



Heritage News

Celebrating Over 200 Years of History

The Newsletter of Heritage Mississauga

Summer 2009
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Mississauga's Culture Master Plan and its Focus on Heritage

*By Bonnie Dowhaniuk, Project Manager
Office of Arts and Culture, City of
Mississauga*



Mississauga now has its first-ever Culture Master Plan! Approved by City Council on June 10, 2009, the Plan provides a framework and a long-term vision for arts, culture and heritage in the City of Mississauga. The Plan recommends key actions not only to increase the organizational capacity of cultural groups but also to develop a shared, authentic cultural identity in Mississauga through the integration of culture into City policies and programs. It identifies key opportunities and strategies that the Culture Division can implement over the next five years, and will ultimately play a significant role in transforming Mississauga into a culturally significant Canadian city.

Cultural values encompass many aspects of daily life, including our sense of identity, our stories and our memories. Heritage plays a vital role in promoting a sense of place and fostering awareness and appreciation of the diverse city in which we live. There is a great need to strengthen awareness and promotion within Mississauga's heritage sector, as well as to preserve, steward and build an identity for the city.

The approval of the Culture Master Plan has meant that the Culture Division can begin its work on implementing specific recommendations to accomplish just that. Indeed, the feedback discovered through the public consultation process was the need to strengthen awareness and promotion within the heritage sector. There was strong support among the public for a broadened vision of heritage that reflects the diversity of heritage resources in Mississauga and the City's recognition of their importance in the community. While Mississauga's heritage bodies do embrace a holistic approach to both cultural and natural heritage, new and more collaborative institutional and administrative arrangements are needed to more effectively pursue a greater scope of activities.

A unifying vision that connects different heritage program areas would form an essential part of the larger vision of "culture" in Mississauga. To achieve this, the Culture Master Plan recommends that City of Mississauga Museums and Heritage Planning departments be transferred to the Culture Division, while maintaining the roles of staff in both functions. In doing so, stronger collaboration and synergies would be created and, under the common leadership and vision of the Division, the City can develop a more coordinated approach to seizing opportunities and obtaining resources for the heritage sector.

The Culture Master Plan also recommends the creation of a network of cultural partnerships, and that all ideas be considered and evaluated as part of the development of a cultural infrastructure policy framework. To expand the reach of heritage programs and services, possible collaborative working relationships may include creating a shared storage facility for the Library, Museum and Heritage organizations, or perhaps a Museum/Library/Art Gallery partnership.

To meet increasing public demands and to develop future opportunities within the heritage sector, the Culture Master Plan recommends that additional financial resources as well as Museums staff and Heritage Planning staff be retained to support expanded programming efforts. The Plan also recommends that the scope of activity of the Heritage Advisory Committee be broadened to coincide with its existing mandate. This would mean providing adequate levels of staff to support not just the designation of heritage buildings, but also a stronger role in heritage advocacy and promotion.

SPECIAL EVENTS

**GRANGESTOCK
Art & Music Festival**
Sat. Aug. 29, 2009
Noon to 5pm

DOORS OPEN
Sat. Sept. 19, 2009
City Wide Sites
10am-4pm

**HAUNTED
HERITAGE BALL**
Sat. Oct. 17, 2009
6:30pm
Waterside Inn
Port Credit

**HAUNTED
MISSISSAUGA**
Fri. Oct. 23, 2009
7:30pm tours start
Streetsville Pioneer
Memorial Cemetery

President's Message

By Barbara O'Neil, President

Welcome summer! While the warmer, sunnier days we're now savouring put us all in a good mood, so does the generosity of wonderful benefactors. Longtime Heritage Mississauga supporter **Grant Clarkson** kindly donated \$5,000 to defray a shortfall in our operational costs several months ago. Grant, thank you so much for your loyal support of our organization through the years; it is much appreciated.



Barbara O'Neil with Councillor Katie Mahoney and Vice President Greg Carraro, HM

A second big "thank you" is due to fellow board director and City Councillor **Katie Mahoney and her husband Steve Mahoney**, who also donated \$5,000 to Heritage Mississauga. These funds represent a portion of the proceeds from the Mahoney's annual charitable golf tournament and we are most grateful to be included in the worthy causes and groups Katie and Steve help fund. Particularly in tougher economic times, such generosity is often the difference between being able to offer or expand programming and services, or not.

One example of Heritage Mississauga's expanded community participation has been the establishment of **The Cultural Heritage Property Award**, in partnership with the Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC). This year, the winner of the award for adaptive reuse of a designated cultural property was the Meadowvale Blacksmith Shop. The winner was announced at our annual Heritage Awards Night, where a sizable crowd attended to welcome Mayor McCallion and honoured guests. Next year, there will be 4 Cultural Heritage Property Awards recognizing: Restoration, Adaptive Reuse, Infill Including Addition and Infill including Addition in a Cultural Landscape.

Despite the 6am start, our spring **Equinox Sunrise Ceremony**, conducted by Metis elder Joe Paquette, attracted an enthusiastic crowd, including an international delegation of representatives from the USA, Chile, Argentina and other countries who were visiting our partners from the Toronto West Tourism department.

If you attended this year's Annual General Meeting, you'll have noticed **the Grange is undergoing a bit of a makeover**. The lower level has been painted and a new laminate wood floor has been installed. New lighting is planned, along with some upgraded furnishings when funds permit. Since we regularly host art exhibitions and rent out space to groups such as the University of Waterloo (Professor Robert Shipley, for a workshop on heritage planning), maintaining and improving our facilities helps us expand our ability to generate necessary new revenue.

I wanted to touch on **the key initiatives Heritage Mississauga will be working on over the next few months to achieve our previously stated mission-critical goals** (membership expansion, establishment of new sources of sustainable funding, and increased awareness of our organization and local heritage):

Tourism Promotion: director Nicole Wright and Darrel Carvalho will help create more walking tour brochures for tourists, beginning with the Port Credit area, and working on utilizing the Grange as a satellite Visitor Centre.

Membership Campaign: Corporate Secretary Meriel Simpson will be introducing a membership drive in conjunction with the Grangestock event, and with the active partnership of the Mississauga Public Library System in September.

Grangestock: Treasurer Scott Mair and Vice-President Greg Carraro are planning a fun summer event at the Grange which features local artists, local musicians (the Jerry Stitt rock and roll/blues band) and "tastes of summer" cuisine on August 29th.

Legacy & Leadership Series: director Arthur Diaz and myself are working on a unique heritage product, geared initially to the corporate market to be unveiled this fall.

Haunted Heritage Ball: directors Sara Ahmadi and Nicole Wright are building on the success of Haunted Mississauga with plans for a heritage-costumed fundraising ball October 17th.

Beyond these key initiatives, we will host a half-dozen other events this fall, along with undertaking important activities related to the City's **Culture Master Plan and a development proposal for the Britannia Farm property**.

Over the past 3 years, **Darrel Carvalho** has made a wonderful contribution to Heritage Mississauga. Darrel was chair of the Heritage Ball Committee last year and has been an active participant in almost every heritage event since joining the board. Darrel has decided to step down from the board, due to other volunteer interests, but he has agreed to stay on to participate on our Tourism Committee, which is working on several strategic projects that have the potential to not only elevate our profile, but to contribute to a more vibrant local scene. Darrel, thank you for your past (and continuing) efforts on behalf of Heritage Mississauga!

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Administrative Assistant, Matthew Wilkinson-Historian

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

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Executive Director's Message

By Jayme Gaspar

Where have the last six months gone? It seemed like only yesterday that it was February, the snow was blowing and we were preparing to select members of the community, our heritage heroes, to honour at our Annual Awards Ceremony during Heritage Month. This is a task that is very dear to our hearts: recognizing the contributions these very special individuals make to our community. Once again congratulations to Lifetime Members Don Mills, and Joseph Paquette, MHF Heritage Award winner Dave Cook, Special Recognition Award Winners Ron Lenyk, Roxanne McKenzie, Theatre Unlimited and Dorothy Tomiuk, and our Members' Choice Award winners Anne Byard, Kristy Elik, Fran Goddu and the Halton-Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. This year for the first time we partnered with the Heritage Advisory Committee to honour a member of the community who has worked to preserve our built heritage with a Cultural Heritage Property Award. Winners this year were Siobhan and Tony Kukolic for their work on the Meadowvale Blacksmith Shop.



Award recipients, HM



OHT Award recipients, HM

We have also had the pleasure of nominating members of our heritage community for Ontario Heritage Trust Community Recognition Awards. Congratulations to this year's recipients: Mary Finley, Jenny Dale, Keith Gibson, The Log Cabin Task Force and the Heritage Tree Subcommittee of the Heritage Advisory Committee. We also would like to congratulate our own

Lifetime Member Joseph Paquette. He received from the OHT a Lifetime Achievement award. He was presented with the award by the Credit River Métis Council during a Peel Regional Council meeting focused on Aboriginal Day celebrations. Thank you all for your contributions to heritage in our community.

At our Annual General Meeting in May we were delighted to share the spotlight with an orchestra of young people from Bronte College. Many thanks to Principal David Davis and Music Director Andrei Panasevich for their support of our special day. We look forward to welcoming the students back to entertain us at future events. When you visit the Grange this summer you will also have a chance to see some of the artwork of the students from Bronte College. A wonderful partnership bringing youth and heritage together.



Bronte School Band, HM

Congratulations also to the members of the community who participated in the Culture Master Plan process. After many years of hard work by the community and the City of Mississauga the Culture Master Plan has been approved and with it endless

possibilities for heritage, arts and culture. We look forward to working with the Culture Division as it puts action plans into place.

Thanks to the generosity of Canada Summer Jobs and Heritage Canada we have received grants for five students. We welcome back to The Grange: Andrea Kennedy, Sharifa Khan, Zofia Krivdova and Nicole Mair. Our fifth student is new to The Grange this year, we welcome Liwen Chen.

Do not miss our newest event on Saturday August 29th right here at the Grange. GRANGESTOCK Art & Music Festival is a fun family event with rock and blues BBQ, and Old Credit Brewery refreshments for sale and a fabulous art & show and sale. We will have a silent auction and raffle to win great prizes too. For more information look to the back of this newsletter for our advertisement.

Have you ever been to a costume ball? Well, now's your chance. Heritage Mississauga is hosting the 2009 Heritage Ball with a twist. We invite you to join us on Saturday October 17th at the Waterside Inn for a wonderful fun filled event celebrating the history and heritage of Mississauga at the *Haunted Heritage Ball*. Costumes are not mandatory but very much encouraged. Who knows you may meet Sir John Beverley Robinson, Charlotte Schreiber or perhaps a flapper from the roaring Mississauga twenties. A wonderful meal, great silent auction items just in time for the holidays and the chance to enjoy the dance floor with spirits of the past. A real celebration of heritage with a twist.

And finally I am pleased to announce that our new website will be up and running before the fall. After long hours of preparation we are finally on our way to a new improved electronic presence. Many thanks to Matthew Wilkinson, our Historian who has worked tirelessly sourcing new images, updating text and adding special interest pieces to make the website an interesting visit. Check our site at www.heritagemississauga.com during the later part of August and let us know what you think. It is a work in progress with opportunities for improvement and we want to hear your thoughts and ideas. Have a wonderful summer and we'll talk again in the Fall.

Mississauga's Culture Master Plan cont'd....

The Culture Division will also be working with corporate and community leadership to facilitate the development of a Mississauga's Arts Stabilization Program. This is a strategic opportunity to encourage selected arts, culture and heritage organizations to diversify their funding sources and volunteer recruitment and strengthen their organizational capacity. This program will help cultural organizations to realize their creative potential.

In the near future, the Cultural Division will be overseeing the creation of a Cultural Resource Database, which will be a "one-stop-shop" for arts, culture and heritage information. It will be a strong tool for marketing and audience development, as it can connect people to useful, searchable information about existing heritage resources and activities.

Overall, the Culture Master Plan has taken a comprehensive and strategic approach to developing and maintaining culture vitality in Mississauga. The actions recommended in the Plan align and support the five strategic pillars for change of the Strategic Plan that will ultimately play a significant role in achieving our vision to help transform Mississauga into a culturally significant Canadian city.

The Lost Hamlet of McCurdy's Corners

By Nicole Mair

Picture this: the year is 1820. You have just arrived in a new land after a treacherous 17 week journey across the Atlantic Ocean. The world you see before you is vastly different from the land you have just left: there are no houses or roads to be seen for miles around, just dense forest and empty spaces for as far as the eye can see. You do not yet officially own the land you stand on, yet you must quickly begin work on building your house and farm before the winter comes, or else risk losing everything. It was a very difficult life for the earliest settlers in Canada, but after much toil they eventually overcame the hardships of the land to start their new lives. This story would have been much the same for the new settlers arriving in what would soon become known as McCurdy's Corners.



McCurdy's Corners, 1877
Halton Atlas

McCurdy's Corners was located at the intersection of Ninth Line and Derry Road. The hamlet was originally part of Trafalgar Township in Halton County, until 1974 when the Mississauga border was extended to Ninth Line, placing the east half within the borders of Mississauga.



McCurdy's Church c1900, HM

At McCurdy's Corners there was a Methodist Church and a school. The school was officially called S.S. #8 Trafalgar, also known as McCurdy's Corners School. Local residents John Mason, Hugh Mason, John Bussell, Isaac Askin, Robert McCurdy, David Cordingley, Bartholomew O'Connor, Adam Anderson, Henry

Anderson, and Patrick McCarten all gathered together to build the first school at McCurdy's Corners in the early 19th century. It was constructed of unhewn logs and mud brought over from Nunan's Corners (also known as the Catholic Swamp). When the school was finished there was a grand ceremony, with the whole community gathering for a picnic in the woods.

The first teacher at the McCurdy's Corners school was Jacob Scott, often assisted by his wife. The first class attendance showed sixty pupils enrolled. During the second week of classes at the new school, there was a bear attack, forcing the new teacher up into a tree until Isaac Scott arrived on the scene along with his axe. This school served also as the church for the community until 1832, when a new frame church was built. The last teacher in the log school, and first teacher in the new brick school was Miss Rogers.

There were many teachers over the years at the school, one such teacher was Gladys McCleary Speers. She was teaching at the McCurdy's Corners school while her younger sister, Miss Violet McCleary, was in attendance. Violet would later follow in her sister's footsteps and take over as the teacher of the McCurdy's

Corners school. An early class photograph shows that classes were smaller and more intimate in the past, with only nine students enrolled: Byron, Jean and Joyce Bedell, J.D. Cordingley, Joan May, Bill, Jim and Mary Peterson, and Irvine Thompson. Their teacher at the time of the photograph was Miss Jean McNabb. On July 5, 1958 the school had a reunion for past students, and many memories and photos were shared on that day. The brick school was later converted to a community hall until, in 1969, it was purchased by Gerald Jensen who converted the building into a multi-storey home. Unfortunately the former schoolhouse is no longer standing, having burned down in November of 2008.

McCurdy's Corners was also home to a literary and debating society. The society was founded in 1914 under the direction of their president, Mr. J.D. McGregor. The society's motto was "Non-Sectarian, Non-Partisan". The society would meet for an hour on Wednesday nights, from 7:00-8:00 PM, and in the winter the members would ride in sleighs to the meetings.

The Literary Society also founded the hamlet's local newspaper, the "McCurdy's Corners Herald". The newspaper staff included Editor Miss Legatt, Associate Editors Miss Lawson and Miss Sheppley, and contributing messrs McGregor, Hamilton and Blackwell. The newspaper, which was printed at the offices of the Streetsville Review, was issued every two weeks for 5 cents per copy.

Hugh (Sandy) McGregor, who lived on Ninth Line, would write poems about the community, including its residents and local events. These poems were then set to music and played at community events.

One prominent family at McCurdy's Corners were the Cordingleys. Before travelling to Canada, David was a dyer, living with his wife and first two children in York, England. David and Mary Cordingley first came to Canada, by way of Pennsylvania, likely in the early 1820s. In 1836, the Crown officially granted 100 acres of land to David Cordingley on lot 10, concession 10 in Trafalgar Township. In 1848, this land was sold to David and Mary's eighth of ten children, John Cordingley. David Cordingley died in 1867 at 85 years of age.

Also living at McCurdy's Corners from the Cordingley family was Solomon Cordingley, the fifth child of David Cordingley. Like his brother John, Solomon obtained his land from his father in 1852. He married Martha Bell, in 1853. Solomon and Martha took in two children in addition to their own five children. They were John Cordingley's daughter Rachel Hannah, following the passing of her mother Rachel Delilia, as well as John Jr. Bell, the son of Martha's brother, John Bell, following the passing of his wife Amelia. In 1891, Solomon held an auction for one of his farm plots due to failing health. The auction was advertised in the Streetsville Review. In addition to the farm itself, which included orchards of plums, grapes and pears and three wells, he also sold off all the farm stock, livestock and farming implements. Another of Solomon Cordingley's farm plots was sold to his own son, David Cordingley.

Solomon Cordingley's granddaughter, Ruby Cordingley, had a near death experience when a cyclone struck down in Trafalgar Township in June of 1923, while on her way home from her sister Abigail's house:

Cont'd pg. 14

“From Portugal to Canada”, Part One

By Cassandra Melo

Editor's Note: This is a creative story researched and written by Cassandra Melo, a COOP student with Heritage Mississauga from St. Joseph's Secondary School. While the characters are her creation, the background, time period and experiences are historically accurate.



Cassandra Melo, HM

Part One:

April 1952, the big news:

-“Andreia, we are moving to Canada.”

“Canada?! I don't know any town in Sao Miguel named Canada.”

“No. Canada is a different country outside of Europe.”

I was confused.

“What is wrong with where we are living now?”



SS Saturnia, www

My parents, my three year-old sister and I live in the city of Ponta Delgada on the island of Sao Miguel, which was one of the islands in the Azores. It is beautiful, everyone knows each other and we all speak the same language, Portuguese.

“They have better jobs there.

They really need immigrants to work there right now and by the time you are 18, you will have a good job and good schooling.” I am fifteen. I am expecting to be a housemother with a husband that has a good farm. Now I have to think about what I want to do when I am older? It is a difficult and scary decision.

“The worst part is that your father will have to leave first and hopefully in a year or two, we can join him.” My mother said. The thought of my father leaving me made me feel sick. How am I supposed to live two years without him? I haven't even been away from him for more than two days! How am I supposed to leave my home? My friends? How am I supposed to speak a different language? The news was too much for me. I felt sad and confused at the same time. I never knew feeling this way was possible. I have such a wonderful life here.

My father said: “We don't know what to expect but we will have a great life there and if we start disliking it, we can leave. I promise I will write to you and send pictures. I just need to make enough money to send for the three of you to join me.”

Even though pictures will not make me feel better because he will not be with me, I trust him. If it is what is going to make us a happier family and if my father and mother have a better job, I will go through with it. Even though it is going to be hard for me and it will hurt to say goodbye to my life here.

May 1952, time to say goodbye to my father: I can see the excitement and fear in his face. I can see he is trying hard to hold back his tears so I will not start crying but it does not work. I cannot help myself. As I hug him one last time I really do not want to let him go. He gets on the boat and waves goodbye to us and the next time I will see him, is in two years - hopefully. I look around and see many sad children and mothers crying and saying goodbye to their

husbands and fathers. On our way home, no one is speaking. I can feel a depressed feeling between the three of us. My sister has a confused look on her face. She has no idea what is happening and why my mother and I are crying but as soon as she starts to realize that my dad is not coming home, she will realize that he's gone and likely become upset like us.

When we get home, I run to my room and just lay in bed thinking about my dad and his face as he waved goodbye to us on the boat. I already miss him very much. I do not feel hungry or tired and I do not feel like going outside to play with my friends either. I just want to stay at home waiting for him to send a letter saying we can go join him. I know I will have to wait a very, very long time until that happens.

Cont'd in Heritage News Fall 2009

Dunn Park Opening

On May 8, 2009, the city of Mississauga and Heritage Mississauga held a special commemorative ceremony honouring the late George Donald Dunn, the Dunn family, and officially unveiling Dunn Park. The property was bequeathed to the city by the late Mr. Dunn in the late 1990s to be used as passive, peaceful parkland. In keeping with his wishes, the new park is a mixture of natural areas, unobtrusive walking trails, and interpretive heritage signs highlighting the history of the property and family. Over 30 family, friends and community members attended the ceremony which featured George Donald Dunn's cousin, Homer Dunn, sharing his memories. Although the house and barn have gone, the park offers glimpses of its rich history in intriguing ways, and we invite you to visit the quiet charm of this



Councillor Katie Mahoney & family member Homer Dunn at the unveiling, HM



Homer Dunn and our Heritage Interpreters, HM

park, to wander through the adjacent Millennium Grove, and wander down the old farm lanes. Dunn Park is located off of Erin Mills Parkway just north of Burnhamthorpe West. Congratulations to Jill Goldie and her team at the City of Mississauga for an exceptional job in the development of this park, a true heritage gem.

Heritage Trivia



Who was the Dundas Street named after?

Answer on page 10.

Hubbs Ruined Hundreds and Almost Ruined Lakeview

By Richard Collins

Bernie Madoff would be proud, as if anyone cares what Bernie Madoff thinks.

Harold W. Hubbs scammed over 400 people, mostly seniors, out of their life savings with shady land deals and a hefty diet of lies, and he did it 75 years before anyone had ever heard of today's most infamous Ponzi artist.

It was while standing on the roof of James Cassina's gas station at Stop 7 that Hubbs saw his scheme (to make millions by fleecing hundreds) fall apart. Cassina's roof was the best vantage point in Lakeview to see the devastation Hubbs was leaving behind.

Looking north, along West Avenue, were dozens of empty homes along both sides of the street, with more homes half built but isolated from each other by vacant lots where Hubbs never intended to build the homes he had already sold to unsuspecting buyers.

Turning to look south, where Promenade Marina is now, lakefront cottages lay empty, even in the Indian Summer heat of early September.

Abandoned homes scattered about were not an unusual site in any community in Canada in 1930, but in Lakeview, empty houses could be counted by the acre and while the Great Depression played a role, it was Hubbs' greedy ambition that left Lakeview looking like a relief agent's nightmare.

The story starts seven years before the great stock market crash. Robert Francis Duck died in 1922, and within days of his funeral, a Toronto realtor, Harold Hubbs offered to purchase the choice land adjacent to the Toronto-Hamilton Highway (Lakeshore Road East, today) off his widow, Mary Ann.

Aside from the insensitive timing, it was not unusual for real estate dealers to swoop down on owners of farmland, like vultures.

Like a perfect storm of good fortune, the 1920s was a ripe time for land development. The economy was healthy, the Duck farm was close to the newly-paved highway just minutes from the big city, and throughout Etobicoke and Toronto Townships, the apple trees planted by the fathers of the present landowners were nearing the end of their productive lives and were in need of replacement.

There was good money to be had in the fresh fruit business especially in a place like Lakeview which was close to Toronto and to a railway line that could get the apples there while they were still crisp. But there was also money to be made in housing projects in an area with railway, radial and highway access and a beach-lined waterfront nearby.

Put yourself in the position of a Lakeview fruit farmer in 1922. You're looking at investing your life's savings to replace old apple trees with new ones, and then some man in a tailored suit comes knocking on your door offering to buy your land for more money than you'd ever imagine making selling apples.

LAKEVIEW PARK
Is set now for a tremendous building boom and rise in land values.

Splendid bus and radial service from Sunnyside every 20 minutes. IF YOU CANNOT BUILD NOW- BUY LAND AND PITCH A TENT.

1/4 ACRES AS LOW AS **\$295** \$25 Down
5 CITY LOTS AS \$8 a Month

HUBBS & HUBBS, LIMITED
Branch Office, Stop 34, Open Daily.

From the Toronto Star

And to sweeten the deal, the man at your door offers to let you invest those life's savings in the housing project he's proposing to build. Sell your land and still get rent money from it. Who wouldn't go for it?

Hubbs was in the right place at the right time to exploit a village at an economic crossroad. Had he been a man of integrity, Lakeview might have flourished. But instead, Lakeviewers were taken in by an accomplished con artist.

Eight days after buying the Duck property Hubbs was advertising lots for sale in the Toronto Star. That wasn't even enough time to hire a surveyor to go over the site, or to submit a development application with the township. When he finally did, Hubbs called his new development Lakeview Park.

This name has led to some confusion for historians, since there were two schools in School Section #7 at the time; Lakeview Park and Lakeview Beach. Hubbs' Lakeview Park development included the land around Lakeview Beach School. The school called Lakeview Park was over a kilometre east of the housing project that Hubbs called Lakeview Park.

Before the end of the year, Hubbs had completed five new streets in his Lakeview Park project, named with a linear kind of logic: Centre Avenue in the middle, with East, Eastmount, West and Westmount Avenues on appropriate sides. (Centre is now Greaves Avenue. The other four street names remain Hubbs' only Lakeview legacy, as we will soon see.)

With the roads laid out and a token layer of gravel laid down, it was time for the sales pitch. Hubbs' job was to assure investors that prosperity was just around the corner. Prosperity is always just around the corner. That's how people like Hubbs and Madoff worked.

"Lakeview Park is now set for a tremendous building boom and rise in land values", read the large ads in the Toronto dailies.

"Buy land in the progressive district before the big advance in values is certain to come. Money should be made by those who take advantage."

"If you cannot build now, buy land and pitch a tent."

Hubbs' plan was to sell 1/4-acre lots (enough for five suburban homes) at \$295 (about \$4,000 today) with only \$25 down and \$8 a month. That was a lot of money and had investors known the great stock market crash was just weeks away, they would never have invested. But no one had a crystal ball, and the urgency of Hubbs' ads turned the trick. People bought into his scheme.

An honest businessman would have immediately built homes. Hubbs did start just enough houses to make it look as though he was putting his investors' money to good use. Then he was gone.

But not before climbing atop Cassina's gas station on the Lakeshore Highway, at the foot of Centre Avenue. He was up there, with Cassina's permission (and, after a sales pitch, some of Cassina's money). Along with the two was J. Cecil Hamilton a lawyer from Listowel, Ontario.

We'll never know if Hamilton was up there with the knowledge that Hubbs was scamming Lakeview residents, or whether Hubbs was trying to pull one over on Hamilton by showing him the work already done, but either way Hamilton returned to Listowel and over the summer talked his naïve clients there to buy into Lakeview's promising future.

Cont'd in Heritage News Fall 2009

City Designates Bell Gairdner Estate under the *Ontario Heritage Act*

By Paula Wubbenhorst, Heritage Coordinator, City of Mississauga

The City of Mississauga has designated the Bell Gairdner Estate, also known as "Fusion," 2700 Lakeshore Road West, under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. This fascinating 44-acre property is buried in the extreme southwest corner of Mississauga, just east of Winston Churchill Boulevard. Though set back from Lakeshore Road, the mansion faces this street and backs onto Lake Ontario.



Bell-Gairdner Estate, City of Mississauga

Charles Powell Bell (1908-1938) commissioned Bank of Canada architect Marani Lawson and Morris to design the Modern Classical house and garage, which were constructed from 1937 to 1938. Unfortunately Bell died of rheumatic fever shortly after taking up residency therein. His widow (Ethel) Kathleen Harding (1908-1991), daughter of Harding Carpets President, C. Victor Harding, remarried at the house on September 27, 1941. She wed millionaire financier James Arthur Gairdner (1893-1971). With her daughter Daphne (b. 1937), Kathleen and James Gairdner began full-time residency at the estate after World War II. Gairdner dubbed it "Gairloch," a Gaelic word meaning "short lake."

Gairdner added a studio to the property, west of the house, after taking up painting in the late 1940s. He enrolled in classes at the Art Gallery of Toronto, where he befriended artists York Wilson, Jack Bush and Cleeve Horne. Horne laid the cornerstone of the studio, which included a "well-stocked" bar, kitchen and bedroom. According to York Wilson's wife Lela, the facility was "perfect, the envy of every artist." Mount Allison University exhibited Gairdner's work in 1952.

Gairloch also served the local community, hosting the St. John's Women's Auxiliary Bazaar and fundraising garden tours for Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. In addition to this charity work, Kathleen served on the board of Women's College Hospital and the Oakville Welfare Bureau; she was also President of the Wimodausis Club.

Gairdner's grandson William D. Gairdner has fond memories of the "lovely mansion." He writes that: "Audacious flowered hats on smiling women and portly men in blue suits or white ducks, puffing post-World War II cigars give the flavour of it. To us children it was a grand place, so manicured and well-kept, with sweet-smelling lawns that rolled down to the lake."

He goes on to reminisce about eating lunch in the "immaculate leather-furnished library to talk as he [James Arthur Gairdner] and Kay [Kathleen] enjoyed an aperitif. This ceremony was often preceded by the impressive sounds of his lovely step-daughter Daphne, practicing on the grand piano in their austere formal drawing room with its floor-to-ceiling French windows overlooking the bay. It was like a scene from a Jane Austin novel. He, with his always watery eyes, would wait like an old bear for something to laugh at as he sipped his Scotch; Aunt Kay, perched

daintily on the edge of a leather chair, her cigarette in a long black holder would steer the conversation away from shoals. They were a portrait of good life in the country."

This romanticism concluded in 1960 when James divorced Kathleen and moved to another waterfront property in Oakville proper. Upon his death, Gairdner bequeathed this estate, which he also named "Gairloch," to the Town for a public garden and contemporary art gallery. This is now Oakville Galleries and Gairloch Gardens. The Gallery Shop occupies Gairdner's old studio, which he wheeled from the subject Mississauga property. Kathleen sold the Mississauga estate to Ontario Hydro in 1961 and returned to Toronto.

Gairloch Gardens is just one of many examples of James Arthur Gairdner's philanthropy. His other major gift is the Gairdner Foundation, which he founded in 1957. The prestigious organization recognizes and rewards "early the work of the world's leading scientists," primarily those in medical research. About a quarter of the winners have later won Nobel prizes. In 2009 the awards were renamed the Canada Gairdner International Awards, due to a \$20 million federal endowment.

Ontario Hydro employed the Mississauga "Gairloch" estate for its Canadian Fusion Fuels Technology Centre beginning in 1961. The City of Mississauga purchased the property in 1999. The buildings are now being stabilized. Eventually this hidden gem will be a public park for all to enjoy.

Nominate an Excellent Cultural Heritage Property Project

The Heritage Advisory Committee and Heritage Mississauga are now accepting nominations for the 2010 Cultural Heritage Property Awards of Excellence. The program encourages and recognizes excellence in preservation, restoration and/or enhancement of cultural heritage property. Nominations are accepted for restoration, adaptive re-use and sensitive infill projects, completed in the last two years. The successful nominations will be announced at the Heritage Mississauga Awards on February 18, 2010.



2009 winners of the first cultural Heritage Property Award, Siobhan & Tony Kukolic with Heritage Mississauga Director Josip Miltic and Councillor George Carlson, HM

Program and eligibility details, as well as a nomination form, are available at:

http://www.mississauga.ca/file/COM/Heritage_Award_Nomination_Call.pdf.

The deadline for nominations is October 2009.

For additional information, contact Paula Wubbenhorst at 905-615-3200, ext. 5385.

Bickell Estate finally designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*

By Paula Wubbenhorst, Heritage Coordinator, City of Mississauga

The City has succeeded in designating the Bickell Estate, 1993 and 2025 Mississauga Road, under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. In 1921, mining magnate John Paris Bickell (1884-1951) purchased the property, which probably included a cottage. However, Bickell radically altered it over the next decade.



Steven Bell, City of Mississauga

He first commissioned theatre architect John MacNee Jeffrey to alter it and add a major addition, built in 1922. He later commissioned another theatre architect, Murray Brown, to design additional renovations, expansions and a service building, i.e. a garage and chauffeurs quarters, in the Spanish Eclectic style. The award-winning library, within the eastern pergola, was complete by 1927. The western service building, connected to the main house by an underground tunnel, was built in 1929. The west half of the residence was added in 1931. Famed heraldic artist Alexander Scott Carter designed the interior painted decoration.

Bickell's was one of the first year-round country houses in the vicinity of the Mississauga (sic) Golf & Country Club. The lavish villa, which includes a bowling alley, theatre, indoor pool and elevator, exudes the spirit and wealth of the roaring twenties.

In addition to Bickell, the estate is also notable as the home of developer Stuart Bruce McLaughlin (b. 1926). McLaughlin established Mississauga's city centre with Square One. Sometime after purchasing the property in 1973, McLaughlin added the pseudo Spanish Revival porte-cochere. He also subdivided the property into three parcels, the main house (1993 Mississauga Road), a tennis court (2009 Mississauga Road) and the service building (2025 Mississauga Road). McLaughlin separated these properties in 1994 before selling them at the turn of the century.

In 2007 the current owner of the service building, 2025 Mississauga Road, requested demolition. In response, Council adopted a motion to designate the entire estate, 1993, 2009 and 2025 Mississauga Road, under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The owners of these three properties objected to the designation. Since then the City has negotiated a settlement. As a result, the tennis court, 2009 Mississauga Road, will not be designated. However, because the property is adjacent, moreover flanked, by heritage designated property, any development would be subject to heritage review through the planning process.

The Bickell Estate service building will now be renovated rather than demolished, with the heritage attributes remaining in tact. Additionally, the Bickell Estate residence, one of Mississauga's most significant cultural heritage gems, now has the recognition it deserves. For more information on heritage planning at the City, visit www.mississauga.ca/heritageplanning.

Heritage Four Presents Speakers Series 2009

"Events That Shaped Mississauga"

Mississauga's Four Heritage Partners (the Heritage Advisory Committee, Heritage Mississauga, Mississauga Library System and the Museums of Mississauga) present a collaborative Speakers Series through 2009, focused on "*Events That Shaped Mississauga*". For more information and an up-to-date list of speakers, times, topics, dates and locations, please visit: www.mississauga.ca/heritagefour or call 905-615-4860 ext.2113.

Tuesday, September 22nd, 2009

"From A Vision to Reality! The Birth of Mississauga's

Downtown Core" by Ron Duquette (producer and former S.B. McLaughlin & Associates Communications Director)

Location: Noel Ryan Auditorium, Mississauga Central Library, 301 Burnhamthorpe Road W.

Thursday, October 15th, 2009

Remembering Hurricane Hazel by Steve Pitt (author)

Location: Texaco Room, Port Credit Branch Public Library, 20 Lakeshore Road E.

Thursday, November 12th, 2009

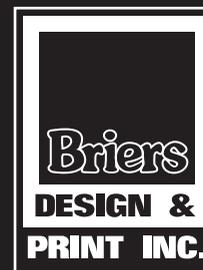
The 30th Anniversary of the Mississauga Train Derailment

with Chief Gordon Bentley

(Former Mississauga Fire Chief)

Location: Texaco Room, Port Credit Branch Public Library, 20 Lakeshore Road E.

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Taking Care of Business, 1906 The Trustees of S.S. No. 4, Erindale, at Work

By Joan Reid



Each township in Canada West (later Ontario) was divided into school sections in the early 1840's. Each rural school section was administered by a school board of three trustees. Trustees were elected for three year terms by the male ratepayers of the school section. Elections were staggered; one trustee was elected every year. Each trustee took the following oath: "I will truly and faithfully to the best of my ability, discharge the duties of School Trustee to which I have been elected."

Trustees were responsible for erecting and maintaining a suitable school building and for seeing that it was properly equipped. They had to hire and pay a qualified teacher. Until the consolidation of school boards in the 1950's there were over 75 individual school boards in Peel County alone.

A typical school section would have a yearly budget of under \$500. in the late 19th Century. This had to pay for wood for the stove, equipment such as maps, charts or globes, 'closet' cleaning, repairs such as those needed for windows and roofs, and - the biggest item of all the teacher's salary. Pupils had to supply their own text books and supplies such as slates. Money to pay for the school came from municipal (township) and provincial grants, the clergy reserve fund and a levy on ratepayers of the section. Before 1871 trustees were allowed to collect fees from the families of pupils who were enrolled. In 1877 a resident of S.S. No. 4 Toronto Township (Springfield Public School), who had a 100-acre farm assessed at \$3800.00, had to pay an annual school tax of \$7.60.

Each school section had an annual meeting of the ratepayers held on the last Wednesday of December. In the days before electricity these were held during daylight hours in the schoolhouse. A typical meeting might be attended by 10 or 12 ratepayers in addition to the trustees. To administer the day-to-day business of the school section the three trustees would have meetings as needed during the school year. The Secretary-Treasurer of each school section kept a written record of its receipts and expenditures as well as written minutes of its meetings. Fortunately, a few of these cash and minute books from school sections in the townships of Peel County have survived and are now in the Archives of the Peel Heritage Complex in Brampton.

From *Proceedings of the Trustees of S.S. No. 4 Toronto Township From Union in 1873* I have selected the following excerpts for the year 1906 because they illustrate how trustees functioned and tell us something about the prices of things and measurements used one hundred years ago. Each entry below was signed "C. Adamson. Sec. Treas."

Schoolhouse Jan. 12 1906

Trustees met in accordance with School Act. Sec. Treas. Was instructed to purchase 6 cords wood at \$7 a cord from T. Shain, he to cut & deliver same. The school was found in fair repair.

Schoolhouse Mar. 5 1906

Trustees met to see what could be done regarding the McGill

Drain. Sec. Treas. attended the next meeting of Council but nothing definitely could be done on account of the Power being in litigation.

Schoolhouse May 7 1906

Trustees C.F. Adamson & C. Adamson met to discuss a fence for the school yard. It was decided to build a new fence & removing the old fence & digging post-holes was let to W. Robinson at \$2. The new fence to be put up by J. E. Dowling (20 rods @ 50 cents a rod) & (20 psts @ 20 cents each).

Schoolhouse Dec. 1 1906

Trustees met to decide about engaging a teacher for the coming year & agreed to re-engage Mr. Bell at a salary of \$525. The water supply for school was also discussed but left over for further consideration.

Schoolhouse Dec. 11 1906

Trustees met to see about the supply of drinking water for the school & decided to dig a well. The contract was let to James Robinson at \$1.00 per ft. until rock was struck, after which \$1.25 per ft. to be paid.

Mr. Bell's salary of \$525 per annum was about average for a male teacher at the time. Women were typically paid about 20 % less than men. For those who feel a deep sense of longing for the "good old days" these excerpts provide a good reminder that heat was supplied by a wood stove, water had to be hand-pumped from a well and the sanitary facilities were outdoors in a corner of the school yard in the form of two "closets", one for boys and one for girls.

The water supply continued to be a problem for the trustees. In 1915 a ratepayer complained in a letter to *The Streetsville Review* that the school water was unfit to drink because it was contaminated with sewage. This was heatedly denied by other ratepayers in letters published by the newspaper. The latter asserted that the water was "pure".

For younger readers a *rod* was a unit of length equal to 5.03 metres. A *foot* was also a unit of length equal to 30.48 centimetres. A *cord* was a unit of volume for cut timber equal to 3.6 cubic metres. An *acre* was a unit of area equal to 4,046.86 square metres.

Excerpt from "*The One-Room Schools of Toronto Township*" by Joan Reid (which will be published soon)

MEMBERSHIP

I frequently get calls into the office asking when the next issue of Heritage News will be produced. If you don't want to miss an issue, please consider taking out a membership. Your membership and donations help us to continue the work we do to encourage awareness of Mississauga's history.



Jane Watt, Admin. Assistant,
Membership Coordinator,
HM

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The Power of the Pen

Researching the Culture of the Credit Mission 'Indian' Village (1825-1847) Part Two

By Michael Chyczij

Some of the stories may be familiar, yet others may surprise you, like the unusually cozy relationship between the Methodists at the Credit Mission village and the Anglican community at St. Peter's Church; or the sheer amount of agricultural product actually generated within the village bounds; and the effective capacity for self-government. However, not all the details of Credit Mission life are of the pleasant variety. There were illnesses, tensions, and crimes, and increased social controls with decreased freedoms. Yet taken in sum the excursion back into the past lifestyles should cause us to reflect upon ourselves as social creatures; and in their stories, flesh out themes that resonate to this very day in all of us, as each of us negotiates an understanding of reality through the larger system of meaning.



Credit Mission, HM

There still endure some mysteries. Since not all went to New Credit, who stayed behind? How many, and for how long? This series of questions begs an even more fundamental question: Could what is generally thought of as a resettlement, in fact be an example of village fission instead? Also, since no archaeological evidence exists as of yet, any intimation towards the exact plotting of the cemetery(ies) is speculative, and still would not complete the story. For instance: were Christians buried with Traditionalists, and if so did this practice wane as the village became more factioned and relationships strained? Through the research efforts of myself, and all who came before me, we are beginning to flesh out very interesting answers to all of these questions, although only sustained holistic research will ever determine the exact values.

I would like to close up by relating a little known story of a former city of Mississauga resident, yet one of great inspiration to those who have related it to me. At least one city of Mississauga resident has truly taken this issue to heart; her name is Ida Armbruster, and she is a prime example of this understanding in action. In 1996, upon her death, Ida Armbruster bequeathed to the Mississaugas of the New Credit her house and land bordering Woody Hollow Park (Erin Mills & Burnhamthorpe). Through her bold action, which was contested by her family, she represents quite possibly the very first of a new wave of pioneers in the city of Mississauga, pioneers who are cultivating, and who understand a new level of give and take. Or, is the meaning an old one? You know, in a kind of quirky twist of fate, we can see Ida's acts as a generous first step in paying back some of that 'credit', the encroaching white settlers began taking just over 200 years ago. It is important to note that it is not the intention of the New Credit First Nation to resettle in Mississauga. They are quite content living on reserve, and are in fact thriving at roughly 1700 registered members total, living both on and off-reserve. Assistant director of Lands Research, Julie Laforme put it best when she said: "That's not and was never the basis for entering the relationship with Ida to take her land. We just appreciate the acknowledgment and the recognition, and we consider her a real friend." I could not help but notice the genuineness behind her statement, and the generalized sense of hope that if somehow people found out about Ida's story perhaps

others in the City might nobly follow suit. To underscore this point that the band does not wish to relocate, New Credit First Nation has a property manager who rents the house to local tenants. The profits accrued flow directly into the Band's funds to be used for social programs and other programs intended to raise the historical and cultural consciousness both in the minds of the New Credit First Nation, and in the minds of all Canadians alike. The hope is that from there maybe a cultural heritage centre could be built on donated land recognizing the historic presence of the Credit River Band in particular, and celebrating Mississauga's cultural vibrance and diversity in general. The embodiment of the ethno-historical data, and subsequent elevation of awareness, represents among the current residents of the city of Mississauga a watershed moment, and highlights an important step in not only cultural change, but continuity as well.

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Trivia Answer:



Lord Henry Dundas, www

Dundas Street was named for Lord Henry Dundas, Secretary of War for the United Kingdom from 1794-1801. Dundas Street, sometimes called the Governor's Road after Sir John Graves Simcoe, was first surveyed in 1794.

Much of the course of Dundas Street follows a pre-survey Native trail. Dundas St. was surveyed as a military road connecting Military posts in York, (Toronto), Dundas (near Hamilton) and London, Ontario. Through Mississauga Dundas follows the high ground of the ancient Lake Iroquois shoreline, clearly evident at Mavis and Dundas. This high elevation was strategic for potential defense of Port Credit harbour for an invasion that never came.



Gov. John Graves Simcoe, www

Mississauga South Historical Society Happenings

by Richard Collins, President,
MSHS

Time to catch up on some thank you's.

First, I'd like to thank Brian Gilchrist, Reference Archivist at the Peel Heritage Complex for bringing out a record crowd of late for our March meeting. Brian's been a good friend to the society for years so it was no surprise that he filled the Peter Jones Room for his lively talk entitled, Freedom of Faith: Understanding the Origins and Settlement of the Roman Catholic Pioneers in Mississauga before 1867.

Special thanks go out to MSHS member, Val Garland who donated a rare edition of the history of St. Mary Star of the Sea to Peel Heritage Complex at the end of Brian's talk.

Thanks also to our host that evening, First United Church in Port Credit. They didn't mind that we talked about Catholic settlers within the halls of their historic Methodist Church. Thanks to Fred Gotzmann and the helpful staff at First United.

Yet another thank you this one to Anne Byard of the Streetsville Historical Society who invited the members of MSHS to join them on their "field" trip aboard the schooner Kajama.

Finally, I'd like to thank Liz McQuaig at the Canadiana Room, at the Central Library. For years now the library provided space for our files consisting mostly of the Harold Hare collection. We have recently moved Harold's collection to The Grange to be with Marg Naish's collection.

Work is still progressing on the monumental task of getting these records in order. Matthew Wilkinson has been going through Marg's slides and photos and Elaine Eigl is sifting through paper records and cataloguing each item. Charlie Hare and Lorne Joyce have helped identify many of Marg's old photos, and added some great stories to go with them.

There's still a lot to do to get our collection organized, so if you're interested in getting involved, call me. MSHS can certainly use the help and (in keeping with the theme of this article) thank you in advance for your assistance.

www3.sympatico.ca/chessie217



Streetsville Historical Society Happenings

By Jean Watt, Publicity Director,
SHS

Streetsville Historical Society will meet on October 8th, 2009 at 7:30 at Specialty Care, 4350 Mississauga Road South.



Our guest speaker will be well known author Terry Boyle from Rosseau, Ontario. He is Ontario's best known ghost writer and has authored "Haunted Mississauga" and "Haunted Ontario." Come out and learn about some of the fascinating "ghosts" right in our own area.

The Streetsville Historical Society had a wonderful spring tour on May 30. This began by boarding the bus in Streetsville, and stopping at Port Credit to pick up some Mississauga South Historical Society members. Then onto Queen's Quay where we enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Old Spaghetti Factory. The highlight of the afternoon was boarding a Great Lakes Schooner and sailing into Lake Ontario, seeing the amazing view of Toronto Harbour. A great day was enjoyed by 46 people who attended. Many thanks to Anne and Malcolm Byard who arranged this trip.

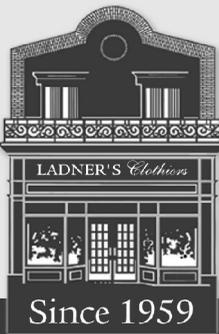
Sincere sympathy to the family of Wilf Iles, longtime member of the Board of Directors of Streetsville Historical Society who passed away in May following a lengthy illness. He will be greatly missed.

Hot Box Project

Have you marked your calendar? On November 30th Heritage Mississauga will be celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the "Mississauga Miracle": the Train Derailment. Plan to be with us as we celebrate this fascinating time in our city's history.



November 2009 will be the 30th anniversary of the Mississauga Train derailment and evacuation. The "Hot Box" project is a Multi-art community project that will reflect on the stories and history of the Mississauga Train Derailment and evacuation. These memories will be expressed through multi-art disciplines. The core of the project is an installation by Sonja Hidas. The first installation will be located at The Grange, home of Heritage Mississauga. The second installation will be at the Living Arts Centre's visual gallery and a third location will be at The Art Gallery of Peel's community art gallery. Events will be presented in collaboration with Suzanne Carte-Blanchenot, out-reach coordinator for the Arts Gallery of Mississauga. The Hot Box is a conceptual art project by Sonja Hidas and supported by its connectors. To include your memories of the train derailment in the "Hot Box Project" contact Sonja Hidas please phone: 416-305-7985 or Sonja@sonjahidas.com



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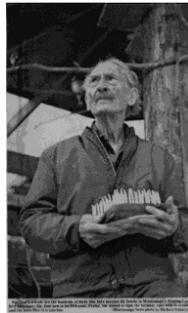
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Todd Ladner

Remembering the Windinglane Bird Sanctuary

By Matthew Wilkinson

I remember visiting this property and bringing an injured bird to the elderly Mr. Ivor as a child. This was probably shortly before his passing. It is a vague memory. But it helps me to personally connect with the story of the Windinglane Bird Sanctuary, which faces a new chapter in its story. In the last several months, so many stories and memories from Mississauga citizens have come to the surface, recalling fond memories of the sanctuary.



Roy Ivor, HM

The former Windinglane Bird Sanctuary property, located at 3230 Mississauga Road, on the west side of Mississauga Road across from the University of Toronto Mississauga campus, is currently for sale. Due to the hard work and dedication of Hance Roy Ivor and Bernice Inman-Emery, and many volunteers, the property has provided a quiet sanctuary for birds and other wildlife since the early 1930s. Local histories indicate that Roy Ivor acquired the property around 1928 and established the sanctuary. Affectionately referred to as the “Birdman of Mississauga”, Roy Ivor was a world famous naturalist, ornithologist, and founder of the Windinglane Bird Sanctuary in Erindale (within modern Mississauga). He was the author of numerous articles in the *The Auk*, *National Geographic*, *Wilson Bulletin* and the book “I Live With Birds”. Ivor received the Order of Canada in 1974 and an Honorary Doctorate of Sciences from the University of Windsor in 1972.

Roy Ivor was born in Strathroy, Ontario on January 3rd, 1880; he moved with his parents at the age of two to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and lived there into his teenage years. Following his father's death, Roy moved to Toronto with his mother, and eventually settled in Erindale. A lifelong bachelor, he lived with his mother until her death at age 105 in 1956. For many who knew him and visited the Bird Sanctuary, Ivor was a gentle, kind man with a sense of humor who dedicated most of his life to studying and caring for sick and injured birds. Ivor wrote about the emotions and personalities of birds and even their sense of humor. People brought injured, sick or wild birds to him from all over Canada and even from the United States. According to one source, in 1928, at age of 49, Roy Ivor sold the family stone and marble business and dedicated all his time to the study and care of wild birds and establishing the Sanctuary. He studied, worked, cared and lived with the birds for over fifty years. During this time, he took care of thousands of birds. His studies benefitted researchers all over the world and also school children who came to visit him at his sanctuary to learn how to care for and respect birds and wildlife. The original home in which Ivor lived was lost to fire on December 2nd, 1970. The stone chimney from this house remains on the property today. Following the fire, an emergency aid fund was established by the community to help reestablish the Sanctuary and care for the aging Ivor. Donations came from across Canada and abroad. A residential trailer was procured out of this fund, and Ivor spent much of the rest of his life living here. Ivor died on the December 10th, 1979, at the age of 99, and is buried in the Cosmopolitan Cemetery behind St. Peter's Anglican Church, Erindale.

Following Ivor's death in 1979, 3 acres of property came to be owned by Bernice Inman, Ivor's assistant since 1962. Bernice

Inman-Emery continued the Sanctuary after Ivor's declining health and death, with the help of others. The surviving house on the property was built in 1975-76 by Bernice. She lived on the property and quietly continued caring for birds, animals, and the surrounding woodland environment until 2008. There has been an impassioned community response since the news broke that the property was for sale, imploring the City to ensure that the property remains a sanctuary and a natural place. Time will tell what the future will be for this significant cultural property in our City.

Lots Happening at the Museums of Mississauga!

By Stephanie Meewse, Collections & Exhibit Coordinator

The Museums of Mississauga are excited about some recent changes and a full summer of activities and events.

The biggest change at the Museums is the revamping of our web site www.museumsofmississauga.com. This site has a totally different look, is user friendly and is chock full of information about the Museums past and present. On our site you can also 'click walk' the Benares Virtual Tour. Supported by the Benares Endowment Fund, this multimedia experience allows visitors to view 3 to 5 artifacts in each room of the house, learning more about the items through either video or audio recordings of Harris-Sayers family members, as well as text and photographs. The research focuses on stories not necessarily told on the historic house tours so it helps to augment the visitor's experience. Phase Two of this project is an introductory DVD that will especially enhance the Benares experience for visitors who are disabled, have English as a second language, or are particularly interested in the famous author Mazo de la Roche. This DVD will be viewed in the renovated “Summer Kitchen” of Benares, to be completed in early summer. A new brochure, promotional banners, and interpretive signage at Bradley Museum are also in the works.

The Museums will be hosting a number of great events this summer that will be sure to please everyone in the family. The Friends of the Museums have organized another great season of concerts at their “On the Verandah” series. Concerts are Pay-What-You-Can on Fridays at 7:30 pm, at Benares Historic House in July and August.



July has events at both Museum sites. Driftwood Theatre presents: “**Shakespeare under the Stars**”, 'King Lear and The Comedy of Errors', July 17 and 18, at Bradley Museum. Bring your lawn chair, bug spray and blanket for 7 pm and be entertained by these talented actors. Bring the whole family for our 15th annual **Teddy Bear's Picnic** at Benares Historic House on Sunday July 26th from 12 to 4 pm. This event features a Teddy Bear's Clinic presented by Credit Valley Hospital as well as crafts, entertainment, games, tours of the historic house and more.



For information on these events, other activities, and changes at the Museums please see our web site or call 905-615-4860. We hope to see you this summer!

Remembering Frederick Starr Jarvis, UEL, 1787- 1852

By Robert Jarvis

The Jarvis family, Stephen, Amelia and 6 children left Fredericton on June 30, 1809, arrived at York on the 28th of August and took possession of a house arranged for by William Jarvis (Mr. Secretary).



Stephen Jarvis, HM

Stephen and William were cousins, both born in Connecticut in 1756, Stephen in Danbury, William in Stamford. They both took up arms in defence of the Crown during the American Revolution, and both enlisted with the Queen's Rangers under the command of Lt. Col. John Graves Simcoe. After the Revolution, William followed Simcoe to England and in 1792 returned to take up post of registrar in the new province offered to him by Simcoe. Stephen was evacuated to New Brunswick to take up land near Kingsclear where his second cousin Munson and John had already settled.

Stephen and his eldest son Frederick Starr, were anxious to take up the grant of land that UEL were entitled and advised him to go west of Toronto in search of land. He traveled along the lakeshore by horseback swimming the Humber, Mimico, Etobicoke and Credit rivers to arrive at Merigold point.

Thomas Merigold, also a UEL and who had come from New Brunswick the year before and knowing the nature of the land near to his own, suggested he take the land next to his. Stephen Jarvis received a 225 acre grant, Lot 31 Concessions 3 & 4 in Toronto Township, in 1809. When the fees were paid on the land September 5, 1809 he started clearing the land on Concession 4 which was close to the water. Trees were cut nearly through but not far enough to fall them. Then the trees next to those were cut in the same manner; and so on to the edge of the clearing. The last row of trees was cut so as to fall inward on the others that were half cut. It was his son Peter that described this method of cutting. He also mentioned logging "bees", when the neighbours came with their oxen and assisted, and bear hunts a common occurrence. The next thing was to build a log house on 15 acres of cleared land with the assistance of the Merigold boys. In 1812 Frederick as a Loyalist's son and having reached the age of 21 received Lot 32, Concessions 3 & 4.

His farm life varied during this period by the part he took as major of the Militia during the War of 1812-14. The sword he carried in that war was the same one his father had used when Lieutenant in the South Carolina Dragoons. As a member of the "short term" Militia he had to provide his own Musket & Ammunition and likely had to supply the wagon and horses and maintain them. As a military claimant he was however entitled to farming utensils from the army stores.

Frederick arrived home safely from the war and continued the clearing of his father's property that had become known as Brunswick Farm. Stephen made the formal transfer of land to his son in 1816 for \$500. In the same year he married Susan Merigold, the eldest daughter of their neighbour Thomas and Elizabeth. As there was no minister of the Church of England within 18 miles they were married by the Justice of the Peace, William Thomas, a neighbour.

By 1835 with now 9 children the log house was too small, and it was time to move. The move was made on October 16th, 1835. The new Brunswick Farm was described by his father as a commodious brick house was on the north side of Lakeshore Road. Between 1818 and 1838 they had 12 children, eight sons and four daughters. Two of their children died young. Henry Augustus died at the age of 4 attempting to save a friend and both drowned in the River Avon. Hester died at the age of 20.

The new house was the setting for the first family wedding, the marriage on the 12th of January 1836 of 17 year old Amelia to Alexander Proudfoot, Merchant and Postmaster of Trafalgar Township. It would be another 15 years before her sister Mary would take her fathers arm into the parlour for her wedding to Henry Skynner.

Sheriff Jarvis was aware that not all his sons would care to be farmers. He was able to provide Frederick William and Peter Robinson with the advantage of a college education at Upper Canada College, Frederick for a position in Government, Peter educated for a mercantile life. Frederick moved to Toronto at the age of 30 to take up the position of deputy to the Sheriff of the Home District William Botsford Jarvis his uncle. In 1856 at the age of 38 he was appointed Sheriff of the United Counties of York and Peel when his uncle retired. Peter had a desire for life at sea. At 20 and for the next 2 years he took passage to China. He sailed on the Akbar to Canton, touching Singapore and left the ship at Calcutta and returned to Boston on the *Grotius* touching St. Helena on the way. He then settled for a short time in Galt and set up a Milling business with his brother Charles Beverley. In 1847 they moved to Stratford. He was a pioneer making his fortune with a Grist Mill and Distillery. He was Mayor from 1863 to 1867. On April 23rd, 1864, on the 300th anniversary of William Shakespeare, he planted the Shakespeare Oak.

Sheriff Jarvis was a Justice of the Peace, a loyalist, an attorney, a warden of the Anglican Church, and Gentleman-Usher of the Black Rod in the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada. His connections to the government officials in Toronto were well known and his signature appeared on affidavits, petitions and wills of the Merigold Point families. They were very involved in the affairs of the community; the family went to St. Peter's Anglican Church. Frederick was instrumental along with William Thompson in its founding in 1825 and its opening in 1827. He was industrious and generous also a keen business man. An example of his business acumen, just off the shore of his property was a sand bar he realised it was a perfect place to anchor ships. He arranged with merchant mariners to deliver goods from mills in Niagara and York to this small village too small to have their own harbour.

Frederick Starr died suddenly of a disease of the heart on June 2nd, 1852 at the age of 66. He was buried in St. Peter's Church yard, Erindale. His widow in that same year moved to Toronto with Edgar John aged 17, Julia 15 and Hester 14 to live with her eldest son William. In 1857 he purchased property and built Woodlawn on Jarvis Street below Wellesley [site of Jarvis Collegiate] a large yellow brick mansion with stables, a carriage house and extensive gardens. He had married the year before, Caroline Skynner youngest daughter of Captain John Skynner of The Anchorage [his sister Mary had married her older brother in 1851].

His will reads as follows: "I do will and bequeath to my eldest son Frederick William one hundred and ninety acres of land being parts

Cont'd pg. 14

Rhododendron Gardens Renamed

On February 12, 2009, the city of Mississauga officially renamed Rhododendron Gardens as Brueckner Rhododendron Garden, in honour of Dr. Joseph Brueckner. The late Dr. Brueckner was instrumental in the establishment of the Garden. Dr. Brueckner created many internationally registered rhododendron hybrids, many of which can be found in the Garden. Through the generous donations and efforts of Dr. Brueckner, hundreds of his rhododendrons are planted in the gardens which can be found blooming from mid May to mid June. The gardens exhibit existing conditions and micro-climate that are essential to the survival of the rhododendron shrubs. The sheltering presence of pines and oaks provide shelter from direct sunlight and protection from the wind. Well drained soil, and moderating lake effects combine to make conditions ideal for rhododendrons, azaleas and other acid loving woodland and mountain plants. The park also features a newly installed plaque honouring former City Councillor, the late Harold Kennedy. Brueckner Rhododendron Garden, which was acquired by the City of Mississauga in 1975 and was formerly known as Cranberry Cove, is located at 660 Lakeshore Road West in Port Credit and is also accessible via a new extension of the Waterfront Trail.



David Culham, Dr. Joseph Brueckner, Harold Kennedy, HM

McCurdy's Corners contd. . . .

“The sky was dark and ugly, and she hurried to the house to close the windows after the evening milking. Their hired man turned the last cow out after it was milked and it was killed. Their new barn roof was blown off in pieces and a large section just missed Ruby as she clung to their lane fence near the house. Suddenly she dropped face down in their ditch and that saved her life. She later appeared soaking wet and scared at the May's back door. Ruby always took a short cut through their farm to the Tenth Line farm. Ruby went every day to get milk from the May's as her brother Sam didn't have milk cows. Kathleen and Ruby had good visits.”

Charles Cordingley, the eldest son of David Cordingley Sr., also had land at McCurdy's Corners, which he purchased from his father. Charles Cordingley was born in 1815, in England, and most likely travelled to Trafalgar Township along with his parents. He married Rebecca Petch in 1844, and they had eight children. Charles Cordingley also owned land south of Dundas Street in Toronto Township. Charles was a Methodist, and worked as “road boss” or road overseer for around ten years. According to Harold Scholefield, Charles Cordingley was a devoted Methodist, and it was due to his efforts that the church at Clarkson was built. He also donated stones for the construction of the Carman Methodist East Church, where he later became a trustee. He donated an organ to the latter church as well. Charles Cordingley was also a Path master for 25 years on Lower Middle Road, and he ran a saw mill on the Halton-Peel town line near the Lakeshore highway. The mill was operated by water power. Charles Cordingley died in 1884, at 70 years of age.

Another local who lived near McCurdy's Corners was James Marcus Bussell, born in 1824 and died in 1907, at age 82. James M. Bussell supported the Liberal-Conservative party and was an Anglican. According to the Halton County Atlas of 1877, he had one of the finest farms in all of the county. James M. Bussell's wife, Margaret Elliott, was born in 1839 and died in 1905 at age 66. Both she and her husband are interred at St. Stephen's Anglican Church Cemetery in Hornby.

James M. Bussell kept a diary in the early 1870s which gives us a unique look into life at the Corners. For example, on May 11th, 1870, James wrote: “Fine morning it looks like dry weather the sun rose red I was sowing oats to day I had Pat working in the garden the minister and his wife was here I went to Norville to night I got the money from Margaret Willoughby it is a fine night.” Later, on December 31, 1871, he remarked: “Fine morning it is a beautiful day we went to church in the afternoon Mr. Johnstin preached John Mason and Robert Askin came home with us and had their tea it turned out a very dark night they stopped all night.”

From Bussell's diary one understands that there was a sense of community at McCurdy's Corners, neighbours often met and worked together, helping each other with tasks as needed, despite the often great distances between them.

One long standing structure at McCurdy's Corners was the Mason-Gasper house, located at Derry Road W., between Ninth and Tenth Lines. It was a fine brick house built around 1874, probably by Joseph Mason. It was later owned by the May family for 43 years, between 1926 and 1969. The house was designated in 1993 for its interior and exterior architecture. Unfortunately, despite the efforts to save the house, it was destroyed by arson shortly after in 1994. Today the Askin family home, the Bussell family home (built circa 1865), and the Cordingley family home (built circa 1884) are still standing at the former McCurdy's Corners, a reminder of the community that has been lost to time.

Help us to keep alive those who once called McCurdy's Corners home, the families of Anderson, Askin, Bussell, Cordingley, Hannah, Hustler, Justin, Mason, and McCurdy. Please share your stories and memories.

Remembering F. S. Jarvis contd

of lot no. thirty one and thirty two in the third and forth concession in the Township of Toronto. I give and bequeath to my dearly beloved wife Susan Isabella the remainder of my landed estate, being one hundred and forty three acres along with the Brick House and premises there unto belonging together with all and singular my goods and chattels movable and immovable with full power to sell and dispose of the same or any part there of during her widowhood for the benefit of her children at her own discretion. And further I appoint my said wife Susan Isabella sole executrix of this my last will and testament.”

Credits: Richard Collins Frederick Starr Jarvis 1787-1852. The Narrative of Col. Stephen Jarvis, Memoirs of Peter Robinson Jarvis, The Families of Merigold Point, Heritage Mississauga and Bradley Museum.

I have information on Jarvis ancestors and descendants which I would be glad to share. I would like to have additional information on Frederick Starr. Please contact me at: bob.jarvis@sympatico.ca

In Memoriam

By Matthew Wilkinson

Remember Our Fallen: Marc Diab

Marc Diab of Mississauga was killed in action while serving in Afghanistan on March 8th, 2009. He was 22 years old. Marc was a member of the Royal Canadian Dragoons based at the Canadian Forces Base in Petawawa. Originally from Lebanon, the Diab family came to Canada in 2000. According to his family, Marc dreamed of being a soldier and was proud to serve his country. Growing up he attended St. Joseph's Secondary School in Streetsville, and he also led a summer camp through his church. Friends remembered him as someone who had an answer for everything and was always striving to make them laugh. Marc leaves behind his parents, Hani Diab and Jihan Falah-Diab, two siblings, and his long-time girlfriend Mary Barakat and her family. Marc was the 112th Canadian Soldier killed in Afghanistan since 2002.



Marc Diab, www

Wilf Iles

W.C. (Wilf) Iles passed away peacefully at the Credit Valley Hospital, Mississauga, on Thursday, May 21, 2009 in his 74th year. Wilf was a long-time member, supporter and member of the executive of the Streetsville Historical Society, and a member of Heritage Mississauga. Wilf will be remembered and missed for his passion, support, and sense of humour by all who knew him in Mississauga's heritage community. Wilf was the son of the late Clarence and Myrtle Iles. He leaves behind siblings Shirley Royall, Douglas and his wife Edie, Helen and her husband Edmond De Melo, Bob and his wife Carrol and sister-in-law Sandy Iles. He was predeceased by his brother David and brother-in-law Alwyn Royall.



Wilf Iles, Helen DeMelo

Harold Kennedy

Harold Elgie Kennedy was a well-known, loved and respected former Mississauga Councillor. He passed away after a brief illness on March 21st, 2009, in his 83rd year. Affectionally known to many as 'Hal', he was predeceased by his wife of 55 years, Adelaide, in 2006. Beloved father of Helen (Paul Vawdrey) of Banff, Alberta; Jane (Garry Martin) of Kelowna, British Columbia; Paul (Terri), and Mary Kennedy of Mississauga, and dearest companion Jean Gallinger. He also leaves his siblings Arthur, Richard and Don. He was predeceased by his brothers Gordon, Douglas, Ted and sisters Dorothy, Bessie and Muriel. Harold will be well-remembered by his community, whom he served faithfully for over 26 years. He served as Ward 1 Councillor from 1967 until 1994, and returned to Council briefly in 1997 to serve as Ward 5 Councillor following the passing of Frank McKechnie. Among Harold's many commitments and passions, he was also a strong supporter of St. John Ambulance (he was a member of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem), Lakefront Promenade Park, the Cawthra Woodlot, Rotary, Lion's Club, Credit Valley Conservation



Harold Kennedy, HM

Authority, Port Credit Arena, the Traffic Safety School Patrollers Program, the Ontario Traffic Safety Council, and was a Director for Trinity Anglican Church in Port Credit. Harold also served as an honorary director of Heritage Mississauga for three years, from 1982 to 1985. A plaque honouring Harold was placed in Brueckner Rhododendron Gardens in Port Credit, a garden park that came into being in large part due to the efforts of Councillor Kennedy.

Harold Kennedy continued the tradition of public service in the Kennedy family, lead by his uncle Thomas Laird (T.L.) Kennedy, and brother Douglas Kennedy. The Fall Issue of the Heritage News will commemorate the Kennedy family's fine record of service to Mississauga and beyond.

Noel Ryan

Noel Ryan, the former Chief Librarian for the Mississauga Library System, passed away at the age of 83 on April 25, 2009. He led the Library System from the early 1970s until 1987, overseeing and spearheading the planning and expansion of the City-wide branch-system. He is credited with introducing one of the first 16 mm film collections in the country, developing a microfilm system in which newspapers were catalogued, and supporting advancements in using technology in the Library. According to Chief Librarian Don Mills, who succeeded Ryan, "Mississauga was a showcase of innovation ... because of his tremendous vision." Ryan fostered the branch system of service and saw it expand significantly during his tenure, which included construction of the Raymond Moriyama-designed Burnhamthorpe Library. The library grew from 35 to 180 employees under Ryan's tutelage, and circulation increased from one to over three million items. Ryan is survived by his wife of 59 years, Doreen and children Colin and Karen. A memorial service was held in the Noel Ryan Auditorium at the Mississauga Central Library on May 8.



Noel Ryan, www

David Somers

The Cultural Sector in Peel Region recently lost a great champion in David Somers, Curator at the Peel Heritage Complex and the Art Gallery of Peel. He passed away after a lengthy illness on April 24, 2009 at the age of 53. He leaves behind his wife Lorna. David will be remembered for his unwavering passion for arts and culture. Somers, who believed that art and culture played an important role in people's lives, dedicated the last 20 years to advancing art and culture in Peel. Among his notable achievements is the expansion of the Art Gallery of Peel's permanent collection from 400 pieces to over 4000, including the works of nationally and internationally-known artists. He was admired and respected by all who had the chance to work for and with him, and he worked tirelessly to promote the Peel Heritage Complex. A celebration of David's life was held on May 28 in the historic Peel County Courthouse at the Peel Heritage Complex. Before his passing David established the David Somers Works on Paper Endowment Fund to continue the purchase of historic and contemporary works on paper. If you would like to help continue his enduring legacy, please contact Josie Premzell at 905-791-4055 ext. 3625.



David Somers, HM

Heritage Matters

Heritage Mississauga

GRANGESTOCK Art & Music Festival - Sat. Aug. 29th Noon to 5pm,
Doors Open Mississauga - Sat. Sept. 19th 10am-4pm City Wide event - The Grange will be open for tours.
Haunted Heritage Ball - Sat. Oct. 17th 6:30pm, Waterside Inn Port Credit
Haunted Mississauga Spirit Tour, Fri. Oct. 23, Tours begin 7:30pm Streetsville Pioneer/Memorial Cemetery
Carolling at the Grange -Sun. Dec. 6th 6:30pm at the Grange

Art Gallery of Mississauga

Hours of Operations Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10am - 5pm. Thursdays 1am-8pm and Weekends noon-4pm

Friends of the Britannia Schoolhouse

Open Sundays **August 9 and September 13** 1pm-4pm
September 18, 19 20, Brampton Fall Fair 9am-6pm

Halton Peel O.G.S.

September 27 - Oakville Ruth Burkholder, professional genealogist and author, "Research in Colonial America"

October 25 - Oakville - David Beasley, author, "From Bloody Beginnings: Richard Beasley's Upper Canada". Richard Beasley was the first Assembly representative for Halton.

Mississauga Arts Council Open

The MARTYS Now into its 15th year, the MARTYS (formerly known as the Mississauga Arts Awards) honour artistic achievement of the city's established artists and encourages and supports emerging artistic talent. The MARTYS award ceremony at Stage West All-Suite Theatre Restaurant on Monday October 19th, 2009 will feature fabulous entertainment and "the envelope please" to announce the official winners. Over \$10,000 will be awarded. Don't miss this glamorous evening including a fabulous silent auction, dinner and show. Please call 905-615-4278 for additional details.

Mississauga South Historical Society

September 15 -Speaker: William Hunt author of "Dancing in the Sky" 7:30pm First United Church

Museums of Mississauga

July 17 and 18 - Driftwood Presents "Shakespeare Under the Stars", King Lear and The Comedy of Errors. Bradley House Museum 1620 Orr Road. Info: www.driftwoodtheatre.com

Friday evenings - On The Verandah Concerts at Benares Historic House or 905-615-4860 for information

July 26 -15 Annual Teddy Bear's Picnic 12pm-4pm, Benares Historic House, 1507 Clarkson Road North

September 19 and 20 - Fall Festival, Bradley House Museum 11am - 4pm

October 25 - Historic Halloween Fun at Benares Historic House 1pm-4pm

Exhibits at the Museums

History Salvaged: the O'Neil Apple Farm, Erindale on display at Bradley Museum Anchorage to December 31, 2009
What's New in Old Stuff: Recent Donations made to the Museums (2007 & 2009) December 4, 2009 Benares Visitors Centre
For more information : 905-615-4860,
www.museumsofmississauga.com

Streetville Historical Society

October 8 -Speaker: Terry Boyle author of "Haunted Mississauga/Haunted Ontario. Specialty Care 4350 Mississauga Road 7:30pm.

Trafalgar Historical Society

September 26, Family Heritage Day Palermo Schoolhouse Dundas St and Hwy 25 10am-4pm

Haunted Heritage Ball
Saturday October 17, 6:30pm
Waterside Inn

Tickets for Members : \$95.00, Non-Members \$105.00.

Heritage Four Lecture Series listed on page 8.

Staycation Mississauga

Join us for
Mississauga's 1st
Grangestock Art
& Music Festival
Saturday August
29th, 2009
noon -5pm



Admission is free

- ✓ Enjoy the old time rock and blues of *THE JERRY STIFF BAND*
- ✓ Interact with local Mississauga Artists at our own Art show & Sale
- ✓ Enjoy the tastes of our own Old Credit Brewery Co and BBQ
- ✓ Silent Auction and Raffle

All proceeds to support the Research, Education and Resource Centre of Heritage Mississauga

The fun is happening at
The Robinson-Adamson House "The GRANGE
1912 Dundas St. W. Tel: 905-828-8411 ext. "0"

Visit Youtube For Heritage Tours!

Inspired by Heritage Advisory Committee member Jim Tovey (Mississauga's 2009 Citizen of the Year), and under the direction of teacher Liz Wilde, visual arts students from Cawthra Park Secondary School have filmed a series of short videos highlighting heritage sites around Mississauga. The videos are posted on YouTube, and can be located by searching for "Mississauga Heritage". Sites include the former Small Arms building, Cawthra Estate, Adamson Estate, Clarke Hall, Streetsville and Riverwood, Congratulations to the talented student filmmakers for their wonderful work.

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