



Heritage News

Serving the Community for over 50 Years



Spring 2011
Vol. 24/Issue 2

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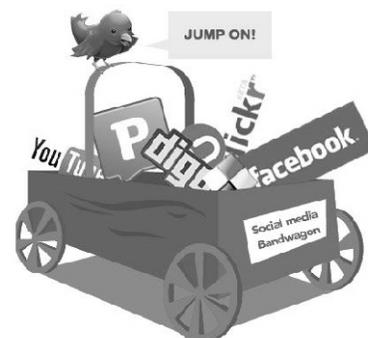
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The Changing Landscape ... or e-Landscape

By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian, Heritage Mississauga

Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Flickr: a new world indeed!

Last year at Heritage Mississauga, we re-launched our website, and we have now delved into the world of Social Media with Facebook and Twitter. These have begun to change not only the way in which we communicate, but the way in which we think about our services and how we share our information. But we are also learning as we go along, stepping cautiously as it were into the brave new world of Social Media. As such this is a bit of a strange article for me to write as I am new to this technology as well, far from an expert, and researching and writing this article has also provided a bit of an evolution of thought for me, albeit an exciting one. It feels a bit like catching a glimpse into a fascinating world of possibilities.



Is Social Media a fad? History tells us that it is not, but rather it is a shift in the way we must communicate, provide service, market, and internally think about ourselves. There was a time, not so long ago, when email communications and websites were cutting edge technology, and to be honest some of us just now understand how to best utilize these technologies. And although our task as an organization in itself has not changed, the tools we have at our disposal have changed drastically. There is an old adage in academia that you must "publish or perish", and it is a way of thinking that heritage institutions, such as Heritage Mississauga, have ascribed to for ages. But the e-landscape, online technologies and Social Media have evolved at such a pace that many of us who work in the heritage field feel a little like we are scrambling to keep pace: "understanding (and utilizing) Social Media is like being a survivor, entrepreneur, spy, genius and adventurer all rolled into one" (*from Social Media Evolution*).

But Social Media statistics are relentless: over 30% of the world's populations is under 30 years old, and 96% of those under 20 years old have joined a social network of some kind. Social Media, in all of its many forms, is the #1 activity on the Web. It took 38 years for radio to reach 50 million users; it took television 13 years; 4 years for the internet; 3 years for the iPod; Facebook reached 200 million users world wide in less than one year; iPod downloads reached 2 billion in fewer than 9 months. If Facebook were a country, it would be the 3rd largest in the world ... and growing! The statistics are unyielding: Social Media is not a fad, but rather it represents a fundamental shift in the way we communicate.

There are many who look at information postings such as Wikipedia with scepticism, but if you were to print all of the content found on Wikipedia, it would be equivalent to printing 1000 volumes of the Encyclopaedia Britannica ... and Wikipedia is growing through user submissions at an incredible rate. There are some, myself included, who have in the past dismissed Wikipedia as a reliable source; but perhaps as we begin to evolve in our thinking of

SPECIAL EVENTS

Heritage Bus Tour

Sun. April 17th

Leaving from The Grange
1pm-5pm

Annual General Meeting

Wed. May 25th

The Grange
6:30pm

Heritage Luncheon

Speaker:

Mayor Hazel McCallion

Thurs. June 16

Noon - 2pm
Glen Erin Inn

President's Message

By Barbara O'Neil, President

Tours, Awards, The Equinox & You

On Sunday, April 17th, our Historian, Matthew Wilkinson, will be conducting another of his very popular Heritage Bus Tours. Departing The Grange promptly at 1PM and returning by 5PM, tickets for this tour are \$19.50 each and are available on a first-come basis. We will be stopping off at several locations, so wear your comfortable shoes and clothing. For those of you who have attended previous tours, Matthew endeavours to make each tour unique, with different pockets of our City and "hidden jewels" visited each time. For those you who haven't attended a tour yet, I can vouch that Matthew is a walking encyclopaedia of local heritage. And, he truly enjoys sharing the kinds of stories and details that make history come alive for any audience. The April 2010 tour sold out, so call the office to reserve your space soon! (Groups wishing to book a customized tour may be scheduled on request, based on Matthew's availability.)



Heritage Mississauga Awards Evening

The renovated Lakeview Golf Club was the site of our annual Awards Evening on February 17th. Eighty-nine guests attended to celebrate the winners of 15 awards across 6 categories. The 2 award winners not previously announced, the Cultural Heritage Property Award recipients, are:

- City of Mississauga, The Streetsville Village Hall, 280 Queen St. South (Adaptive Reuse category)
- Orlando Corporation, leased by Heritage House Dental, 820 Britannia Road West (also for Adaptive Reuse).

In accepting his award, Alan Skeoch, this year's Lifetime Member Award recipient, offered his thoughts on geography being the principle determinant of history.

"You asked me what motivates my interest in history. My mind jumped back to 1948, Dufferin Park, where my brother and I watched our Dad play poker with a fascinating collection of New Canadians. They were called DP's, a term that took on a negative meaning by some Canadians who were shocked at these new arrivals...these "Displaced Persons" who came from Poland, the Ukraine, Britain, Russia, Lithuania, Italy...people whose lives were in tatters...people who did not want to talk much about their background.

I was ten years old loved to play with toy guns, typical of the war years, I suppose. And Bobby S. had a Dad that could make perfect wooden replicas of Russian sub machine guns. I envied him. But it wasn't until years later that I discovered the hell from which he had come. The Polish Army fought their way across the globe, an army that could not go home to Poland after the war. Bobby S. had a father whose eyes were both proud and frightening. I knew that much at the time. He had turned pages of history that I could not

find. Later on, much later, I had a great high school teacher, Evan Cruickshank at Humberside. He was smart as a whip but never lumbered us with lectures. His best comment was "I don't know!" I respected the man...you cannot say 'I don't know' to kids unless you are respected. At one point I asked him why Karl Marx said that violence between human beings was inevitable." Crooky said "I don't know but..." And he encouraged me to start to think for myself...to find out...to try to solve the mysteries of history...to try to understand why people hated each other so much...not sophisticated thinking just juvenile ideas.

Later the big questions came as I tried to understand the patterns of civilization. Do civilizations rise and fall? How many civilizations have preceded ours? Is human progress possible? Will climate change alter life as we know it? Big questions with no absolute answers. But all these questions lead back to human beings to the warp and weave of ordinary life. And Mississauga today has a terrifically diverse population...just like that picnic bench in 1948. Strangely the violence seems to be absent. Maybe we can keep it that way".

Pictures of the evening are on our website www.heritagemississauga.com. Congratulations again to all our winners!

Spring Equinox Ceremony

While local residents were told to look for an unusually bright and large "Super Moon" the evening of March 19, for

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Board of Directors 2010-2011

Barbara O'Neil, **President** Greg Carraro, **Vice President**
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HERITAGE NEWS is a publication of the Mississauga Heritage Foundation Inc. The Foundation (est. 1960) is a not-for-profit organization which identifies, researches, interprets, promotes, and encourages awareness of the diverse heritage resources relating to the city of Mississauga. The Foundation acknowledges, with thanks, the financial assistance of the City of Mississauga, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Department of Canadian Heritage - The Heritage Canada Foundation, Community Foundation of Mississauga, Canada Summer Jobs, the Ministry of Culture, Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board, Peel School Board and Career Essentials which, together with its members, donors, sponsors, and volunteers, help to preserve Mississauga's heritage in its many aspects. Articles, contributions, comments, advertisements, and letters to the Editor are welcome. Please contact us at: Mississauga Heritage Foundation, 1921 Dundas St. W., Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1R2, phone: (905) 828-8411 or fax: (905) 828-8176, or E Mail: info@heritagemississauga.org. You can also visit us on our Web page: www.heritagemississauga.com **NEXT DEADLINE: June 1, 2011**

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From the Editor's Desk

By Jayme Gaspar, Executive Director

My column in this issue of *Heritage News* is dedicated to celebrating one of Heritage Mississauga's strongest supporters and advocates, Arthur Grant Clarkson. A founder and member of our first Board of Directors in 1960, Grant has been instrumental in so many heritage preservation projects during his 95 years. This distinguished Patron passed away during Heritage Month February 2011.



Arthur Grant Clarkson, HM

I first met Grant in 2002 when he brought to my attention a number of heritage issues in our community that needed immediate attention. He started us on a quest to have a 1919 painting by Fred S. Haines that spanned 18 feet and titled *Indians on the Credit at Meadowvale*, moved to a location that would be available to be seen, by all the residents of Mississauga. Grant had been instrumental in 1975 in having the painting restored through grants from the Ministry of Culture.

It took some time but we were thrilled to have Grant and his family there to unveil the three panel painting which now hangs at the City of Mississauga second floor Council Chambers atrium.

Grant never stopped guiding and supporting heritage preservation in Mississauga. From his years working on the Councils of Toronto Township and the Town of Mississauga, the CVCA, the Peel Museum and Art Gallery, Erinoak Kids and Heritage Mississauga he brought his knowledge and experience to the issues of the times. We were particularly proud when our nomination of Grant for the Ontario Heritage Trust Lieutenant Governors Award was accepted and he became one of the first recipients of this prestigious award.

Over the past few years we have worked with Grant to capture his memories of Toronto Township and Mississauga through our Oral History project. His family history is a fascinating one, living in Dixie, growing up with the many families that made up his community: the Pallets, McCarthy's, Chudleigh's and Deaths, to name a few. His family tree includes the Prices, Irwins and many other pioneer families.

In December of last year we celebrated our 50th anniversary with Grant, his family and the heritage community. It was an honour to have Grant with us at The Grange particularly as he is a founding member but also because Grant was involved in the preservation of Heritage Mississauga's present home the Robinson-Adamson House in 1979,

paving the way for the Heritage Resource Centre we have today. My fondest memories of Grant include the many trips taken over his property by the Credit River through his orchards, visiting the 100's of trees he planted over his time there. I will always remember these trips because with a smile he would always guide you to his John Deere Gator and at full speed treat his visitors to a fantastic ride over hill and valley, so proud of the very special oasis in the city he had built.

Goodbye dear friend, thank you for your guidance, dedication to heritage preservation and your tenacity to get issues dealt with. We will endeavour to continue in your footsteps. You will be missed.

Heritage Mississauga invites you to Lunch



**Keynote Speaker:
Mayor Hazel McCallion**

**Thursday June 16th
noon - 2pm
Historic Glen Erin Inn**

Tickets: \$100.00, Table of 8 - \$700.00

Charitable Receipts will be issued.

Contact Heritage Mississauga 905-828-8411 ext 0
or by email at info@heritagemississauga.org to
reserve your tickets today!

Trivia Question:

Do you know Holderness
Street?



Answer page 15

Memorial Cup and Re-dedication of the Mississauga Veteran's Memorial

Mayor Hazel McCallion, Members of Council, and the Host Organizing Committee of the 2011 MasterCard Memorial Cup invite you to an official ceremony in honour of the arrival of the Memorial Cup to Mississauga and the Re-dedication of the new Veteran's Memorial on Celebration Square at the Mississauga Civic Centre at 11:30am on Thursday, May 19th, 2011.

The Darker Side: The Murder of Noah Eaton, Part Two

By Deanna Natalizio

This article is part of our "The Darker Side" article series, and is continued from our Winter 2011 newsletter.



Deanna Natalizio

Janet Smith was the only witness called by the defence. Her and husband Thomas lived nearly opposite Eaton's house. She saw a burst of bright light coming from his house the evening of the murder at around 9 o'clock. It was not the light of a candle; it was stronger, like a handful of wood shavings had been thrown on the fire. This was to prove that Eaton could not have been dead at the time that light was seen, and moreover that Hamilton could not have murdered him as he would have come and gone by 9pm. The prosecution dismissed this by saying that the grease from Eaton's tilted frying pan had likely fallen into the fire, causing the burst of a flame, and reconfirming the time of death.

On May 22, 1847, after a deliberation of only twenty minutes, Chief Justice Sir John Beverley Robinson read a verdict of guilty, citing:

"The prisoner Hamilton has not as yet made any formal confession; but in private has acknowledged himself guilty of the crime of which he is to suffer. He does not accuse any one as his accomplice. He declares that when he entered the house, he had no intention of committing the murder; but that everything being so favourable, he got quit of Brown in the way stated by evidence, he turned back, and the door being slightly open, he seized the axe, and making one step forward, struck Eaton on the back of the head, and then after two or three cuts on his neck, threw down the axe and quitted the house. He says that instead of three and a half minutes, he was not above two in committing the deed."

James Hamilton was sentenced to execution on June 22, 1847. This alleged confession, as it was not made publicly, could have been a complete fabrication or made by Hamilton under duress. There is evidence of dissenters who maligned *The Colonist* for not printing a verbatim confession:

"*The Colonist* says that a correspondent has written to him, complaining that he had not published James Hamilton's confession. Our contemporary now sees what he has brought himself to. He has imbued the minds of his readers with such a taste for horrors, that they actually expect him to publish murderers' confessions whether they have made them or not." (June 16, 1847 edition of *Globe and Mail*)

"Whether they had made them or not" is an interesting choice of last words. As Hamilton had not publicly confessed to anything, is this an admission that the

confession was doctored? *The Colonist* may also have taken the higher road of moral propriety (as if it were in bad taste to publish any murderer's confession) to quiet those impugning the verdict.

As recorded in the Canada Death Penalty Index, "James Hamilton was hung June 22, 1847: Went to the home of Noah Eaton in Toronto Township on February 20, 1847, and killed him with an axe." Perhaps it was that simple?

Noah Eaton was laid to rest in Bethany Methodist Cemetery; Concession 6 East, Lot 4 1/2, land since taken over by Pearson Airport. William Perkins-Bull was the first historian to transcribe Bethany United in the 1930's. "The cemetery contains one stone unique to the county: Noah Heaton, who was murdered Feb 20, 1847 aged 65 years. One wonders what horror story is concealed behind these brief, not to say abrupt, words."

William Britnell recorded the cemetery again in 1976, after the stones had been moved due to the expansion of the Airport grounds. The move occurred after 1956, and the surviving stones are now part of Riverside Cemetery at the intersection of Royal York Road and Lawrence Avenue. Britnell's transcript clearly identifies stone # 35 as that of Noah Heaton's; unmistakably with an H, as follows:

"Noah HEATON who ----- Feb 20, 1847 aged 65 years"

The confusion over the spelling of Eaton's surname underpins this story as he is referred to as "Eaton" in newspaper records, but "Heaton" in land abstracts and cemetery records. For the purposes of this tale, he has been referred to as Eaton. As written documentation and official birth records were either scarce or non-existent at the time of his murder, the transfer of information was often subject to oral re-telling, and the nuances resulting from the subjective interpretation of the listener may have produced the variation. The first attempt at a nominal census of Peel County took place in 1851, an unfortunate 4 years after his murder. At the time of Britnell's recording, the stone must have been partially eroded. It is assumed the stone must have been totally illegible by the time the cemetery was next transcribed by the Halton-Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society in 1996 as there is no mention of "Noah Heaton" in the transcription proper. A cairn erected at Riverside Cemetery in honour of the uprooted graves reads as follows:

"The graves surrounding this memorial are of the pioneers of South Malton & their descendants; moved to this location from Bethany Cemetery due to expansion of the Malton Airport. Erected in loving memory by the congregations. God's glory continueth -- May they rest in peace." This is likely all that is left to mark the life of Noah Eaton/Heaton. The uncertainty surrounding the spelling of his surname and his tombstone's disappearance from the traces of

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Fighting For the Frontier: The War of 1812 Remembered

Preparing For Conflict

By Milan Gocmanac

Milan is a fourth year student at the University of Toronto Mississauga, enrolled in the Historical Studies internship program. His placement for the 2010-11 academic year is with Heritage Mississauga where he is undertaking a research project on the War of 1812 documenting militiamen from Toronto Township (Mississauga).



Milan Gocmanac



Sir Isaac Brock, *www*

It was October of 1811 that Major General Isaac Brock was appointed the head of military and civil establishments of Upper Canada. Brock began by extensively touring the Province in order to make adjustments and ensure its military security. Additionally, he began courting the Native warriors on his side in the event that Canada was to go to war with the United States. In the fall of 1812 Brock went to the Legislatures of Upper Canada and tried to initiate a series of measures that would enhance his ability to defend the province. Those initiatives were to serve as defence from both enemies from within and enemies from without.

One of the major portions of the legislation was the Militia Act. The Militia Act effectively outlined who would be a soldier, and in what capacity they would be soldiers in. The soldiers that assembled as the 2nd and 3rd Regiments of the York Militia followed the guidelines set out by the Militia Act. A major part of this act called for the unpaid formation of volunteer companies called flank companies. They were to be armed, accoutred, and partly trained. By the onset of the war Brock had announced that for each 30 rank and file soldiers there was to be one captain. This captain was eligible for pay, however, many battalion companies did not actually consist of 30 or more men and the commanding captain would thus not be eligible for pay when the sedentary companies were called to action.



Depiction of a Private, Upper Canada Militiaman, Eric Manders

In 1793 the Militia Act had outlined the requirements of a militia, and it was the first law governing the militia in Upper Canada. It was occasionally amended, and in 1808 one of the most important amendments called for every able-bodied man between the ages of 16 to 60 to enrol in the

company in which division he lived on the first training day that was called after his coming of age. This meant that individuals were expected to train, and take arms if necessary with those that they shared communities with. The act stated that a regiment was to be no more than ten companies, and no less than eight. The companies were to be composed of no more than 50 privates, and no less than 20 privates. A colonel, lieutenant colonel and major were to be appointed to each battalion. However, in 1812 Brock's militia act made it so that companies could consist of up to 100 men – this was done in order to provide flank companies that would be established to each battalion.



Militia in action -reenactment, *www*

The Militia Act also called for training, this was to be done at a minimum of once a year, June 4th, King George III's birthday. However if the 4th fell on a Sunday the training would have been postponed until the next day. An entire regiment was called out once a year, however, captains of their companies were

to call them out at least twice a year, but the captains were to give the men at least six days warning. From that information one can suggest that the training was minimal, especially given that in one calendar year a militiaman would be called to train for three days.

One of the key features of the militia is that they were not professional soldiers. Instead they had families and obligations that fell outside of the realm of military service. That is why no militiaman would have to serve more than six months. Additionally if a militiaman was over the age of 50 he would not be called into service unless the whole body of militia within the district were called out. The roles that a militiaman would play also varied, for instance if one militiaman was commissioned at the beginning of 1800 then someone who was commissioned earlier than he would have a higher rank. Under Lord Simcoe's act in order for a man to become an officer in the militia he had to own land. This meant that the militia limits would be set on the amount of acres that one held. The break down was colonels and lieutenants had to have a minimum of 400 acres, majors and captains 300 acres, and subaltern officers a minimum of 200 acres. However, in light of the emerging threat of war with the United States those notions were dropped in 1808. Among the reasons for dropping the land requirements was to gather up a greater number of forces in the event of a war. However, this had a drawback also. If an individual held land they were significantly less likely to desert.

Along with the prevalent ideologies of the time it is important to understand the familial aspect of militia life. Without going into too great detail it is important to underline the fact that in the event of injury or disability the

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How Mississauga Got Its Name

Part 6 of 8: The Name Game

By *Richard Collins*

In the past five editions of "Heritage News" I've been telling you about how Mississauga came to be known as Mississauga. The public was invited by Toronto Township council to submit names and of the 2,763 people who submitted ideas, "Mississauga" was way out in front with 513 votes – nearly five times as many votes as second-place "Cooksville".

The people suggested 889 different names. The top 10 names accounted for 1,241 of the suggestions sent in and that means that the remaining 1,370 suggestions were for 877 other names. It was up to council to narrow this list down to two. To do this, they began a long, confusing, contradictory and sometimes bitter process of elimination.

Council requested that the naming committee select 32 names, of their choosing, from this list. Their decision didn't necessarily have to be the top 32 in order of public submissions.

The committee's decision was, in alphabetical order: Birchwood, Britannia, Clarkson, Crediton, Creditvale, Fairfield, Glenleven, Graydon, Huron, Hurontario, Jalna, Lakeland, Lakeview, Lakewood, Lorne Park, Malton, Meadowvale, Monton, Newport, Oookpik, Orchard Park, Peel Port, Peel's Port, Riverport, Robindale, Sherwood, South Peel, Springburn, Summerlea, Westport, Whiteoaks and Wynnwood.

Of the 32 suggestions, names like Fairfield, Newport, Westport and Wynnfield seem to have come out of left field. And what the heck is "Monton".

Or "Oookpik" for that matter. At least on that one I can offer an explanation. Oookpik was a furry, mass produced granite mascot with a felt beak intended as a promotional gimmick for Northwest Territories' tourism board, but which caught on big as a Canadian version of the Pet Rock.

Britannia, Clarkson, Lakeview, Lorne Park, Malton and Meadowvale are amongst the historic villages that make up Mississauga. Three of these survive as GO stations, although one of these (Meadowvale) isn't where it's supposed to be, historically speaking.

"Glenleven" is a community named after the abandoned golf course on which it was built. At around the same time, just north of here "Birchwood" was carved out of the Benares woodlot. Among the early residents here was Mazo de la Roche. It is from her series of romance novels that "Jalna" made the list.



Richard Collins, HM

"Orchard Park" was a refreshing change from the usual, representing all corners of the township, where commercial apple farms once thrived. "Sherwood" was likely submitted by residents who lived in the Erindale subdivision where the streets are named after the legendary characters of Nottingham's forest. "Gradyon" was likely a reference to Gordon Graydon. He was the respected member of parliament for Peel but he was born and raised in Brampton and was therefore never really a suitable name for the future Mississauga.

From the 32 names chosen by the naming committee, council set about on the task to cut this down to 24. These were: Birchwood, Crediton, Creditvale, Fairfield, Glenleven, Graydon, Lakeland, Lakewood, Malton, Newport, Orchard Park, Sherwood, South Peel, Springburn, Summerlea, Westport, and Whiteoaks.

The list of the rejected names shows a clear pattern. Historic village names were on the out list probably because the committee members were concerned about selecting a names that could be considered too local in character to represent a large, unified town.

Note that there were only 17 names in the above "List of 24". Council pared down the committee's list tighter than originally proposed to make room to add more names. In this case, they put "Mississauga" back on the list for consideration – probably because it had been the commanding favourite with the public. (These councilors were, after all, supposed to represent the public will.)

The naming committee not only rejected "Mississauga" they didn't put "Sheridan" on the list. Council liked this one and put it back on the list, for reasons which will be clear in a moment. For whatever reason, "Cooksville" (which ranked second in public submissions) was not put back on the list but "Springfield" (which had only one-third as many submissions as "Cooksville") was returned to the list.

Council even added new names of their picking – the most curious of these being "Oneida" That's the name of the one nation among the five in the Iroquois Confederacy to back the Patriot rebels during the American Revolution. The three nations that fought on the side of the British – Cayuga, Seneca and Mohawk – were not added to the list of city name contenders.

After some deliberations, council pared the 32 down to four: "Malton", "Mississauga", "Peel" and "Sheridan". Oddly, of these four, only Malton was on the original list of 32 names selected by the committee that council had appointed. One wonders why council bothered with the committee in the first place.

At a June 1966 meeting with the OMB, the members of this board ordered township council to narrow these four options down to two – with the residents to vote on the final two during the December 1967 municipal election. But that's our story for next time.

The Clair House Winery: The Slow Fade to Black

by Richard A. Jarrell

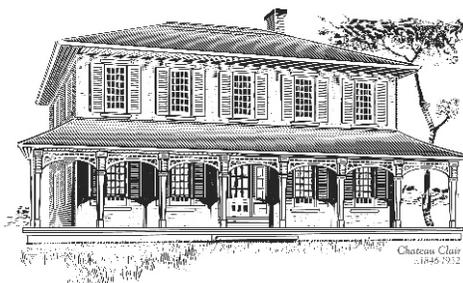
The decade spanning from about 1865 to 1875, under the direction of De Courtenay and White, was the high point in the history of Clair House. White appears to have sold a variety of

products and maintained production at a high level but eventually threw in the towel. He had run unsuccessfully as the Conservative candidate for Peel in the provincial election of 1873. By 1876, he had sold out and returned to the Windsor area, where he is said to have grown grapes. His future, colourful career did not involve wine. White had already taken on new investors, chiefly the Toronto wholesaler Cramp, Torrances and Company. With Toronto and Montreal offices, the firm had better distribution and began touting its wines for their health benefits. By the 1880s, however, there was competition from wineries in Niagara and Pelee Island.

The Winery's Last Days

The CVGA was still operating under George Torrance's direction until 1887 when the property was sold to Benjamin Murray. He was still producing wines under the Clair House brand by 1891 but sold out to cattle breeder Andrew Aikens. In September 1903 Aikens, in turn, sold the vineyard to a French immigrant, Achille Roumegous (b. ca. 1846), who had operated the Lakeview Hotel on Parliament Street in Toronto. Roumegous operated the vineyard and handed it off to his son Leopold (d. ca. 1942). When prohibition was legislated, Leopold Roumegous wrote to the federal Department of Justice, concerned that he would be ruined if "our Canadian vine industry were abolished"; he was brushed off and told to contact his solicitor. In 1929 and 1930, he wrote rather incoherent letters to the Department. He had evidently been charged in a criminal case because, he claimed, he had been framed by a disbarred lawyer and accomplices trying to steal his property. In the event, the CVGA appears to have stopped producing wine about 1925. When the wine business failed, another French immigrant purchased Clair House and turned it into a "rabbit ranch"; Admiral Parker's house burned to the ground in 1932.

The CVGA's original charter expired in 1926. In September of that year, five female stenographers from Toronto formed the board of a newly-incorporated CVGA and intended to



Chateau Claire, artists rendition, COM 2008

make wine, grow grain and vegetables, undertake canning and chemical manufacturing to produce liquors, brandies, perfumes, flavourings, chemicals, etc. Cooksville was to be the headquarters. In the paperwork for re-incorporation, the new owners' lawyer noted that the original company was formed in 1865 with the property in trust – De Courtenay as trustee – and that the CVGA was incorporated in 1866 and chartered until 1878. Wilfrid Mactavish, a Toronto engineer, searched the records and, in an affidavit noted that the vineyard was established in 1865 and "a large wine plant was built, vineyards planted and large wine vaults, extending in length close to one quarter of a mile underground were established, which are still there."

The CVGA's Last Days

With a new board, charter and an ambitious programme, the CVGA's future looked promising. However, by September 1932, the federal Department of the Secretary of State had noticed that the CVGA had not filed with it for three years and warned the company that it had better respond within a month or the company would lose its legal standing. The company's lawyer, Helen Currie, responded in November that the CVGA has sold its assets in August but had not really been in business since 1926. Another attempt to resuscitate the company by three Toronto lawyers came in November 1932 when one of them, Edward Warner Wright, filed an affidavit showing that the 1926 firm was defunct. Helen Currie disclosed that a director, John A. Currie, had sold off the company's stock and equipment some years earlier. Wright visited Cooksville, where he could find no directors nor anyone who knew a director.

Within three years, all the shares, except for that of the directors of the CVGA incorporated in 1932 were purchased by Jordan Wines. By the 1950s, Jordan, controlled by the Torno family and headquartered in Mimico, decided to surrender the charter and the company was dissolved in 1956.

The Clair House Legacy

The Canada Vine Growers Association had survived, at least on paper, for ninety years, but had not produced wine in Cooksville since at least 1926. By then, the Clair House brand was long forgotten but its succession of owners had produced wines from native grapes for more than sixty years and had launched a sustained industry. Today, the site of Clair House, at the intersection of Dundas Street and Confederation Parkway, is unmarked. The central part of the vineyard is now a park but if you look carefully along the fence, you will find native grape vines still flourishing.

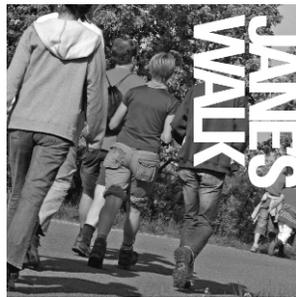


July 23, 1899 Sir Melville Parker, Mary Elizabeth May, Muriel May Gordon, Major Gordon, Courtesy Bill Higgins

Jane's Walk meets everything hockey on May 8th!

From Paola Poletto, Supervisor, Arts & Culture Programs, Culture Division, City of Mississauga

Jane's Walk happens the first weekend of May each year and celebrates our neighbourhoods, the people who live there, and the stories that make our city fascinating, vibrant, diverse and livable. Last year there were 121 Jane's Walk tours in the GTA - with over 5,000 participants and volunteers taking part.



In Mississauga this year, three Jane's Walks have been planned around the theme of hockey. Choose one of the following, each starting at 12:30 pm.

Zone A: Calling all Hockey Fans! This tour starts at the Mississauga Sports Hall of Fame and features a variety of Hall of Famers speaking about what matters to them. Hear about the upcoming MasterCard Memorial Cup Tournament coming to town later this month and be among the first to view a new exhibition featuring iconic sports jackets by Hockey Night in Canada's outspoken broadcaster, Don Cherry.

Zone B: For History Buffs, this tour starts on the grounds of the Port Credit Library with local historian Alan Skeoch giving a broad view of the neighbourhood's history and ends with a tour of the newly reopened Port Credit Arena. Founding member of the Port Credit Arena Board, John Holland, offers some impressions of the site from its early beginnings to present day.

Zone C: Join the Mississauga Big Band Jazz Ensemble for a non-linear walk on skates - "family skate party" - through the Vic Johnston Arena, and hear Mayor Hazel McCallion and hockey mom Donna Spezza talk about hockey head to head with Robin Brown, sports journalist with the CBC.



Big Band Jazz Ensemble, COM

This family skate party offers a flower to the first 100 moms through the door!

For locations, a downloadable programs poster and further details on these walks, visit www.mississauga.ca/culture.

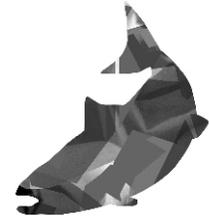
All Jane's Walks are given and taken for free, and the annual event is now held in 68 cities around the world. Jane's Walk is counting on you to showcase your neighbourhoods and the people who make them great during this fifth annual

festival of community walking tours held on May 7 & 8 weekend. For a step by step guide on how to organize and register your own Jane's Walk, or to find out about more walks that are happening in your neighbourhoods, including Mississauga, visit www.janeswalk.net.

Salmon Run Project

From Stephanie Myhal, Supervisor, Arts and Culture Programs, Culture Division, City of Mississauga

The Culture Division, City of Mississauga is pleased to announce the Salmon Run Project for 2011. Join the Culture Division in celebrating our precious salmon and great Credit River in Mississauga.



salmonrunproject
the exhibition

The Exhibition:

The premiere event will be The Salmon Run Project: The Exhibition. This is a collaborative undertaking between the Culture Division and the Art Gallery of Mississauga (AGM). During January and February 2011, AGM looked for artists from Mississauga and the surrounding area to create a unique piece of art using a form of a Coho/Silver salmon. Participating artists will transform these salmon forms in original ways. When complete, the salmon creations will be exhibited at businesses along the Credit River in Port Credit and Streetsville from June to October 2011. The Salmon Run Project: The Exhibition opening reception will be held on **Thursday, June 9, 2011 at 6 pm in the Great Hall at the Civic Centre**. For more information on this part of the project visit www.artgalleryofmississauga.com

In addition to The Exhibition, the Culture Division's Salmon Run Project will host a number of creative and cultural events & programs celebrating the Salmon and the great Credit River in Mississauga. The Exhibition and the Salmon Run Project programs and events will promote a whole summer of unique artistic and salmon activities. Watch for the informative promotional flyer and web sites from June to October 2011. This is a special opportunity for everyone to get involved in this community event celebrating the Salmon, the Credit River and the thriving creative spirit of this City. For more information call Stephanie Myhal, Supervisor, Arts and Culture Programs, 905 615-3200 ex 5355 or visit:

www.mississauga.ca/culture or
www.artgalleryofmississauga.com

Heritage Update

By Matthew Wilkinson,
Historian, Heritage
Mississauga



Erindale Community Hall Designated

Erindale Community Hall, a well-known, loved and used Erindale Village and Mississauga landmark, was Designated under the terms of the *Ontario Heritage Act* by the City of Mississauga's Heritage Advisory Committee on March 22nd, 2011.



Erindale Community Hall, HM

The current building is built on the site of a former hotel which had become the parish hall for St. Peter's Anglican Church, until the building was lost in the great Erindale fire of 1919. The Erindale Women's Institute petitioned Toronto Township Council in

1927 in regards to erecting a new hall. By June of 1927 a Board of Management was appointed, including J. Jamieson and John T. O'Neil from Toronto Township Council, Mrs. L. O'Brien and Mrs. H. McGill from the Women's Institute, together with Ken Featherstone, James Herbert Pinchin and Miles Vokes. J.C. Cotton (likely James Cox Cotton from Port Credit) was hired to design the building.

The building of the Erindale Community Hall was truly a community effort, with local farmers and residents digging the foundation and hauling Credit Valley stone to the site. The building was built under the guidance of Samuel Sherratt from Lakeview, with many other local firms supplying materials. The Erindale Community Hall was officially opened on November 1st, 1928 by Lieutenant Governor W.D. Ross.

To this day, the Erindale Community Hall is managed and operated by a volunteer Board of Management, and this beautiful heritage facility is available for public rental: <http://erindalehall.com>

As cited in the recommendation for Designation, the Erindale Community Hall is a rare surviving example of a purpose-built community hall in the City of Mississauga. It is associated with the historical development of Erindale Village, and yields information that contributes to the understanding of the history and evolution of Erindale Village. Erindale Community Hall is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the area; it is

physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings; and it is a local landmark.

-with information from the Cultural Heritage Assessment report prepared by Planning and Heritage Department, Community Services, City of Mississauga

City Acquires former Windinglane Bird Sanctuary Property

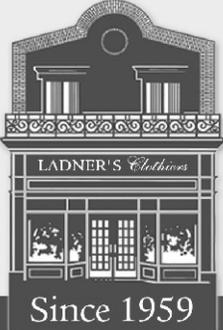
In late 2010 the City of Mississauga purchased the former Windinglane Bird Sanctuary property, located at 3220 Mississauga Road. For many years the property was home to a bird and wildlife sanctuary, established in the early 1930s by renowned ornithologist Roy Ivor, and later operated by Bernice Inman-Emery. For City of Mississauga Ward 8 Councillor Katie Mahoney, who worked with the owners, the acquisition was "a joy; it was a struggle ... it was a long, tough battle, but now it belongs to the City."



Remnants from the Sanctuary, 2010, HM

According to Councillor Mahoney a commemorative plaque honouring the remarkable and significant history of the Windinglane Bird Sanctuary, and the work of Ivor and Inman-Emery, is in order. The property is listed as a significant cultural landscape on the City of Mississauga's Heritage Register. The City is planning to incorporate the property into the Sawmill Valley trail system.

Thanks to the diligent awareness efforts of Mississauga resident Laurie Arbeau, the executors of Inman-Emery's estate were put in contact with Heritage Mississauga, who in turn facilitated the salvaging of artefacts with the Museums of Mississauga and the Region of Peel Archives. In time, this cross-institutional collection will shed light on this unique part of Mississauga's history for current and future residents. (with information from Mississauga News)



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Exploring the History of Meadowvale Village: The Early Years

By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian, Heritage Mississauga

Meadowvale Village marks its 175th Anniversary in 2011, acknowledging 1836 as the "founding" of the village. But the story of Meadowvale Village begins some years earlier, with arrival of the first wave of settlers between 1819 and 1821.

The story of Meadowvale Village begins in 1819 when twenty-nine Irish families from New York State, led by "Squire" John Beatty, arrived and took up land in the north part of the New Survey of Toronto Township (Mississauga).



Commercial Hotel c1900, HM

On May 1st, 1819, John Beatty led a wagon caravan of some twenty-nine Irish families from New York State. The party travelled along the Niagara Peninsula, following the Lake Ontario shoreline, eventually reaching York (now Toronto). Upon receiving their land tickets, the group split into two, with several families following Thomas Graham, settling in the eastern part of the New Survey of Toronto Township, establishing the historic community of Grahamsville. The other group, led by Beatty, settled around Meadowvale.

The newcomers found their chosen land densely covered by extensive pine forests. Each family was given 200 acres, with patents to be issued once settlement duties had been completed; these duties included the construction of a dwelling and the clearing and fencing of a percentage of the settlers' land. Because of the quiet pastoral beauty which greeted these early pioneers, the area was appropriately, at some point in its early history, dubbed "Meadowvale".

John Beatty's homestead became the early focal point of the developing community. The side road which formed the southern border of Beatty's land grant soon became a well travelled route and functioned as the main thoroughfare for the surrounding settlers. Known at one point as Holderness Street, it later became referred to as the Meadowvale Sideroad and the Derry West Road (now Derry Road). Beatty was also the spiritual leader of the community, and his home became a meeting place for the early Wesleyan Methodist congregation. The first quarterly religious service was held in his home in 1821 and was attended by more than 100 people. Life for Meadowvale's pioneers was not an easy one. The most basic of necessities were not easily come by. Many abandoned their farm homesteads in search of the basic subsistence they hoped to find in the early cities of York (Toronto) and Hamilton. Only the most hardy and

determined remained, braving the harsh conditions and risking much. For those who remained, all was not toil and heartache.

The properties, which the disillusioned had abandoned, did not lay dormant for long. They were soon bought up by those who recognized the area's potential and the soil's fertility. By the early 1830's, the white pines that covered much of the area were in great demand for shipbuilding and canal construction, and the future of Meadowvale appeared secure. In 1830, Beatty was appointed by the Canada Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church to the committee charged with selecting a location for the proposed Upper Canada Academy. In 1831, he was appointed Steward of the new Academy and left the Meadowvale area to permanently settle in Cobourg.

Between 1833 and 1841, Beatty's large land holdings were purchased by James Crawford, who established an early sawmill and began to attract new settlers to the area. It was Crawford, followed by John Simpson and Francis Silverthorn, who established the strong milling traditions of Meadowvale Village.



Meadowvale Mill, c1920, HM

It was, however, the arrival of John Simpson in 1836 and his building of a sawmill and carding mill along the Credit River circa 1837 that helped to firmly establish Meadowvale on the landscape and lay the course for growth that followed in the mid-to-late 1800s. Simpson, who became an established and affluent member of the community, is considered by many as the founding father of the village.

Join Heritage Mississauga

By Jane Watt, Administrative Assistant



I frequently get calls into the office asking when the next issue of Heritage News will be produced. Members receive the Heritage News fresh off the press. If you don't want to miss an issue, please consider taking out a membership.

Membership Prices: Individual \$30, Family \$50, Senior \$10, Student 16+ \$10, Schools/Non profit groups \$35, Small Business \$50

Your membership and donations help us to continue the work we do to encourage awareness of Mississauga's history. For information, please contact me at: 905-828-8411 Ext.0 email info@heritagemississauga.org

Mississauga South Historical Society Happenings

by Richard Collins, President,
www3.sympatico.ca/chessie217



Next up for MSHS is our field trip on May 28th from 10am-4pm. We're staying close to home but, because of that we've got a busy schedule for our field trip this year. We're visiting three museums.

Our first stop will be a familiar one. Many of you have visited the Bradley Museum before. Many of you have worked or volunteered here. But there will be a special event here during our visit. Recently the Hancock family donated many items from the days when they ran a nursery east of Hurontario Street, between the Queensway and the QEW. The history of the nursery and the woodlot dates back to the early 1930s. Many of the items from the nursery and about the family will be on display.

From Bradley we will travel into Bronte stopping for lunch at the Coach and Four for some pub fare. The menu includes something for everyone.

While in Bronte we will visit Sovereign House. Charles Sovereign built this house around 1825. From 1910 to 1915, author Mazo de la Roche lived here. The house was restored by the Bronte Historical Society in 1988. The little village of Bronte is full of other historic sites as well, including the harbour at the mouth of the Twelve Mile Creek.

From Bronte we'll head into Oakville for our third stop, at the Erchless Estate. This magnificent Georgian mansion was built in 1858 for Robert Kerr Chisholm. He's the third son of Oakville's founder, William Chisholm. There is also the scenic Lakeside Park, next to the museum and two neighbourhood historic buildings. The old post office and the home of harbour master, Merrick Thomas were built in the 1850s. There are also a number of restored historic houses in Oakville just blocks away from Erchless.



Erchless Estate, www

For last year's field trip, we found it convenient to meet at one central place and carpool, so we're going to try it again this year. I invite everyone to meet at the parking lot at Riverside Public School, next door to the Regency Retirement Residence, at 9:30am. The trip will cost approximately \$15.00 for donations to the museums plus the cost of your lunch. Please call Jayme Gaspar 905-828-8411 ext 31 to book your space on this special trip. **See you there.**

Streetsville Historical Society Happenings

By Jean Watt, Publicity
Director



The Streetsville Historical Society will meet on Thursday, April 14th at 7:30pm at Specialty Care Mississauga Road (4350 Mississauga Road, Room 102). Our guest speaker will be David Nattress from County Heritage Park, formerly the Agricultural Museum in Milton. He will give us a presentation on his facility, and speak on the various aspects of this interesting park. There are over 30 exhibit buildings and 20,000 artefacts in this 80-acre park.



Milton Agricultural Museum, www

There is an outstanding collection of antique tractors, steam engines, farm equipment, heritage buildings, and rural life artefacts on display. As well there is the Canada Packers National Quilt Exhibit. General public and day tripper programs can be arranged. Plan to attend and hear about agricultural and rural life from over the past 170 years.

Our Spring tour is planned for Saturday, May 28th, when we will travel to Ruthven Park, National Historic Site, that overlooks the Grand River near Cayuga. The price is \$30.00 per person, which includes the bus and guided tour. Board the bus at Streetsville United Church at 10:30 a.m., arrive at Ruthven at 11:30 a.m., and tour until 12:30 p.m.

We plan to arrive at the Old School Restaurant at 1:15 p.m. This is one of Brant County's oldest surviving school buildings. We plan to arrive back at Streetsville United Church at 4:00 p.m. For more information and to reserve a seat on the bus, please contact Anne Byard at 905-814-5958.

For more information on the Streetsville Historical Society please call Jean Watt, publicity and program director, at 905-826-1860.

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Ayoub A. Ali
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From the Museums of Mississauga

Stephanie Meeuwse
Collections and Exhibit Coordinator,
Museums of Mississauga



The Museums of Mississauga are excited about our newest site, the Leslie Log House at 4415 Mississauga Road. The building will open to the public on May 14th as the new home of the Streetsville Historical Society, in partnership with the Museums of Mississauga, City of Mississauga. The building will house the SHS's rich archival and artifact collection in appropriate museum-quality storage upstairs and the main floor will feature exhibits of the SHS collection, educational programming by the Museums of Mississauga, and include a lovely meeting room available for business meetings and social occasions. We hope you will have time to visit this great location over the summer.



Opening of Kariya Park July 7, 1992 Museums of Mississauga

July 7th, 2011 also marks the 30th anniversary of Mississauga's twinning with Kariya, Japan. Be sure to visit Bradley Museum to view our stunning collections of kimonos and other gifts from this advantageous friendship. The display will run from July 2nd to December 21st, 2011.

The Museums of Mississauga will also be offering a number of our regular programming throughout the summer. "Gallery in the Garden & Strawberry Social" will be held again on the lawns of Benares Historic House on June 4th from 11am-4pm. Also at Benares, the "On the Verandah" concert series returns on Friday evenings with many of your favourite performers and a number of new talented musicians. The Bradley Museum will host "Tedfest", a BMW car show, on July 2nd and Shakespeare performances from Driftwood Theatre on July 15th & 16th (will also perform on August 12th at Leslie Log House). The ever popular "Teddy Bear Picnic" will be held July 24th from 12pm to 4pm at Benares Historic House. For more information on these events and other activities, tours, teas, educational programming and our operating hours please see our website www.museumsofmississauga.com or call 905-615-4860. Have a great summer!



Gallery in the Garden & Strawberry Social, Museums of Mississauga

Friends of the Museums Annual General Meeting

April 28, 7pm Chartwell Church Hall

Speaker: Alan Skeoch RSVP 905-615-4860 ext: 2110
or friendsofthemuseums@hotmail.com

Heritage Speakers Series 2011

~ADMISSION IS FREE~

Mississauga's Heritage Partners (the Heritage Advisory Committee, Heritage Mississauga, Mississauga Library System and the Museums of Mississauga) present a collaborative Speakers Series through 2011. For more information please call 905-615-4860 ext.2113. All lectures start promptly at 7:00pm. Admission is free.

Lecture 2

When: Thursday, May 5th, 7-8pm

Where: Cawthra Community Centre, Petrescue Hall 1

Speaker: Professor Richard Jarrell, York University

Title: "The Clair House Winery and the Founding of the Canadian Wine Industry in Cooksville"



Professor Richard Jarrell, York University

Lecture 3

Program and venue TBA

Lecture 4

When: Thursday, November 3rd, 7-8pm

Where: Cawthra Community Centre, Petrescue Hall 1

Speaker: Alan Skeoch, Author and Historian

Topic: Japanese Internment during WWII and Mississauga



Alan Skeoch: Teacher, Historian and Author

Heritage Mississauga Presents: Exhibits at The Grange

A host of new exhibits will be showcased at The Grange in the early months of 2011. In the Discovery Centre and Gallery, from April 12th until May 6th, we welcome back senior art students from Rick Hansen Secondary School with "Loves Art". From May 10th to June 3rd, we welcome back art students from Erindale Secondary School with their new exhibit entitled "Water". From June 14th to July 29th, we welcome a new artist to The Grange in Stefan Krivda. For more information on these exhibits, please visit our website or visit us on Facebook.



**Artists Looking
for Empty Walls**

In our Lower Meeting Hall at The Grange, ALFEW (Artists Looking

For Empty Walls) continue to exhibit their collective works. "Aggregation 4" is currently on display and runs until May 27th, and "Aggregation 5" opens on June 7th and runs until July 29th. Special thanks to Louise Peacock for organizing these exhibits. For more information on ALFEW please visit: www.alfew.com.

You're Invited

By Annemarie Hagan,
Museums Manager,
Museums of Mississauga



Leslie Log House, HM

The grand opening of the Leslie Log House is planned for 1 to 4 pm on Saturday, May 14th at the Leslie Log House at 4415 Mississauga Road! Opening day will feature tours of the building, community displays, great kid's crafts and activities and more! Official Opening Ceremony at 2, with refreshments following.

Originally located at Mississauga Road and Derry Road, the 1826 home of Robert Leslie was moved to its new site on Mississauga Road just north of the 403 a number of years ago. Now, it has been renovated to be the new home of the Streetsville Historical Society and their rich archival collection, in partnership with the Museums of Mississauga, Culture Division, City of Mississauga. There will be changing exhibit, educational programs, and meeting rentals available in this lovely heritage building.

Many thanks to our community partners including the Streetsville Historical Society, Streetsville Horticultural Society, Friends of the Museums of Mississauga, and the Parks Staff, Recreation and Parks!

Future events at the Leslie Log House include Driftwood Theatre Company presenting Shakespeare Under the Stars in August, and Doors Open Mississauga on Saturday, October 1st. For more information please go to www.museumsofmississauga.com or call the Museums at 905 615 4860.

City Summer Heritage Events

June 3-5, 2011

Bread & Honey Festival

www.breadandhoney.com

Carassauga Festivals of Culture

www.carassauga.com

e-Landscape cont'd....

how traditional resources and heritage services fit into this ever-changing e-landscape, we should be more concerned with enabling e-access to our resources rather than bemoaning inaccuracies in posted content. It is a bit like being up against a relentlessly advancing iceberg in that we can push back all we want, but it is a battle we will ultimately lose. Perhaps the old academic analogy has really become "post and publish or perish". We do have to embrace the evolving dynamics of Social Media, blogs, the "Wiki" world, etc., or we may become obsolete.

Again, our task has not changed, just the range of tools that are available to us, but perhaps the biggest shift in entrenched organizations with long-serving staff is yet to come, and that is with our own mindset on how to best utilize Social Media in organizational strategic plans and communication strategies. I do, however, still believe that the printed word, such as book publications, newsletters such as *The Heritage News*, and informational brochures still have an important roll and place, we just now have a greater array of tools which we can use.

Social Media has, and continues to, rapidly alter the way in which people communicate, create, share and experience history, and also the way in which people interact with others and with their environment, and in so doing the way in which collective memory is established and history is experienced (and made). Social Media has an ability to not only communicate heritage and history, but also to determine what may have cultural significance today and what might become a heritage issue of tomorrow. Rather than being a negative, Social Media can and likely will (if it is not doing it already) generate new kinds of heritage practices and informational gathering from the "bottom-up", and it really does present some tremendously exciting opportunities, even if we are learning and evolving as we go. And we are only at the beginning: who knows where Social Media will take us, and what new technologies and platforms might become available to us.

"We don't have a choice on whether we DO social media, the question is how well we do it" (Erik Qualman).

-statistics from *Socialnomics* by equalman productions:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFZ0z5Fm-Ng

Special thanks to Lobna Thakib from the Museums of Mississauga and the City of Mississauga Culture Division for inspiration as we, at Heritage Mississauga, delve into the world of Social Media. Make sure you follow all of us!



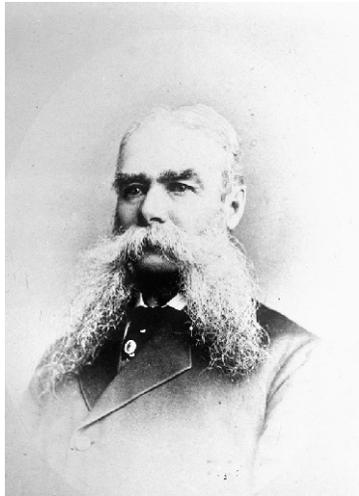


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Trivia Answer:

East-west concession roads in the New Survey of Toronto Township were not originally named, but rather were numbered. It quickly became custom to refer to the roads by names of the prominent places they intersected with: for example, Britannia Road took its name because it led to the hamlet of Britannia, and many locals referred to it, unofficially, at the Britannia Sideroad. One exception, albeit one that did not catch on, is that of Derry Road ... or should we say Holderness Street? When the survey of the old Malton town site was completed by John Stoughton Dennis in 1856, the Government Road allowance for what would become Derry Road was named "Holderness Street" on the survey. This name, apparently, never caught on, as the locals came to refer to it as the Derry West Sideroad (as it led to the burgeoning village of Derry West). This name was later shortened, officially, to Derry Road, and applied to the whole.



John Stoughton Dennis, Collections
Canada

Library Announces New Annual Writing Contest for Youth



The Mississauga Library System is launching an annual writing contest for local young people. The contest is intended to encourage youth of the City to read and also write about Mississauga's heritage and history.

The Library's writing contest will honour Kathleen Hicks, local historian and researcher who has written a number of books about Mississauga's past. The annual writing contest will encourage youth to submit entries which focus on a real person, event or place related to the history of Mississauga and may be presented as fact or fiction. Entries will be judged on their content and style. Entries will be a maximum of 1000 words (with no illustrations or graphics) and will be judged by University of Toronto at Mississauga Professor Jan Noel and Heritage Mississauga Historian Matthew Wilkinson.

Entrants must be between 14 and 19 years of age and reside in, or go to school in, Mississauga. Entries must be electronically submitted to history.library@mississauga.ca beginning May 1, 2011. The deadline for entries is August 15, 2011.

"The Library is excited to launch this opportunity for young people to engage in research about our city's past and writing about our history," said Chief Librarian Don Mills. "By naming this annual writing contest the *Kathleen A. Hicks Historical Writing Award* we also honour an important author/historian." Many local history books have been published by the Library with the support of the Friends of the Library and various community sponsors.

This year's award will be presented at Central Library's 20th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, October 1, 2011 at Central Library. Look for more details and contest rules at <http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/librarypro> grams in early May. Be a part of our history!

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Fighting for the Frontier cont'd....

widow of the militiaman would be paid an annuity. In the event that the militiaman was killed the annuity would be 5 pounds, whereas if the militiaman was disabled due to wounds sustained in the course of the war the annuity would be 9 pounds. This disability sustained would have been severe enough to prevent the militiaman from making a living.

It was largely Brock's accomplishment to secure the loose ends from the previous Militia Act. Brock had not just made the act more militarily effective but it also created clear boundaries of behaviour for the militia. Sifting through these documents it is rather clear about what the average soldier in the militia would be facing if they were involved in an infraction. In the event that a militiaman from the 2nd Regiment of the York Militia were to be accused of general misbehaviour, the commanding officer would order the miscreant taken into custody and tried by court martial. The court martial would be composed of three militia officers. And if the three militia officers were unavailable the accused would be released after 12 hours. This system not only streamlined the process of court martial but also created clear procedures for all to follow.

Despite, on the surface, solving the issue of court martial there was still an outstanding issue of loyalty. Loyalty was a theme that was constantly a worry before the onset of the war, especially given the number of desertions and mutinies prior to 1812. Furthermore, the fines that were paid out, were received by the receiver general of the province, and were used for the militia. Brock's Act of 1812 increased the severity of punishment to those who refused orders. Brock himself was disappointed in the response to his previous changes to the militia act, specifically dealing with the fines and imprisonment possibilities of militiamen. In addition to those new, comparatively harsh, punishments and methods of operation Brock insisted that monetary punishments were to increase by up to four times at time of war. When there was no war the fine would be five pounds, however, in times of war that fine would jump to 20 pounds – for the militia and as much as 50 pounds for a regular officer.

It is important to note that during the time of war it was not customary that an entire militia would be called into service at the same time. Documents revealed that on June 30th to July 24th only 17% of the Norfolk militia was called to active duty, and at that same time in 1813 just 21% were on active duty. This was done in order to ensure that the militiamen would not be too limited in their capacity to fulfill their home duties on their farm, as an example. This brings to light one of the difficulties of knowing who served at which battle and at which time. If one looks at the militia it is easy to assume that all individuals that comprised of the militia were present, however this was clearly not the case. In a given battle, although the militia was represented by name, that in no way suggests that all members of the militia were

on the field and fighting.

Visit www.heritagemississauga.com for the complete article. Look for a continuation of this article series in future editions of *The Heritage News* and on our Special Interest section on our website.

President's Message cont'd.....

participants in the next morning's Spring Equinox Ceremony, it was by far the more significant event. Métis elder Joe Paquette led the ceremony: "On this morning, the official first day of spring, we give thanks to the Creator for the gifts of life, intelligence, free will and intuition. For the five senses; sight, hearing, smell, taste and voice. We give thanks to the Mother Earth for everything we need to live a good life: food, water, animals and the air we breathe."



Joe Paquette with members of the Credit River Métis Council, HM

Tobacco was offered to the fire, and participants had water and strawberries as a symbolic part of the ceremony. Other Elders in attendance provided teachings and songs were sung.

Latest New Director and Upcoming AGM

Please join me in welcoming our newest director, Ms. Ram Dhanjal, to our Board. Ram is a project leader with RBC Financial Group, and has previously worked for organizations such as CIBC and Cap Gemini Ernst & Young. She holds a B. Com., and IFIC designation, and a post-graduate diploma in Interactive Multimedia Communication. We look forward to benefitting from her experience particularly in the latter area.

Save the date: Wednesday May 25th we will hold our Annual General Meeting. Following the business portion of the meeting, our Historian will be available to chat and answer questions. Art exhibits are scheduled for both the Debbie Hatch Discovery Center and the Lecture Hall, and other "surprises" are planned.

The Darker Side cont'd....

physical memory seem almost fitting for a death equally shrouded in mystery. Was James Hamilton really the cold-blooded murderer history has made him out to be? What was the true nature of Hamilton and Eaton's relationship?

Heritage Mississauga entreats readers to share any information they may have concerning the case and attempt to find some of the missing pieces to this puzzle.

Heritage Matters

Heritage Mississauga

Events

April 17, 1-5pm Heritage Bus Tour-Call 905-828-8411 Ext "0" for info and tickets

May 25, 6:30pm Annual General Meeting at The Grange

June 16 Noon - 2pm Heritage Luncheon at Glen Erin Inn, Keynote Speaker Mayor Hazel McCallion

Exhibits: *Debbie Hatch Discover Centre and Lower Hall Gallery*

April 12 (Opening Night) to May 6 Rick Hansen Secondary School Art Show "Loves Art"

May 10 to June 3 Erindale Secondary School Art Show "Water"

June 7 to July 29 ALFEW: Artists Looking For Empty Walls "Aggregation 5" in the Lower Meeting Hall at the Grange

June 14 to July 29 Art Exhibit with Stefan Krivda

Art Gallery of Mississauga

For current listings visit: www.artgalleryofmississauga.com

April 14, 7pm-9pm Free Film Maker Workshop co-presented with the Mississauga Arts Council

Please contact the Mississauga Arts Council at 905 615 4278 to register.

April 19, 7pm-9pm Annual General Meeting of Members

Easter Weekend Schedule

April 21, 10am-3:30pm - Early Close

April 22-Closed

April 23, noon-4pm -Open

April 24, noon-4pm -Open

Easter Monday, April 25, 10am-5pm-Open

April 28, 7pm-9pm Guest Speaker: Tara Marshall Please call the AGM to register

May 2 - Closed for installation

May 3 - Closed for installation

May 5-8 Annual Art Auction, 6pm. Early preview May 4, 2pm-8pm, May 5, 2pm-5 pm

Art Gallery of Mississauga, 300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga ON L5B 3C1

Tickets: \$75. Call the Art Gallery of Mississauga at 905 896 5088 to purchase.

Website: www.artgalleryofmississauga.com/Auction2011.html

Friends of the Britannia Schoolhouse

Sunday Open House

May 8 - Plant a seed, grow a plant. Children will be provided with the materials to plant seeds and then take them home to watch them grow. Enjoy our spring garden of trilliums and Virginia bluebells.

May 15 - Play outdoor games – stilts, swings, Graces, hoops and more. Visit the gardens to see roses in bloom.

June 22 - Strawberry Social Wednesday, June 22, 2011

This is a very popular event and tickets sell out quickly. Cost is \$8.00 Phone Eva 905 459 9158 for tickets and information. Tickets will be sent out after June 1st.

July 10 - Make a lavender sachet and sample raspberries from the garden.

Aug. 14 - Savour our summer vegetables. Tomatoes and cucumbers taste best freshly picked. Make a sunbonnet. **For more information visit: www.britanniaschoolhousefriends.org**
Halton Peel O.G.S.

For more info contact Jane Watt jwatt@ica.net 905-281-1701

May 1, 2pm-4pm Oakville Public Library

Speaker-Keith Rodgers and Ken Featherston, Topic-Tracing Irish Ancestors.

Mississauga Arts Council

Please visit the website www.mississaugaartscouncil.com or call (905) 615 4278

Mississauga South Historical Society

May 28, 10am-4 pm Our annual field trip will take us to Bradley House Museum in Mississauga, Sovereign House in Bronte and Erchless House Museum in Oakville. We will meet at Riverside Public School in Port Credit at 9:30 for car pooling. We will stop for lunch at the Coach & Four Pub in Bronte. Approximate cost \$15.00 plus the cost of lunch

Museums of Mississauga

April 28, 7pm Chartwell Church Hall, Speaker Alan Skeoch Friends of the Museums Annual General Meeting, for more information visit friendsofthemuseums@hotmail.com

May 14, 1pm to 4pm-Leslie Log House Opening 'May is Museum Month' at the Museums of Mississauga

May 22, 1pm to 5pm

Bradley Museum, 1620 Orr Road

Benares Historic House, 1507 Clarkson Road North

June 5, 11am to 4pm Gallery in the Garden & Strawberry Fair Benares Historic House, 1507 Clarkson Road North

Free Admission

June, July & August, Friday evenings

On the Verandah' Summer Concert Series at Benares Historic House

Benares Historic House, 1507 Clarkson Road North

Admission: Pay-What-You-Can

Streetsville Historical Society

April 14 at 7:30pm at Specialty Care Mississauga Road (4350 Mississauga Road, Room 102).

Speaker: David Nattress Topic: Heritage Park in Milton.

May 28th, Our spring tour will take us to Ruthven Park, National Historic Site, that overlooks the Grand River near Cayuga. The price is \$30.00 per person, which includes the bus and guided tour. Board the bus at Streetsville United Church at 10:30 a.m., arrive at Ruthven at 11:30 am, and tour until 12:30 pm For more info, call Anne Byard 905-814-5958.

Trafalgar Township Historical Society

For more info contact Jane Watt jwatt@ica.net 905-281-1701

April 26, 7pm, at the Palermo Schoolhouse, Dundas St. Oakville Guest speakers: Carolyn Cross, Curator of Collections & Susan Crane, Learning and Community Development Officer Topic: Partnering to Preserve our History

May 20, 1:30pm-3:30pm Open House-Archives Research

July 15, 1:30pm-3:30pm Open House-Archives Research

For more Heritage Matters please call Jane Watt at 905-828-8411 ext "0"