear physics has taken him to Montreal, Scotland, Italy, Peterborough and Ottawa. Joelle concludes, "So I come away with a few lessons: Keep learning. Don't wear old-guy pants. And never act your age." It was a nice tribute. And there has been considerable interest in our last issue because it featured the history of Rosemere Manor.

Heritage Gazette turns 10

The first issue of the *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley* was published in February 1997. Steve Gavard, assisted by Art Dainton, was the first editor. The *Heritage Gazette* first appeared in a digest format, moving to the magazine and quarterly format in February 2000. The first issue ran 68 pages plus a centre fold application form. The cover picture was taken from the Olive Dyer fonds. The issue was wide-ranging with articles on history, genealogy and methodology. We began with John Harper's 1920s reminiscence of growing up on Charlotte Street in the 1840s. Elwood Jones argued that Peterborough was the St Andrew's of North American golf. Rae Fleming talked about the difficulties of getting access to church records. Steve Gavard did a photo essay on the Peterborough Canoe. PACAC announced a booklet to accompany classroom teaching on cemeteries. Several people shared adventures of family research. And dozens of local heritage organizations contributed greetings, short notes and advertisements. It represented a grand vision. Wouldn't it be nice if all the heritage organizations worked together to create a regional digest of activities and information.

The vision changed over time. It became more about the history of east central Ontario than about the heritage organizations in the area. We still wish it would be more about the organizations, but that requires a commitment from the organizations that works best when our publication deadlines coincide with their own. Even for the Trent Valley Archives it has not been possible to plan events essentially four to six months in advance in order to ensure coverage in the *Heritage Gazette*. However, it has worked increasingly better at doing that. In the meantime we have discovered that developing the Trent Valley Archives in a permanent home has created immense possibilities for knowing more about the regional history.

Looking back over ten years I am amazed at how much we have been able to preserve of our past history, and how much more we all know about countless aspects of our past. It has far exceeded our expectations and our hopes. Here's to the next ten.

Trent Valley Archives Publications

We are pleased to announce our newest publication. *Peterborough Interiors: a photographic history* is an attractive 36 page publication filled with about 40 illustrations, mostly large format. It is hoped that the publication will draw attention to our archival sources relating to photographs and how they might be used in your own research. How many stories can a single picture tell? In addition to an introductory essay each photo has a useful caption. All the photos come from TVA holdings.



Peterborough Interiors is selling to members at a special rate of \$10. Its retail price will be \$15. Order yours today.

Trent Valley Archives

Fairview Heritage Centre
567 Carnegie Avenue
Peterborough Ontario K9L 1N1

705-745-4404

www.trentvalleyarchives.com
admin@trentvalleyarchives.com

Without archives there is no history!

The Trent Valley Archives is proud of its previous publications printed professionally. *Up The Burleigh Road ... beyond the rocks* will be reprinted in the near future and we apologize if you have been unable to get a copy for you or your friends.

We still have copies of Diane Robnik's *Mills of Peterborough County*. It sells for \$27.95 plus GST.

Our special in-house publications are always available as they are printed as required. We especially recommend the two volumes from C. P. Mulvan's *History of Peterborough County*.

We sell many publications not published by us because we know our members find it a valuable service. See the list on the inside front cover.